

Meet Kathleen Winston. . .

Kathleen Winston is a PhD student at the University of San Diego (USD) and a recipient of funding from the Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP). She first began her PhD at USD in the mid 1980s, but because of a shortfall in financial assistance, she had to leave the program. When the NFLP became available, she decided to return to school to finish her coursework and dissertation. She plans to find a full-time faculty position and looks forward to teaching on a part-time basis after retiring. Without her PhD, her goals of teaching at the baccalaureate level while conducting research would go unrealized.



“This has been a long awaited opportunity and I continue to appreciate the contribution of the NFLP.”

About the Program

- The Title VIII Nursing Education grants provide a federal focus to the supply and distribution of qualified nurses.
- The Title VIII Nurse Faculty Loan Program increases the number of qualified nursing faculty by creating a student loan fund within individual schools of nursing.
- Students who receive the funding must agree to teach at a school of nursing in exchange for cancellation of up to 85% of their educational loans, plus interest, over a four-year period.
- The NFLP is awarded to full-time students to ensure that they finish their education without delay. Once they complete their advanced degree they are able to teach the next generation of nurses, which in turn alleviates the nursing shortage.
- In FY 2008, these grants supported the education of 729 future nurse educators.

The Effect of Funding Cuts. . .

- Our country is facing a critical shortage of nurse faculty which inhibits the ability to educate more nurses.
- According to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing’s (AACN) 2007-2008 annual survey, schools of nursing turned away 40,285 qualified applicants to baccalaureate and graduate programs primarily due to insufficient numbers of faculty. It is imperative that nurses pursuing their graduate degrees be supported so that the crippling national nursing shortage can be reversed.
- Without adequate Title VIII funding for the NFLP, nurses pursuing the advanced education necessary to become professors will face greater barriers in completing their degrees on time. Cutting funding for the NFLP would unfortunately result in fewer nurse faculty entering the already sparse workforce.



For more information, contact: **Tannaz Rasouli** (trasouli@aamc.org) or **Abby Schopick** (aschopick@aamc.org)
Association of American Medical Colleges, Government Relations
2450 N Street NW • Washington, DC 20037 • Ph: 202.828.0525 • Fax: 202.862.6218

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