



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

University:	The University of South Florida
Healthcare Partner:	Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital
Date Proposal Approved by University Board of Trustees:	Pending BOT Approval 8/15/2023
Amount Requested:	\$428,972
University Contact (name, title, phone, & email):	Usha Menon Dean, College of Nursing College of Nursing 813-974-9091
Please check the boxes below as appropriate:	<i>All boxes must be checked in order to be eligible to participate.</i>
Healthcare partner making contribution is located in and licensed to operate in Florida?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
Healthcare partner making contribution is a healthcare provider as defined in Section 768.38(2), Florida Statutes?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
Nursing programs met or exceeded a first-time NCLEX passage rate of 70% for the prior year based on the 2023 Accountability Plan?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
The funds will be used for an eligible purpose per section 1009.8962, Florida Statutes?	<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

Use of Funds – The University of South Florida College of Nursing, in partnership with Johns Hopkins All Children’s Hospital [JHACH], will use the funds to (1) expand access to simulation by providing 25 days of student access and staff support in the *Center for Medical Simulation and Innovative Education*, (2) provide scholarships to ten USF nursing students, to be known as the Johns’ Hopkins Scholars [JHS], who will be in the final year of the baccalaureate program. JHS will be identified based on academic performance, residency in Pinellas County, FL, and a commitment to work within the county upon graduation, (3) guarantee preceptorship placement and access to qualified pediatric nurse preceptors during the final semester, (4) provide salary support for three adjunct faculty members each semester to provide pediatric clinical instruction for students enrolled in *NUR 4467 Nursing Care of Women, Children, and Families*, a specialty clinical area with limited educationally and experientially qualified nursing faculty, and support for a Student Success Educator on the St. Petersburg campus. Financial support for these initiatives allows USF to expand its use of simulation to achieve program hours and outcomes in a specialty area (e.g., pediatrics) where clinical placement opportunities are in high demand, and short supply and limit the programs’ ability to increase student enrollment. Scholarship support for and work commitment from JHS alleviates financial burdens for students during their final and most costly year of their program while ensuring that JHACH, has access to the county’s best and brightest baccalaureate-prepared nursing students. JHS will also have a dedicated CON faculty member to monitor student academic performance, provide one-on-one advising, academic support, and job-readiness evaluation to ensure program completion and successful role transition from student to advanced-beginner nurse.

Onboarding & Retention of Graduates – JHACH will begin onboarding the students during the last semester of the program. As JHS, students will complete over 130 precepted clinical hours within the organization with a highly-skilled nursing staff member. Moreover, students will be provided with three additional precepted experiences in a pediatric subspecialty of their choice. During these precepted hours, students engage with staff, patients, families, and providers who identify skills and traits that align with the organizational mission, vision, and values and provide feedback on the hiring process. Through early engagement with JHACH, the ability to explore other specialty areas within the organization, geographical student placement, and verbal commitment to stay in the county, both parties are able to make informed hiring

decisions, students have the advantage of a prolonged onboarding period, and graduate retention is greatly enhanced by the overall experience.

Program Expansion – The state of Florida outperforms Pinellas County on several key health indicators for infants, children, and adolescents. Specifically, hospitalizations for childhood asthma are higher, child abuse rates are higher, as are the number of underweight children, and reported sexually transmitted diseases, while childhood immunization rates are lower than the state average. Colleges of nursing prepare students to be nurse generalists upon graduation. However, caring for the unique needs of infants, children and adolescents, some of our most vulnerable community members, requires additional exposure, training and education to care for the unique needs of this population. While all nursing students receive basic instruction in caring for pediatric clients, often, based on limited availability of pediatric clinical placement opportunities, most will not receive exposure to the depth and breadth of care provided at JHACH. It is through such exposure that students become impassioned to follow a trajectory they may never have considered. Even when colleges and schools of nursing can locate a pediatric inpatient clinical unit, finding nurses with pediatric clinical and teaching experience represents another placement barrier. Therefore, this proposal serves many purposes. First, it provides students the opportunity for more meaningful exposure to a large pediatric population with complex health care needs. Next, through this experience, students become aware of their potential role in improving health outcomes for infants, children, and adolescents in Pinellas County. Finally, through their immersion within JHACH, they become early team members, a part of a world-class healthcare team, and new baccalaureate-prepared nurses with highly sought after pediatric experience they can use to give back to the profession through precepting or teaching students, thereby not only helping to address the nursing shortage but the shortage of qualified preceptors and nurse educators. USF continues to use the clinical placement process, established in *Section 14.36, Florida Statutes*, through its use of two cloud-based platforms [MyClinicalExchange and Castlebranch].