

# Cal State Fullerton

## School of Nursing

### Expanding the Number of CSUF Baccalaureate-Prepared Registered Nurses in Orange County, California

#### RN-BSN Stipend Program Student Commitment Contract

The RN-BSN Stipend Program is designed to increase the number of California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) baccalaureate-prepared Registered Nurses actively working in Orange County, California. The program has the overarching goal of addressing existing and projected shortages of Registered Nurses in Orange County's extensive healthcare network. Registered Nurses provide essential services that enable the County's dynamic healthcare system to provide state-of-the-art care that is inclusive and culturally appropriate. Through a generous grant, the CSUF School of Nursing will provide stipends up to \$10,000 for students enrolled in the CSUF RN-BSN program. This stipend will assist students by enabling them to offset program-related costs, reduce the need for student loans, and enable them to finish their Baccalaureate program as rapidly as possible.

THIS CONTRACT is between the California State University, Fullerton School of Nursing (hereinafter "CSUF SON") and a student enrolled in the CSUF SON RN-BSN program (hereinafter "Student").

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CWID:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**This agreement is entered into on this date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Anticipated date of BSN graduation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount of Stipend Offered:** \$\_\_\_\_\_

#### CONDITIONS FOR PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Students receiving funding through the RN-BSN Stipend Program must:

1. Be a citizen, nationalized citizen, or permanent resident of the United States
2. Students with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) designation are eligible for this program, but students on other temporary or student visas are not eligible to participate.
3. Be actively enrolled in good standing in the CSUF SON RN-BSN program.
4. Be aware that participation in the RN-BSN Stipend Program may result in ineligibility for other stipend programs and may impact other financial aid in terms of potential changes to the types and amounts of financial aid offered by CSUF.

## **OBLIGATIONS OF THE STUDENT**

By entering into this Contract, Student agrees to:

1. Participate in the RN-BSN Stipend Program offered by CSUF SON.
2. Remain actively enrolled in CSUF SON RN-BSN program and pursue coursework leading to the BSN degree in a timely fashion.
3. Accept an arranged Orange County field placement for the NURS 402/L (Population Health Nursing) course when enrolled in the course.
4. Actively seek, accept, and maintain employment as a Registered Nurse in Orange County to meet the post-graduate employment obligation described below.

## **POST-GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT OBLIGATIONS**

1. Student receiving a stipend under the RN-BSN Stipend Program must agree to actively seek and accept employment (or continue their existing employment) as a Registered Nurse at an Orange County Qualifying Agency\* within six months following completion of the BSN degree. Student must provide evidence of such employment.
2. Student must agree to remain employed as a Registered Nurse at an Orange County Qualifying Agency one year following completion of their BSN degree. Student must provide evidence of such employment.
3. If Student is currently employed as a Registered Nurse in Orange County, Student must agree to continue their Orange County Registered Nurse employment for a period of one year following the date their BSN degree is conferred. Evidence of continued employment must be provided six months after graduation and then one year after graduation to ensure continued employment in Orange County.
4. Student agrees to participate in post-graduate survey data collection as well as data collection efforts related to the RN-BSN Stipend Program or other programs offered by the CSUF School of Nursing.

\*Qualifying Agency means a hospital, community health setting, county-contracted healthcare agency, governmental agency, clinic, or healthcare provider in Orange County, California.

## **INTERRUPTION OF STUDIES**

If, after receiving the stipend, Student needs to either request an interruption of studies or a delay in graduation, Student must notify the RN-BSN Stipend Program Coordinator and discuss options prior to taking any action. If it is determined that it is appropriate for Student to take an action that would postpone their degree conference, Student must submit a Program Petition to the CSUF SON RN-BSN Stipend Program. If the petition is denied and Student proceeds with interruption of studies or delay in graduation or if the petition is granted and Student fails to return to studies and does not graduate as indicated, the Monetary Repayment Obligation will be initiated as described below.

## **OBLIGATIONS OF CSUF SCHOOL OF NURSING**

1. Provide Student meeting the above qualifications with a stipend of up to \$10,000, distributed over two semesters, for their continued enrollment in the CSUF SON RN-BSN program so long as they maintain good academic standing and funds are available. **Please note that this stipend is grant-funded; therefore, any interruption in funding may impact stipend payments.**
2. Suspend or terminate stipend payments if Student:
  - i. Is not making satisfactory academic progress toward obtaining the BSN degree.
  - ii. Has violated established CSUF SON or otherwise established policies and/or codes of conduct.
3. Before suspension and/or termination efforts are taken, CSUF will give Student prudent written notice of intent to suspend or terminate payments and, if possible and appropriate, work with Student to resolve the issues of concern.

## **SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

Under the terms of this contract, Student can receive payments in the amount of approximately \$5,000 per semester (including Summer semester) up to a maximum of \$10,000. Student should be aware that the stipend payment will take approximately eight (8) to twelve (12) weeks to process. Given that this is a stipend, if Student is anticipating the need for a student loan, they may wish to consider their need for the loan or the potential ability to reduce the amount of loan requested since they will receive \$5,000 supplemental income per semester through the RN-BSN Stipend Program.

The student acknowledges, understands, and agrees that the provision of any initial payment does not constitute a guarantee of continued or full funding for the duration of the program. Student further understands and agrees that all funding is contingent upon CSUF SON's receipt of grant funding; Stipend payment may be reduced, suspended or discontinued.

## **STUDENT/GRADUATE MONETARY REPAYMENT OBLIGATIONS**

1. In the event of unsatisfactory academic performance or failure to complete any portion of the RN-BSN program, any future stipend payments will be suspended, and Student must return any funding provided under the RN-BSN Stipend Program. Unsatisfactory performance/non-completion of the RN-BSN program will be evidenced by:
  - a. Academic probation, termination from the CSUF SON or employment or being placed on involuntary leave.
  - b. Failure to maintain satisfactory performance in academic and/or clinical courses.
  - c. Failure to become employed as a Registered Nurse in an Orange County Qualifying Agency within six months after BSN degree is conferred.
  - d. Failure to remain employed as Registered Nurse in an Orange County Qualifying Agency for one year post BSN degree conferment.

2. The CSUF SON may suspend monetary support at any point for unsatisfactory Program performance.
3. The CSUF SON will first communicate with Student to determine a course of action and notify Student of the possibility of suspension and/or required repayment of monetary support.
4. If extenuating circumstances beyond Student's control have caused performance and/or employment issues placing Student in non-compliance with this Contract, Student may petition for a Review of Circumstances.
5. If Student resolves performance issues to CSUF SON's satisfaction, the Monetary Repayment Plan may be forgiven.
6. If Student is unable to resolve program performance issues to CSUF SON's satisfaction, the Monetary Repayment Plan process will be administered by CSUF.
7. If Student is required to make monetary repayments, CSUF and Student shall agree upon the terms of a monetary repayment plan that includes the expected period to full repayment (within two years), total amount to be repaid, interest (10%), and any additional fees. Monetary repayment plans may be revisable based on Review of Circumstances.
8. In the event CSUF and Student do not agree on terms of monetary repayment, Student shall be required to repay all funds received immediately.
9. CSUF will oversee and report monetary repayment collection efforts until full repayment has occurred.

#### **STUDENT/GRADUATE MONITORING AND LIMITED PRIVACY WAIVER**

1. CSUF SON will monitor Student to ensure program compliance and determine and verify the completion of the stipend commitment. CSUF SON will collect and analyze data to meet grant requirements and to evaluate the effectiveness of the program and student learning and competency outcomes.
2. Information collected and potentially reported includes, but is not limited to:
  - a. Student's current contact information
  - b. Student's basic demographic information
  - c. Student's clinical/field placement agencies
  - d. Student's date of graduation (degree conferral)
  - e. Graduate's place of employment and active employment status

f. Quantitative and qualitative data collected from evaluation surveys and focus groups.

## **DISPUTES**

Any disputes or disagreements arising under this Contract shall be governed exclusively by procedures established by California State University, Fullerton or the CSUF SON. In cases involving Program Petitions, the CSUF SON decision shall be final.

## **REVIEW AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I hereby attest that I am authorized to work in the United States of America. I hereby attest that I have never been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor crime that would disqualify me from clinical/field placement or employment in a Qualifying Agency. I hereby attest that I have never been discharged from employment at a county or other social services agency due to violation of county code/merit system rules or violation of agency or professional codes of ethics. I hereby attest that I have reviewed and understand this Contract and agree to be bound by its provisions

I have read this RN-BSN Stipend Program Contract, and I understand and agree to the terms described. I agree to accept the RN-BSN stipend of \$\_\_\_\_\_, with the understanding that I must complete the above-outlined obligations both as a student and as a graduate of the program.

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**Student Signature**

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**Date**

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**Signature of Program Coordinator, CSUF School of Nursing**

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**Date**

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**Signature of Program Director, CSUF School of Nursing**

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**Date**