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# NURSING POLICY RESEARCH GRANT

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The Texas Nurses Association supports translation of policy and practice through legislative, regulatory, and other activities. Evaluation of the success of these activities has largely been anecdotal. The purpose of this program is to support research-level policy inquiry that can inform improvements in nurse education and practice that lead to safe, quality patient care.

Some examples of policy issues TNA policy interests and activities include:

- Safe nurse staffing and effectiveness of staffing committees
- Nurses' experiences of incident-based nursing peer review
- Use of safe-harbor to address nurse concerns about safety
- Reducing incidents of workplace violence against nurses
- Nursing's role in interprofessional teams in emerging practice environments
- Effectiveness of peer assistance for nurses with substance use or mental health problems
- Effect of advocacy protections on retaliation for speaking out regarding safety concerns

The Program was founded by TNA Executive Director Cindy Zolnierrek with an initial pledge of \$10,000 over five years. Additional donors will be solicited to achieve a minimum level of \$30,000 which will enable at least one grant award of \$5,000 to \$10,000 per year. The amount awarded will be dependent upon the level of funds available as well as the grant proposals.

## **Eligibility criteria**

- Baccalaureate or higher degree in nursing
- Licensed to practice professional nursing in Texas
- TNA member of at least two years
- Intent to complete proposed research within two years
- Evidence of IRB review and approval (or exception)
- Has not received a TNF grant within the past three years



## Application Requirements

### Application Checklist

1. [Application form](#)
2. Abstract
3. Project narrative including: purpose, background/significance, theoretical framework (if applicable), methods (design, setting/sample, procedures, instruments if applicable, analysis plan), anticipated relevance/implications. Use APA format; content excluding references not to exceed 10 double spaced pages with 1 inch margins.
4. Copies of instruments if applicable
5. Budget proposal narrative and spreadsheet with projected expenses by category
  - Expenses must be incurred within the grant period or approved extension deadline.
  - Only expenses essential to the conduct of the proposed research will be considered for funding: Prohibited expenses include investigator's salary, education assistance (tuition, textbooks, dissertation preparation, travel to meet dissertation committee), presentation of papers or conference attendance, and purchase of computers.
  - A prior written request and justification must be directed to the Texas Nurses Foundation before any funds can be moved or reallocated. Budget changes must be preapproved by the Foundation. Permission may be granted to move funds from one budget category to another as long as no additional expense to the Foundation is involved.
  - Unexpended funds will be returned to the Foundation when the funding period terminates.
6. Copy of IRB approval or exception
7. Letters of support from consultants (verifying availability and willingness to participate if consultants are to be used on the project)
8. Letters of support from organizations (if applicable)
9. Advisor recommendation (if study is being completed as scholarly work for graduate study)
10. [Signed agreement](#)

### Review criteria

All submissions meeting eligibility criteria will be reviewed by the grant committee based on:

**Significance:** Is the study important to nursing practice and the development of nursing policy? Does it address a policy issue related to TNA's interests or activities?

**Approach:** Are study aims logical and appropriately conceptualized? Do study design, sample, instruments, procedures, and data analysis allow specific aims to be accomplished?



**Investigator:** Is the study within the applicant's ability? Is the primary investigator versed in the theory and supported by mentors or consultants?

**Environment:** Are available resources and research environment adequate to support the research? Is the project feasible?

**Justified budget:** Are purchases explained, including the need for particular materials? Are opportunities explored to use other resources to support the study?

### **Review committee**

The review committee will include the TNF president and chief executive officer. Additional members will include at least one nurse researcher (PhD level) and one individual with expertise in nursing or health policy.

## **Final Report Requirements**

**A final grant report must be submitted no later than 30 days after completion of the research.** Depending on the length and amount of the grant awarded, additional reporting may be required. Report requirements:

1. Briefly summarize project methodology and results or findings.
2. Describe significance and implications for education, practice, policy initiatives, or further research.
3. Describe plans for future activities related to this research, dissemination of the findings, and any presentations or publications that are planned.
4. Identify limitations of the research.
5. Any additional comments.
6. Attach a final budget documenting how the funds were used.