

Wyoming Community College Commission

2300 Capitol Ave., 5th Floor, Suite B, Cheyenne WY 82002

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 Dr. James O. Rose

Phone: 307-777-7763
 Fax: 307-777-6567
www.communitycolleges.wy.edu

To: Governor Matt Mead, Wyoming State Legislature
From: Amy Brockel
Date: December 3, 2015
Re: Wyoming Investment in Nursing (WyIN) Program
 2014-2015 Annual Report as per Wyoming Statute 21-7-601(n)

OVERVIEW:

Wyoming statute 9-2-123 created the Wyoming Investment in Nursing (WyIN) program in order to address the state’s current and future shortage of qualified nurses. Through the WyIN program, Wyoming residents or graduates of a Wyoming high school who are accepted into a Wyoming licensed practical nurse, registered nursing education program or a baccalaureate degree program in nursing at one of Wyoming’s community colleges or the University of Wyoming may be eligible to receive a WyIN loan to help pay the unmet financial need of attendance in the program. Loans are repaid by working as a nurse in Wyoming. This program also provides funding for nursing bachelor or master level nurses to pursue masters or doctoral degrees with the understanding that repayment will be working as a nurse educator in the state at one of the seven community colleges or the University of Wyoming. The program also provides as funding (salary and benefits) for adding nursing teaching positions at the community colleges, making it possible for those institutions to educate more nursing students. This program’s first year of operation was July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004. There were statutory changes made in 2015 allowing more folks to access the funds to the graduate level funds within the program and well as extending the sunset date from 2016 to 2020. The WyIN program currently operates under a sunset provision which occurs on June 30, 2020

SUMMARY:

The table below only represents the time period from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

WYOMING INVESTMENT IN NURSING STUDENT SUMMARY				
	Number of semesters paid (each student typically gets three semesters in this time frame)	Average Award per Academic Year	Total Awarded	Legislative Appropriation
Undergraduate Student Loans	286	\$2,079	\$594,654	
Graduate Student Loans	16	\$7,757	\$124,116	
			\$718,770	\$987,500 per year*

* The remaining program funds have been set aside to support the future semesters for these students. This explains why the total awarded is less than the legislative appropriation for the one year period. The funds are not going unused as they are already obligated but not yet disbursed/awarded.

WYOMING INVESTMENT IN NURSING FACULTY SUMMARY				
	Number Employed	Average Salary & Benefits	Total Awarded	Legislative Appropriation
Associate Degree Nursing (ADN)	19	\$77,198	\$1,466,762	\$1,237,000
Full time teaching faculty	3	\$21635	\$64,904	
Part time teaching faculty				
Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) Full time teaching faculty	2	\$98,533	\$197,067	\$500,000**
			*Total Awarded	Total Appropriation
			\$1,728,733	\$1,737,000

* The total budget for the biennium is \$3,474,000 for nursing teaching faculty. We anticipate fully exhausting this budget.

** The LPN funds can rollover to help cover ADN requests if not fully exhausted by LPN requests.

OUTCOMES:

Outcomes for students reported in the table below include all graduate and undergraduate students that have received a WyIN loan since the inception of the program (July1, 2003 through June 30, 2015). The information was acquired from Align, the contracted loan servicing agency.

Status of All Outstanding Loan Commitments & Repayments under WyIN Program		
Paid in full by working as a nurse in Wyoming	487	39%
Employed as a nurse in Wyoming (or seeking employment)	124	10%
Enrolled in school	159	13%
Repaid loan in cash	153	12%
Repaying loan in cash	119	9%
Defaulted on WyIN loan	178	14%
1st attempt at State Board of Nursing Licensure	19	2%
Hardship, death or deferred loan	15	1%
Total number of recipients of WyIN loans	1,254	100%

Align, summary report 6/30/15