



**State University System  
2023-2024 Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund  
Proposal Form**

<b>University:</b>	University of Central Florida
<b>Healthcare Partner:</b>	Orlando Health
<b>Date Proposal Approved by University Board of Trustees:</b>	7/31/2023
<b>Amount Requested:</b>	\$350,000
<b>University Contact (name, title, phone, &amp; email):</b>	Mary Lou Sole, PhD, RN Dean, UCF College of Nursing <a href="mailto:Mary.Sole@ucf.edu">Mary.Sole@ucf.edu</a> , 407-823-5496
<b>Please check the boxes below as appropriate:</b>	<i>All boxes must be checked in order to be eligible to participate.</i>
<b>Healthcare partner making contribution is located in and licensed to operate in Florida?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
<b>Healthcare partner making contribution is a healthcare provider as defined in Section 768.38(2), Florida Statutes?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
<b>Nursing programs met or exceeded a first-time NCLEX passage rate of 70% for the prior year based on the 2023 Accountability Plan?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
<b>The funds will be used for an eligible purpose per section 1009.8962, Florida Statutes?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes

**Background**

The LINE Fund is intended to incentivize collaboration between nursing education programs and healthcare partners and to meet local, regional, and state workforce demand by recruiting faculty and clinical preceptors, increasing the capacity of high-quality nursing education programs, and increasing the number of nursing education program graduates who are prepared to enter the workforce. Subject to available funds, for every dollar contributed to an institution by a healthcare partner, the fund shall provide a dollar-for-dollar match to the participating institution for approved proposals.

**Funds may be used for student scholarships, recruitment of additional faculty, equipment, and simulation centers to advance high-quality nursing education programs throughout the state. Funds may not be used for the construction of new buildings.** To participate, an institution must submit a timely and complete proposal to the Board of Governors for consideration. For more details, see Board of Governors [Regulation 8.008 - Nursing Education](#).

**Proposals must be submitted with a total of no more than three pages of narrative for the following sections.** Proposals with more than three pages of narrative will be rejected.

## **Proposal Details**

*Provide a detailed narrative for each section below.*

**I. Use of Funds** - *Describe in detail and with specificity how the institution plans to use the funds, including how the funds will be utilized to increase student enrollment and program completion.*

Matching funds are requested for a **\$350,000 gift** provided by Orlando Health, which will be utilized for nursing student scholarships during the 2023-2024 academic year and the procurement of additional simulation equipment.

**\$100,000** is dedicated towards student scholarships which are a priority funding area for the UCF College of Nursing. The funds help alleviate costs related to their education and enable our students to solely focus on their academic success to more efficiently complete their degrees and enter the workforce. One reason these funds are essential to our nursing students is that they are highly encouraged not to work, due to the rigorous curriculum.

The scholarship funding will support the Orlando Health Scholars program, which will provide tuition assistance for 10 nursing students in the amount of \$10,000 per student during the 2023-2024 academic year. This Scholars program will provide students with an opportunity to work closely with Orlando Health nursing leadership to learn more about their hospital system. The Scholars will also be paired with a UCF faculty member who will monitor their progress and success in the program, to ensure program completion and graduation.

The matching funds will be used to double the number of Scholars. Our plan is to implement the Scholars program across the three cohorts of pre-licensure students, thus 20 students will be supported through the scholarship funds. We are now admitting 400 new students annually, so the additional scholarships are of high need.

**\$250,000** is dedicated towards purchasing new simulation equipment for UCF's College of Nursing Simulation, Technology, Innovation and Modeling (STIM) Center. The STIM Center at UCF's College of Nursing is accredited by the Society of Simulation in Health Care for its educational excellence. The STIM Center is also one of nine simulation programs worldwide – and only one in Florida – to earn the new Healthcare Simulation Standards Endorsement from the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSL). The international endorsement recognizes the UCF STIM Center for the high quality of simulation experience, the expertise of our faculty and staff, and our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion across all simulation. This recognition is also for our commitment to innovation in the field, as it regularly incorporates new technologies, such as augmented, virtual and mixed reality, into simulation learning experiences.

This simulation equipment will be needed in UCF's new facility that will triple the existing research and clinical lab space and will enable the College of Nursing to leverage its internationally recognized expertise in healthcare simulation and achieve its vision of serving the global community as a leader in innovative nursing education.

\$250,000 in matching funds will be paired with \$250,000 of Orlando Health's gift to procure additional High Fidelity Manikins to support clinical instruction: 2 Infant Manikins totaling approximately \$100,000; 2 Child Manikins totaling approximately \$100,000, and 3 Adult Manikins totaling approximately \$300,000. This new equipment will provide the necessary capacity to serve UCF's growing enrollment in our nursing program.

**II. Onboarding & Retention of Graduates** - *Describe in detail and with specificity how the health care partner will onboard and retain graduates.*

The Scholars will be placed in one of Orlando Health's 15 hospitals in the Central Florida region to conduct their clinical placements. These clinical placements will provide the students with the education and training they need to graduate and successfully pass the NCLEX examination.

They will also have the rich opportunity to work closely with their nurse preceptor and Orlando Health's leadership team, as they are dedicated to recruiting highly-qualified Knight Nurses.

**III. Program Expansion** - *Describe in detail and with specificity how the funds will expand the institution's nursing education programs to meet local, regional, or state workforce demands. If applicable, include advanced education nursing programs and how the funds will increase the number of faculty and*

*clinical preceptors and planned efforts to utilize the clinical placement process established in Section 14.36, Florida Statutes.*

With support from the State of Florida, and our community partners, UCF is working to **increase our pre-licensure BSN student enrollment by 50%**, which will result in approximately 150 new students annually. This increase will result in graduating a total of 4,150 graduates eligible for licensure over the next 10 years. With existing new investments, UCF has already admitted 100 new students over the past year. UCF is also working to increase **graduate student enrollment by 20%** with concentrations in nurse educator, healthcare simulation, doctoral, and educator/simulation certificate programs to support the shortage in nurse educators across the state.

As we have admitted more students, it is essential to retain them. Scholarships, along with additional student success resources, help UCF sustain and increase our retention and graduation rates, because of the rigorous program requirements.

Additionally, as UCF expands our STIM Center, we will need the necessary equipment to train the larger cohorts of both undergraduate and graduate nursing students in our programs. As we enlarge our STIM Center, there will be two main components: a Virtual Hospital and Clinical Skills Exam Suite. The Virtual Hospital will be heavily used by students across multiple clinical courses and programs and will include student queuing, prebriefing and debriefing spaces, flexible simulation rooms, and specialty virtual reality rooms. The Clinical Skills Exam Suite is made up of several individual rooms outfitted with exam tables, patient diagnostic tools and audio-visual recording systems.

These specific funds will enable the university to procure the necessary equipment to support our larger enrollments in our nursing programs.