



### Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP) Frequently Asked Questions

#### Who is eligible to apply for the NFLP?

Students who are admitted to or enrolled in the **MSN Nurse Educator, MSN Clinical Nurse Leader, or EdD in Nursing Education program** are eligible to apply. They must also meet the following criteria: 1) be a US citizen or national of the US, or a lawful permanent resident of the US and its territories; 2) be enrolled full-time or part-time in the **MSN Nurse Educator, MSN Clinical Nurse Leader, or EdD in Nursing Education program**; 3) be in good academic in the school; and 4) have no judgment liens entered against them based on the default on a federal debt, 28 U.S.C. 3201(e). Borrowers should maintain full or part time enrollment status for a minimum of 2 terms/semesters during an academic year while receiving the NFLP loan.

#### How does NFLP loan support work?

The NFLP is a loan cancellation program with a service obligation for recipients of the loans. **To be eligible for the 85% cancellation, the Borrower must agree to serve in a full-time capacity (ex. two part-time clinical adjunct may be equivalent to full time) as a nurse faculty at an accredited school of nursing for a consecutive four-year period following graduation from the program.** The granting institution will make NFLP loans to eligible students for the cost of tuition, fees, books, lab expenses, and other reasonable education expenses such as nursing or educational conference fees not including travel or lodging expense. The loan amount may not exceed \$40,000 per year. There is no duration limitation for loan support.

To receive loan cancellation, the borrower must be employed full-time (or have 2 part-time clinical and/or academic positions) as a nurse faculty at an accredited school of nursing for a complete year, as is defined by the employing school of nursing or 12 consecutive months. The school will cancel an amount of up to 85% of the loan (plus interest) as follows:

- Upon completion by the Borrower of each of **the first, second and third year of full-time employment as a faculty member in an accredited school of nursing**, the school will cancel 20% of the principal of, and the interest on, the amount of the unpaid loan on the first day of employment.
- Upon completion by the individual of **the fourth year of full-time employment as a faculty member in an accredited school of nursing**, the school will cancel 25% of the principal of, and the interest on, the amount of the unpaid loan on the first day of employment.



- To receive loan cancellation, the Borrower must submit the Request for Partial Cancellation of Loan form to the lending school at the end of each complete year of full-time employment as faculty at a school of nursing. The Request for Partial Cancellation of Loan form is obtained on the MSN Nurse Educator or EdD in Nursing Education program websites as well as the NFLP website.

How do I apply for NFLP funds?

MSN Nurse Educator, MSN Clinical Nurse Leader, and EdD Students interested in securing full-time equivalent employment as nurse educators upon graduation are encouraged to complete the NFLP Loan Application and submit the completed application electronically to the Graduate Studies Associate, ([SONgraduate-list@westga.edu](mailto:SONgraduate-list@westga.edu)), before the Fall Semester each year. The Graduate Studies Associate will contact you via email with the application form and will provide Entrance Counseling.

When are NFLP applications due?

The Graduate Studies Associate will send out NFLP Entrance Counseling Information along with an application deadline in the Spring of each year.

If I'm a distance-learning student, do I need to get my signatures notarized?

Yes – distance learning students must ensure that all signatures are notarized prior to submitting their applications. You can often find notaries at banks, post offices, administrative offices, etc.

How many people will be eligible for the loan program?

The THS School of Nursing has been awarded a maximum dollar amount to disperse. Awards will cover as many students as possible until funding is depleted.

Can I still apply for federal aid if I'm also applying for the NFLP?

In addition to NFLP support, students may receive support from other federal programs, provided that the funds are not used to cover the same costs during the academic year. The student may already receive other federal support that does not cover all costs (tuition, fees and other expenses) for the academic period; in this case, the student may receive NFLP support to cover the remaining costs, excluding stipend support. To apply for Title IV federal grants, loans and work-study, submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) available at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov), or by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID.



Who do I contact if I have questions about financial aid, or how much I may be eligible for?

If you have submitted an NFLP application and have questions about how much you may be eligible for specifically related to this program, we have a designated representative in the financial aid office that can assist you:

- DeNitra Ukpo – [dukpo@westga.edu](mailto:dukpo@westga.edu) or 678-839-6289

Who do I contact if I have questions about billing, collections, processing deferments and cancellations bankruptcies, and promissory notes?

If you have received or plan to receive NFLP funds and have questions about billing, collections, processing deferments, cancellation bankruptcies, and promissory notes, we have a designated representative in the Bursar's office that can assist you:

- Courtney Quesenberry: [cquesenberry@westga.edu](mailto:cquesenberry@westga.edu) or 678-839-4737

How long do I have to find a faculty position after I graduate?

Following graduation from the program, NFLP borrowers who fail to establish employment as full-time nurse faculty at an accredited school of nursing must begin repayment of the NFLP loan following the 12-month grace period at the prevailing market rate.

What constitutes a full-time faculty position?

“Full-time” has the meaning used by the employing accredited school of nursing, for its faculty or being employed as a part-time faculty member at an accredited school of nursing in combination with another part-time faculty position or part-time clinical preceptor position affiliated with an accredited school of nursing that together equates to full-time employment.

Does the type of nursing program I work for matter (i.e. ADN, BSN, MSN)?

Any nursing program should qualify, so long as your position is (full-time capacity or two part-time equivalent to full time) faculty at an accredited school of nursing. If you are current full-time faculty, you do qualify to request NFLP funding presuming that you will continue in that position after graduation, per the terms of the loan.



*How do I document that I've received a full-time faculty position?*

It is the responsibility of each borrower to document their employment upon graduation to request the loan cancellation each year. **To receive loan cancellation, the Borrower must submit the Request for Partial Cancellation of Loan form to the lending school at the end of each complete year of full-time employment as faculty at a school of nursing.** The Request for Partial Cancellation of Loan form is obtained on the **MSN Nurse Educator or EdD in Nursing Education** program websites as well as the **NFLP website.**

*How long is the grace period before I need to start repaying the loan?*

The grace period begins immediately following completion of the program or voluntary termination as a student for a period of twelve (12) consecutive months. During the grace period repayment of the loan is not required. The loan is repayable in equal or graduated periodic installments (with the right of the borrower to accelerate payment) over a 10-year period that begins 9 months after the Borrower either a) completes the program; b) ceases to be enrolled in employed as full-time or multiple part-time to be equivalent to full time nurse faculty.

*What will happen if I do not teach for the full four years?*

Failure to become or maintain employment as a full-time equivalent faculty member at an accredited school of nursing or in partnership with an accredited school of nursing will constitute being placed into a repayment status. Repayment of the NFLP loan will be at the prevailing market rate.

*What is the interest rate for this loan?*

The NFLP loan will bear interest on the unpaid balance of the loan at a) the rate of 3 percent per annum beginning 3 months after the borrower graduates from the program, or b) bear interest on the unpaid balance of the loan **at the prevailing market rate** if the borrower fails to complete the advanced nursing education program or when the borrower fails to establish employment as a full-time nurse faculty at an accredited school of nursing. Borrowers employed as full-time nurse faculty at a school of nursing for a consecutive four-year period will bear interest at the rate of 3 percent for the four-year period and the remaining six years of the "repayment period." If the borrower ceases full-time employment as nurse faculty at an accredited school of nursing, the NFLP loan will bear interest **at the prevailing market rate.**

**Disclosure:** The general information offered in this document is believed to be correct but the applicant is responsible for understanding the financial commitment and all obligations of the loan agreement. Please read the promissory note and other documents located in NFLP appendixes carefully for more detailed NFLP information.