



School Year 2021-2022
Public Health Work Force Nursing Grant
Testing Program FAQ
November 5, 2021

Are there any suggested criteria Education Service Centers (ESCs) should



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9. [Texas Board of Nursing - Practice - Nursing Practice](#) (Board of Nursing Position Statement on the role of RN and LVN in a school setting)

- Supervision of clinical practice must be managed by one of the individuals listed above due to the complexities of nursing supervision.

4. TEA FAQ states that RN supervisors for LVN, CMA, CNA must be an employee of the district. The nurse requirements state that the supervisor is dependent on the scope of the work and may not be an employee of the facility. Can you clarify? We are thinking about hiring RNs at the ESC that would travel and fulfill the supervisory role for LVNs, CMAs, CNAs. Is this allowable? **New November 5, 2021**

- An RN hired at the ESC Region cannot manage LVNs, CMAs, and/or CNAs working within an LEA. The RN has to be available for everyone they are managing. This is not logistically possible across an entire region for several LEAs, as stated in the Nurse Practice Act.
- An LVN, CMA, and/or CNA must be supervised by one of the following medical professionals already working within the LEA as required by the Board of Nursing Rules & the Nurse Practice Act:
 1. Registered Nurse (RN)
 2. Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)



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- The term "nurse" is a protected title in the state of Texas. Anyone using the title nurse must be licensed by the Texas Board of Nursing as a nurse. Violation of this law would mean the CNA or CMA practices nursing without a license and can be prosecuted. There are numerous cases where the BON has brought charges against individuals that represent themselves as a nurse. Here is the link to the Imposter Alert website. Texas Board of Nursing - Discipline & Complaints - Imposter Alerts
- CNAs and CMAs should only use those initials approved to use and should correct anyone who calls them "the nurse." In addition, the CNA or CMA cannot exercise any school-based medical authority other than what a para-professional staff person can do. A CNA or CMA can't do anything without a physician's order or direction from the individuals listed to answer questions 3 & 4.

Reporting Requirements

6. What are the specific reporting requirements, and who is the data being reported to for the grant? TEA? DSHS? CDC? etc. **New November 5, 2021**
 - All ESC's that receive funds would report the data from the LEA's they are covering to TEA. The detailed timeline for reporting will be provided to ESC's as they move forward in the grant application process. The specific metrics/reporting requirements are as follows:
 - Financial expenditures (quarterly)
 - Number and type of staff hired (semi-annually)
 - Diversity metrics of staff hired (semi-annually)
 - Equity and inclusion activities (semi-annually)
 - Equipment purchased (semi-annually)
 - Trainings conducted (semi-annually)
7. If the ESC hires an RN to be able to send out to assist districts and provide training, is that program or administrative costs? **New November 5, 2021**
 - This would be considered a program cost(s).
8. What are the specific requirements in the definition of diversity, equity, and inclusion from the Nursing Grant? **New November 5, 2021**
 - The Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) metrics reporting requirements include:
 - i. Hiring staff (# of staff hired)
 - ii. DEI relevant training (# and type of trainings held)



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- iii. Establish a health equity team to hire a workforce representing diversity in the communities/LEAs being served.
 - a. This could be done at the ESC and/or LEA level
- We encourage the Nursing Grant ESC recipients to reach a wide range of LEAs representing diverse communities/groups that could include the following populations: English Language Learners, Title I, migrant communities, SPED, alternative schools, etc.

Allowable Costs & Activities

9. The grant allows funds for office supplies but not clinic supplies. How does this apply to items that are essential for nursing work? **New November 5, 2021**
- This is determined on a case-by-case basis, but here are some examples that the CDC grant manager has determined:
 - Allowable
 - Stethoscopes
 - Oxygen Monitor/Oximeter
 - Blood Pressure Cuffs
 - Eye Exam Sheet (non-electronic)
 - Otoscope
 - Laptop/Screens/Printers
 - Food Saver (to make ice packs)
 - Not allowable
 - Exam Tables
 - Eye exam sheet (electronic)
 - Audiometer
 - Bed for Clinic Area
 - Thermometer
10. What stipends or retention are allowed as part of the grant? **New November 5, 2021**
- Retention and signing bonuses are allowable expenses. Stipends for additional duty/work are not.



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16. How does the Nursing Grant's primary focus on hiring school nurses correlate with providing student vaccinations? **New November 5, 2021**
- The Nursing Grant guidance does not focus on vaccinations; it addresses communicable diseases and equitably provides nurses within schools. That said, assisting with vaccination efforts is something that those individuals can do as a part of their duties.
17. Are indirect costs allowable with this grant? **New November 5, 2021**
- Indirect costs are allowed for the Nursing federal grant; recipients do not need to budget this amount.
18. Can the funds be used for mental health supports at the LEA level? **New November 5, 2021**
- The Nursing Grant's focus on recruiting, hiring, and retaining school-based medical personnel (i.e., RNs, LVNs, CMAs, & CNA) does not apply to mental health supports/services.
19. What is the expectation for school