



Washington Office of Superintendent of **PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

Nursing Simulation Lab Equipment Grants

1. **Purpose:**

To fund skill centers with approved Nursing Certified Assistant programs to purchase or upgrade simulation laboratory equipment.

2. **Description of services provided:**

Funding was provided to Skill Centers for:

- New or upgraded equipment necessary to implement the nursing based healthcare program
- Training and/or professional learning when training is required to operate the new or upgraded equipment.
- Manikins, interactive videos, skill-specific anatomical models or "task trainer", computerized manikins or "patient simulators", and/or desktop virtual reality training applications.
- Software purchases and site licenses.

3. **Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:**

Skills centers with an approved nursing certified assistant program.

Beneficiaries in the 2022-23 School Year:

Number of School Districts:	N/A
Number of Schools:	16 Skill Centers
Number of Students:	743
Number of Educators:	N/A
Other:	N/A

4. **Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding?**

☒ No



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5. **State funding history:**

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
FY 23	\$3,600,000	\$3,529,319

6. **Number of beneficiaries (e.g., school districts, schools, students, educators, other) history:**

Fiscal Year	Number of Schools
FY 23	16

7. **Programmatic changes since inception (if any):**

This is the first year of dedicated funding for this purpose.

8. **Program evaluation or evaluation of major findings:**

The outcomes of the healthcare simulation equipment included improved training, increased confidence when students were placed for their healthcare clinical hours, increased success in testing for the CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant) exam and an increase in student and patient safety. Programs exceeded state requirements this year with an increased first-attempt passing rate for students on the Washington State Nursing Assistant Certification Exam. The healthcare simulation equipment has and will continue to enhance lab experiences for students in preparation for clinical rotations and state board exams. It is anticipated that the impact of the equipment will be even greater in future years, when it is available to students for a greater portion of the year, now that it has been received, inventoried, and will be accessible for the entirety of the school year moving forward.

9. **Major challenges faced by the program:**

The major challenges programs faced with leveraging this state investment included internal barriers with business departments, equipment supply shortages, and processing delays, all of which impacted the Skill Center's ability to efficiently use the grant funding and have students most rapidly benefit. Internal barriers and vendor issues included business department rules and reluctance to work with certain vendors which created obstacles in the procurement process. This hindered the programs ability to swiftly make necessary purchases. The program also had a tight timeline to utilize the grant funding effectively and the limited availability of supplies due to statewide demand further delayed the purchasing process. Plus, the added demand of having all purchases on site by end of June caused issues. One Skill Center reported they had to cancel orders and/or absorb them into general



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apportionment. Despite submitting a comprehensive spreadsheet with item details and vendors, various issues within the processing system led to slower progress than anticipated.

10. Future opportunities:

Consider modifying the proviso language to allow for funding access for all state approved CNA programs offered in the K-12 system. Reviewing the purchases of prior grants could result in the development of a guide for suggested purchases supporting the best return on investment for equipment.

11. Statutory and/or budget language:

\$3,600,000 of the workforce education investment account—state appropriation is provided solely for the office of the superintendent of public instruction to administer grants to skill centers for nursing programs to purchase or upgrade simulation laboratory equipment.

12. Other relevant information:

N/A

13. Schools/districts receiving assistance:

[preliminaryfy23state-fundedprovisograntawardsupdated-42823.xlsx \(live.com\)](#)

14. Program Contact Information:

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