## RATIFY TUITION PAYMENTS FOR PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR LICENSE - SCHOOL NURSE COURSEWORK

## THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Ratify tuition payments to various universities for School Nurse coursework across all participating universities. The universities participating in this program were named as partners in the Mental Health Professionals Demonstration Grant, awarded through the National Center for Safe and Supportive Learning Environments and the federal Department of Education. No written agreement is required for tuition payments. Information pertinent to this program is stated below.

**UNIVERSITY:** 

The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois DBA University of Illinois

Contact: Robin Adair Shannon

Director, School Nurse Certificate Program

Phone: 312-413-3116 Vendor # 32571

Lewis University

Contact: Linda Gibbons

Coordinator School Nurse Program, College of Nursing and Health Sciences

Phone: 630-564-2396 Vendor # 48342

DePaul University

Contact: Michelle Neuman Clinical Assistant Professor Phone: (773) 325-8193

Vendor # 37159

**USER:** 

**Talent Office** 

Christine Murphy Judson Federal Project Director

773-553-1067

**PAYMENT PERIOD:** Tuition payments are authorized for university courses scheduled from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2024, funded through the Mental Health Professionals Demonstration Grant.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: Payments cover tuition for authorized CPS employees enrolled in courses at participating universities under the Talent Office Health Service Nurse to Certified School Nurse Bridge Program. The HSN-CSN Bridge Program provides an opportunity for current CPS Registered Nurses to pursue their Professional Educator License, endorsed as a School Nurse, so that an increased number of schools can provide special education services and support to diverse learner students and students with medical needs. This increases opportunities for students to reach their academic potential. All of the universities named as partners provide rigorous, accelerated course sequences to School Nurse certification.

**PARTICIPANTS:** HSN-CSN Bridge participants include CPS nurses who possess a registered nurse license, have been nominated by their supervisor, work in a high needs school or community area that experiences persistent nursing needs, and commit to working in the district for at least two additional school year in a Certified School Nurse position. Participants are selected through a competitive process and commit to the full, accelerated sequence of courses. In order to receive a Professional Educator License and School Nurse endorsement, nurses must successfully complete the coursework, internship and pass the school nurse content exam offered through ILTS.

**OUTCOMES:** The HSN-CSN Bridge Program is an essential strategy in broadening the pool of Certified School Nurses available to work in high-needs communities across the city. Increased access to nursing services will allow more diverse learners and students with medical needs to achieve academic achievement in alignment with their IEP goals and district priorities. In order for this to be possible, an increased number of nurses must be credentialed as a School Nurse through ISBE. This university coursework is specifically designed to prepare nurses to earn this credential.

**COMPENSATION:** Tuition payments to all universities shall not exceed \$680,000 in the aggregate across all universities for the Payment Period.

**AUTHORIZATION:** The Federal Project Director is authorized to direct payments to be made to the universities as necessary. Authorize the Talent Office to add additional universities to this program without first amending the board report.

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:** Pursuant to the Remedial Program for Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Participation in Goods and Services contracts (M/WBE Program), this contract is exempt as this agreement is for tuition-based programs.

LSC REVIEW: Local School Council approval is not applicable to this report.

## FINANCIAL:

Fund 358, Talent Office 11010

FY21 \$165,000

FY22 \$168,000

FY23 \$172,000

FY24 \$175,000

Total grant funding through September 30, 2024 not to exceed \$680,000 in the aggregate across all universities. Future fiscal year funding is contingent upon budget appropriation and grant continuation approval.

## **GENERAL CONDITIONS:**

Inspector General – Each party to the agreement shall acknowledge that, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1, the Inspector General of the Board of Education has the authority to conduct certain investigations and that the Inspector General shall have access to all information and personnel necessary to conduct those investigations.

Conflicts — The agreement shall not be legally binding on the Board if entered into in violation of the provisions of 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3 which restricts the employment of, or the letting of contracts to, former Board members during the one year period following expiration or other termination of their terms of office.

Indebtedness – The Board's Indebtedness Policy adopted June 26, 1996 (96-0626-PO3), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

Ethics – The Board's Ethics Code adopted May 25, 2011 (11-0525-PO2), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

Contingent Liability – The agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

**Approved for Consideration:** 

-DocuSigned by:

LaTanya D. McDade Chief Education Officer Approved:

-- DocuSigned by:

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Janice K. Jackson Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to legal form:

-DocuSigned by:

Joseph T. Moriarty

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Joseph T. Moriarty General Counsel