

The Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education Request for Proposals

# Healthcare Workforce Investment Fund Healthcare Training Scholarships Partnership Proposals

# Deadline: April 30, 2025

The Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE), through the Healthcare Workforce Investment Fund, seeks partnership proposals from eligible healthcare partners and healthcare programs for healthcare training scholarship.

# I. Background

Created in the 2023 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly through HB 200, the Healthcare Workforce Investment Fund (HWIF) is a groundbreaking framework for public/private partnership. The legislation shares responsibility between industry and government to carry out a dedicated mission - to cultivate a robust healthcare workforce in Kentucky. The core objectives are twofold: providing educational scholarships to students pursuing programs targeting critical workforce needs in healthcare professions (at least 65% of funds) and recognizing and rewarding excellence among Kentucky healthcare professional education and training programs (up to 35% of funds).

The <u>Healthcare Workforce Investment Fund website</u> includes links to the guiding legislation and implementation plan, identifies the HWIF Steering Committee, and includes a frequently asked questions section.

# II. Funding Opportunity

CPE is excited to announce that through the second year of the HWIF appropriation, we are able to award \$2,896,000.00 in matchable funds to eligible healthcare programs.

## List of Eligible Credentials

- Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor
- Professional Art Therapist
- Community Health Worker Certificate
- Any Emergency Medical Services License or Certificate
- Any Medical Imaging, Radiation, or Other Related License
- Dental Hygienist License
- Dental Assistant License
- Any Nursing License or Certificate
- State-Registered Nursing Aide (Kentucky Board of Nursing)
- Respiratory Care Practitioner Certificate
- Any Psychology License or Certificate

- Any Occupational Therapy License
- Any Behavior Analyst License
- Any Physical Therapy Certificate
  or License
- Social Worker Certificate or License
- Marriage and Family Therapist Certificate or License
- Professional Counselor Certificate
  or License
- Any Physician Assistant License
- A Dietitian License or Nutritionist Certificate

## III. HWIF Priorities – Healthcare Training Scholarships

Through statute, CPE is directed to evaluate and prioritize awarding funds to healthcare training scholarship partnership proposals that plan to address the specific needs of a historically underserved county, reduce the workforce demand of a specific eligible healthcare credential that is determined to be among the highest in demand in the state, or are from a healthcare partner with fifty or fewer employees.

#### IV. Healthcare Training Scholarship Partnership Proposal Submission

The submission period for the second round of partnership proposals will close on April 30, 2025. Below is the proposal form that should be used.

#### Submission Form

Proposals must be received by **4:30pm ET on April 30, 2025**, by the following designee:

## CPE Workforce & Economic Development Unit <u>cpeworkforce@ky.gov</u>

Identify your submission with "HWIF Partnership Proposal" on the subject line of the email.

# V. Proposal Evaluation & Award Notification

The HWIF Steering Committee and CPE will use this evaluation form to guide the decision-making process.

#### **Evaluation Form**

All eligible entities that submitted partnership proposals will be notified via email regarding the status of their proposal after all proposals have been evaluated on Friday, May 23, 2025.

The Council reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals in whole or in part and to negotiate any or all aspects of a proposal.

If you have any questions about the Healthcare Workforce Investment Fund, contact Michaela Mineer at <u>michaela.mineer@ky.gov</u>.