

Nursing Simulation Lab Equipment Grants

Budget Language

\$3,600,000 of the workforce education investment account state appropriation is provided solely for the office of the superintendent of public instruction to administer grants to skill centers for nursing programs to purchase or upgrade simulation laboratory equipment.

Proviso Purpose

To provide funding to support the improvement and expansion of healthcare programs in skill centers that lead to nursing career pathways.

Services Provided

Funding was provided to the skill centers that offer courses that include to or lead to Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) certification. Funds could be used for:

- New or upgraded equipment necessary to implement the nursing-based healthcare program.
- Training and/or professional learning when training is required to operate the new or upgraded equipment.
- Manikins, interactive videos, skill-specific anatomical models or "task trainer", computerized manikins or "patient simulators", and/or desktop virtual reality training applications.
- Software purchases and site licenses.

Criteria for Receiving Services/Grants

Skills centers with an approved nursing certified assistant program.

Beneficiaries in the 2024-25 School Year

Number of School Districts:	N/A
Number of Schools:	16
Number of Students:	849
Number of Educators:	N/A
Other:	N/A

Are Federal or Other Funds Contingent on State Funding?

No



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

State Funding History

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2025	\$1,800,000	\$1,627,835
2024	\$1,800,000	\$1,772,587
2023	\$3,600,000	\$3,529,319

Number of Beneficiaries Per Fiscal Year (e.g. School Districts, Schools, Students, Educators, Other)

Fiscal Year	Number of Beneficiaries
2025	16 Skill Centers
2024	16 Skill Centers
2023	16

Programmatic Changes Since Inception (If Any)

This body of work has been discontinued by the legislature. Beginning on July 1, 2025 OSPI is no longer implementing this grant.

Program(s) Evaluation or Major Findings

The integration of upgraded healthcare simulation equipment significantly improved student outcomes by enhancing clinical skills, confidence, engagement, and readiness for certification and employment. The new tools, including mannequins, CPR trainers, medication dispensing systems, and phlebotomy kits, aligned training with industry standards and allowed for more consistent practice, especially when clinical placements were limited.

As a result, the program saw:

- A 97% NAC pass rate
- 100% pass on the skills exam and 88% on the written exam
- Increased enrollment and student retention
- Improved faculty instruction and curriculum alignment

Major Challenges Faced by Program(s)

The programs faced several significant challenges this year, primarily due to a large student cohort and limited clinical site availability especially in hospitals resulting in reliance on long-term care facilities for clinical hours. Coordinating on-site testing also required extensive scheduling and staffing efforts.

Other key issues included:

- Ongoing classroom construction disrupting lab access and instruction
- Inconsistent student attendance due to varied school district calendars

- Shortages in qualified staff, outdated or limited equipment, and supply chain delays
- Logistical difficulties in managing multiple program sites and equitable equipment distribution
- Technology barriers impacting online testing and student access
- Transportation and geographic isolation affecting student participation
- Increased need for instructional differentiation due to varied student preparedness

Despite these challenges, staff adapted through strong collaboration, updated equipment purchases, and ongoing efforts to expand clinical partnerships and improve lab facilities.

Future Opportunities

This body of work has been discontinued by the legislature. Future opportunities will depend on future legislative direction and resource dedicated to the work.

Other Relevant Information

None.

Schools/Districts Receiving Assistance

[Click here to see a list of all OSPI grant recipients in the 2025 Fiscal Year.](#)

Program Contact Information

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