Title VIII Nursing Profile of Success

Meet Nora Warshawsky, PhD, RN, CNE.

Nora first decided to pursue her PhD at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill because she realized there was a nurse faculty shortage, and she wanted to be part of the solution. The Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP) allowed Nora to focus her energy on her career goal of becoming faculty. However, she had to take an 80% pay cut when she reduced her work hours to part-time in order to pursue her PhD full-time. The NFLP covered 85% of the cost of her PhD once she becomes a nurse faculty member, meaning Nora could afford to work fewer hours and complete her degree more quickly. Today, she is an assistant professor teaching at the University of Kentucky, Lexington.

“The are not many nurses who are able to leave financially secure positions in nursing practice to spend four or five years in school earning a small fraction of their salaries. Thank you for your support.”

About the Program

- The Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs provide a federal focus to the supply and distribution of qualified registered nurses.

- The Title VIII Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP) increases the number of graduate-prepared nursing faculty by creating a loan-forgiveness 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. This helps to meet the growing demand for nurses.

- In FY 2011, these grants supported the education of 2,246 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) 2011-2012 annual survey on graduations and enrollment, schools of nursing turned away 79,659 qualified applications to baccalaureate and graduate programs citing faculty vacancy as a primary reason. It is imperative that nurses pursuing their graduate degrees be supported so that they can bolster the nursing pipeline by educating future generations of nurses.

- 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 result in fewer nurse faculty entering the workforce.

For more information, contact: Association of American Medical Colleges, Government Relations
655 K Street NW, Suite 100 ● Washington, DC 20001 ● Ph: 202.828.0525

See more Profiles of Success at: https://www.aamc.org/advocacy/hpnecc/profiles.htm