National Hartford Centers of Gerontological Nursing Excellence
Request for Application
Title: Building Academic Gerontological Nursing Capacity - NEXus

KEY DATES
January 8, 2013: Second Call for Applications
March 15, 2014: Deadline for Application
March 31, 2014: Notification of Acceptance
December 31, 2014: Final Date to sign MOU to receive award and/or reduced membership

PURPOSE
This John A. Hartford Foundation/National Hartford Centers of Gerontological Nursing Excellence (NHCGNE) funding opportunity announcement encourages Schools of Nursing to apply for an award of $10,000 for successfully executing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with The Nursing Education Xchange (NEXus). Schools of Nursing with demonstrated strength in gerontological nursing that are interested in increasing access to doctoral level courses in gerontological nursing practice, education, and research, through partnerships and distance technology, are encouraged to apply. Schools of Nursing that join NEXus under this RFA are eligible for reduced fees for the first three years of NEXus membership (see “Value of NEXus Membership”). They must also join the NHCGNE. Schools considering application are strongly encouraged to view an orientation webinar that was recorded in 2013.

BACKGROUND
The NHCGNE is a collaboration of centers of gerontological nursing excellence, including a Coordinating Center located at the Gerontological Society of America, Inc. The NHCGNE administers a pre-doctoral and post-doctoral award program, an annual Leadership Conference, and facilitates collaboration among member centers and its many partners including the NEXus program. The mission of the NHCGNE is to enhance and sustain the capacity and competence of all nurses to provide quality care to older adults through faculty development.

NEXus began in 2004 as a partnership to share courses among four universities in the Western U.S. that offered PhD programs. In order to address the nursing faculty shortage, NEXus facilitates the preparation of nurse educators and researchers through application of distance accessible delivery methods. In 2008, NEXus added the DNP and began offering DNP courses within the exchange. Today, NEXus membership has expanded across the nation to include 15 academic collaborating institutions (schools that both offer and access courses at collaborating universities) and one academic affiliate (schools that only access courses from collaborating universities).
APPLICATION INCLUSION CRITERIA
Schools of Nursing that have demonstrated the highest level of commitment to the field of gerontological nursing are encouraged to apply. We are seeking applications from Schools of Nursing that have both current experience and future potential to build the next generation of gerontological nurses; have outstanding capacity in gerontological research, practice and education; manifest leadership that transcends their own institution; and meet generally accepted criteria of excellence.

The criteria for a successful application include:
- Demonstrated strength or high potential for expertise in gerontological nursing and gerontology,
- Curricular strength in gerontology and geriatric nursing,
- Interested cadre of gerontological nursing faculty,
- Funded programs of research in nursing care of older adults, and
- Committed institutional leaders who provide letters of support.

Additionally, these programs must be able to:
- Offer distance-accessible doctoral-level courses,
- Execute an MOU expeditiously, and
- Demonstrate a cadre of doctoral students willing to avail themselves of the gerontological nursing courses.

All Schools of Nursing that meet the inclusion criteria are invited to submit an application to Dr. Terri Harvath. Up to ten schools that execute an MOU with NEXus, by December 31, 2014, will receive $10,000 to defray the costs of membership in NEXus and the NHGCNE. Other eligible Schools of Nursing that join NEXus under this RFA and prior to December 31, 2014 will receive reduced fees in NEXus for the first three years of membership.

Schools interested in participating in this project should submit a letter of interest and complete the Application (see p 4). A formal notice of acceptance to execute a NEXus MOU under this RFA will be provided to organizations that meet the above criteria. We encourage your inquiries concerning this funding opportunity and welcome the opportunity to answer questions.

For questions regarding this RFA, please contact Dr. Terri Harvath (harvatht@ohsu.edu).

For more information about NEXus and the NHCGNE please view the Orientation Webinar from September 23, 2013.
Submit a Letter of Interest describing the following (limit 8 pages):

1. What your institution could bring to NEXus (online course exchange) to enhance its mission.
2. What resources, including faculty and distance-accessible doctoral level coursework, you have available at your institution to participate in NEXus.
3. Documentation of your School’s strength and commitment to gerontological nursing research, education and practice.
4. Statement of agreement to pay NEXus and NHCGNE annual membership fees.
5. Attach NEXus application (next page).

Return application to:
Terri Harvath, PhD, RN, CNS, FAAN
Professor, Director, Hartford Center of Gerontological Nursing Excellence
Oregon Health & Science University, School of Nursing
Phone: 503-494-3855
Email: harvatht@ohsu.edu
**Application for Membership to the NHCGNE & NEXus**

**Date:**

Application for:
- ☐ Academic Collaborator Member

Courses offered for:
- ☐ PhD students  ☐ DNP students  ☐ Both

Institution:  
Address:  
Contact name:  
Contact title:  
Contact email:  
Contact tel/fax:  

**Academic unit (semester or quarter):**

**Area(s) of interest** *(check all that apply):*
- ☐ Ethics and Interprofessional Collaboration
- ☐ Systems, Leadership, Informatics and Policy
- ☐ Diverse and Vulnerable Populations
- ☐ Chronic and Disabling Conditions and Palliative Care
- ☐ Scholarship and Writing
- ☐ Research Methodology
- ☐ Nursing Education
- ☐ Advance Nursing Practice
- ☐ Gerontology and Geriatric Nursing
- ☐ Nursing Knowledge Development: Theory, Philosophy, and Science
- ☐ Scientific Underpinnings for Advanced Nursing Practice
- ☐ Other  

* These are the topics of course clusters offered by NEXus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total number of enrolled PhD students:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of PhD students admitted this academic year:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of enrolled DNP students:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of DNP students admitted this academic year:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major emphasis:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inter-professional collaborations:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Method of instruction/platform (example: Blackboard, Sakai, WebCT, etc.):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Does your CON/SON serve Medically Underserved Areas/Populations (MUA/P)?  ☐ YES  ☐ NO
Does it serve Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) and/or frontier areas?  ☐ YES  ☐ NO
If yes, please explain/identify the HPSAs, MUA/Ps and/or frontier areas served? (Please specify)