



Call for Pilot Schools

A Competency-Based Approach to Leadership Development and Resilience for Student Nurses

*Sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing with
funding provided by Johnson & Johnson*

Deadline for Application Letter: Friday, September 30, 2022.

Anticipated Award Date: Friday, October 14, 2022; 10 schools of nursing will receive awards of up to \$10,000 each.

Pilot Completion Date: Friday, April 28, 2023; Final report and evaluation data are due June 30, 2023.

Project Description: This initiative was launched to prepare baccalaureate nursing program graduates with learning experiences that foster resilience, self-care, and well-being, as well as new leadership skills, to meet competency expectations outlined in the 2021 AACN *Essentials*. To support this work, AACN has convened an advisory group to design a tool kit that includes innovative learning strategies and clinical experiences to build skills and assess competency development. This work entails defining how best to prepare nurses with strong skills in leadership, resilience, self-care, and well-being. Learning resources and strategies developed through this project will be incorporated into the AACN *Essentials* Implementation Tool Kit and shared with all schools of nursing.

Call for Pilot Schools: AACN is seeking 10 schools with entry-level baccalaureate nursing programs to implement and evaluate learning strategies and clinical experiences developed through this project in their curriculum. Once schools have been identified, AACN will orient the schools to implement the new learning and assessment strategies.

Selection Criteria for Pilot Schools

- 1) AACN is seeking a diverse set of schools to pilot curriculum, which includes diversity of faculty, student body, school size, type of school, geographical region, and practice settings. To fulfill these criteria, pilot school applicants will include in their application letter the following:
 - a. School, faculty, and student demographics, including a description of the geographic region, size of school, faculty composition (clinical, tenure, non-tenure), student enrollment, retention data, and annual graduation data by program.
 - b. A list of established practice partnerships across diverse settings, including all spheres of care as outlined in the *Essentials* relevant to this project and where learning strategies would be implemented.
 - c. A brief description of the learning activities and opportunities in the current curriculum related to developing wellness, resilience, and self-care. (Pilot schools will be selected across the continuum of those that currently have only a little focus in these areas to those with a heavy focus.)
- 2) Evidence of commitment to a diverse equitable, and inclusive learning and workplace environment for all students, staff, and faculty. This can be evidenced in the mission of the school of nursing and/or goals of the university. Other evidence of commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion may be acceptable.
- 3) A commitment of the institution to share its data and experience with implementation with AACN and with the other pilot schools and practice partners.
- 4) Letters of support or commitment from the college or university and their head nursing official in addition to the practice partners.

Expectations of Pilot Schools

- Participate in an orientation session and a virtual Collaboration Community.
- Integrate learning and assessment strategies into the curriculum during the Winter/Spring 2023 semester with at least one cohort of students.
- Evaluate use of learning strategies and resources and assess outcomes of student learning.
- Share additional learning strategies and assessment methods implemented and outcomes.

Expectations of AACN

- Orient lead faculty/team to the grant goals and learning resources.
- Facilitate virtual Collaboration Community.
- Provide an outline of evaluation data and information as well as a template for reporting.
- Revise and expand tool kit based on pilot feedback.
- Disseminate lessons learned and tool kit resources.
- Provide faculty development opportunities related to the tool kit.

Submission of Letters of Intent: Letters must be successfully submitted to bbingle@aacnnursing.org by Friday, September 30, 2022, using the following criteria:

- The letter must be submitted in PDF file format.
- Maximum 3 pages
- Font size: 12 point unreduced, Times New Roman
- Double spaced
- Page margin size: One inch

For more information, contact:

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