

V. ELIGIBILITY AND AWARDS

A. WHO MAY APPLY

Active Duty, Reserve, and Retired military nurses from the United States Army, Navy, and Air Force and National Guard Nurse Corps Officers are eligible to apply for TSNRP funding. Retired Military Nurse Corps Officers have some eligibility limitations and application requirements. See Award Categories and Eligibility Requirements on page 10.

TSNRP defines a novice investigator as a military nurse clinician with a master's or doctoral degree, but with limited research experience. TSNRP strongly encourages new or junior investigators seeking research experience to apply for the Novice Investigator Award.

TSNRP defines an experienced researcher as one who has prior extramural or TSNRP funding beyond the novice or graduate level award. Experienced researchers have publications in peer-reviewed journals.

All active duty applicants, except students, MUST apply through a non-profit, non-university grantee organization (18 U.S.C. 205).

TSNRP promotes the mentoring of new and junior military nurse researchers as a way to achieve its goal of expanding the cadre of military nurse researchers. A **mentor** is an experienced nurse researcher who supports, guides, and assists a new or junior investigator. The mentor must be a subject matter expert. Novice Investigator, Graduate Research, Evidence-based Practice, and Research Fellow applications require a **mentor. The application must include a mentoring plan.** TSNRP strongly encourages retired Nurse Corps Officer Investigators to mentor junior military nurse researchers.

See mentoring recommendations in Section VII, Proposal Preparation, on page 26.

TSNRP urges Active Duty and Reserve graduate students to apply for a Graduate Research Award to support their dissertations or theses. Written approval for the project topic from the applicant's dissertation or thesis committee must accompany the application. The applicant's committee chair must generate the documentation. **TSNRP restricts doctoral students to a Graduate Research Award. (See page 45 for Application Instructions: Graduate Research Awards.)**

B. AWARD CATEGORIES AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

TSNRP offers 10 funding award categories: Novice Investigator; 1-, 2-, and 3-Year; Pilot Project; Feasibility Study; Graduate Research: Research Fellow; two Evidence-based Practice; and the Fast Track Awards. Please refer to the chart on page 11 for additional information.

The Fast Track award is provided for research of an urgent need that can be turned around quickly. TSNRP highly recommends feasibility studies and pilot work to sort out components of the research being conducted and to substantiate instrument reliability before embarking on a large scale study. The exact amount of funding awarded to an individual grant depends on the purpose and goals of the application and the availability of funds.

The Evidence-Based Practice Awards categories are:

I. Conceptual Guideline Development:

The purpose of this award is to support conceptual development of an evidence-based clinical question on the chosen topic area and development of a clinical guideline based on preliminary evidence that has been evaluated or a topic that influences nursing practice and patient outcomes. The award will provide up to \$150,000 in total costs to support development of a maximum of three EBP protocols for a maximum of 24 months. A follow-on implementation application, made to put the developed guidelines into clinical practice, is expected.

II. Implementation of Innovation:

The second type of award is for the implementation of a guideline that influences nursing practice and patient outcomes. This award category currently exists and supports implementation of an innovation or clinical guideline developed from a thorough review of the current evidence. It can also support an already established guideline (such as a DoD/VA Clinical Practice Guideline). Up to \$150,000 in total costs will be granted to support implementation of a maximum of three guidelines, for a maximum of 24 months.

Applicants MUST be master's- or doctoral-level Active Duty Nurse Corps officers stationed at military medical facilities, and MUST be actively mentored by a doctoral level Active Duty, Reserve, retired, or Guard military EBP nursing expert or by a civilian nurse employed by the federal government and assigned to a military treatment facility.

| Funding Categories | |
|---|--|
| Novice Investigator Award | Purpose: To provide military nurse clinicians with limited research experience support for a study that is modest in scope or is the first phase of a larger project. |
| | Award: Up to \$100,000 in direct costs for a 12- to 18-month study. |
| | Eligibility: Master's- or doctoral-level military nurse with limited research experience. |
| | Special Requirements: <i>Mentor required. Retired Nurse Corps officers may not apply.</i> |
| 1- and 2-Year Awards | Award: Up to \$450,000 in total costs (direct plus indirect costs). |
| | Eligibility: All Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard, and retired Nurse Corps officers with research experience. |
| | Special Requirement: Data sharing plan is required. |
| 3-Year Award | Award: Up to \$500,000 in total costs (direct plus indirect costs). |
| | Eligibility: All Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard, and retired Nurse Corps officers with research experience. |
| | Special Requirement: Data sharing plan is required. |
| Pilot Project | Purpose: Generation of preliminary data to test potential outcomes in a smaller sample using the same methodology that will be used in a larger study. |
| | Award: Up to \$75,000 in direct costs for a 12- to 18-month study that will provide preliminary data to support development of future projects. |
| | Eligibility: Open to all Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard, and retired Nurse Corps officers. |
| Research Fellow Award | Purpose: Train and expand skills of experienced military nurse researchers. |
| | Award: Up to \$150,000 in direct costs for a 12- to 18-month period to support experienced doctoral-level military nurses in acquiring specific research-related skills through a mentored learning experience. |
| | Eligibility: Experienced doctoral-level Active Duty Nurse Corps officers. |
| | Special Requirements: <i>Mentor required. Reserve and retired Nurse Corps officers may not apply.</i> |
| Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) Awards | Purpose: To support implementation and evaluation of EBP at the point of care delivery. |
| | Award: Up to \$150,000 in total costs for one of two EBP categories. This award is limited to one proposal of up to three guidelines per facility over a period not to exceed 24 months. |
| | Eligibility: Master's- or doctoral-level Active Duty Nurse Corps officers stationed at military medical facilities, and MUST be actively mentored by a doctoral-level Active Duty, Reserve, retired, or Guard military EBP nursing expert or by a federal government nurse assigned to a military treatment facility. |
| Graduate Research Award | Purpose: To support a dissertation/thesis research project. |
| | Award: Up to \$30,000 in direct costs to support a dissertation or thesis research. |
| | Eligibility: Active Duty and Reserve students pursuing a master's degree in nursing or a doctoral degree. Only one award fund per thesis or dissertation is permitted. |
| | Special Requirements: Mentor and evidence of support from thesis or dissertation committee required. Written approval for the project topic from applicant's dissertation or thesis committee must accompany the application. The applicant's committee chair must generate the documentation. <i>Retired Nurse Corps officers may not apply.</i> |
| Fast Track Award | Purpose: To support study of an emerging, service-specific question or concern. |
| | Award: Up to \$30,000 in direct costs for a maximum award period of 15 months. |
| | Eligibility: Experienced Active Duty Nurse Corps researchers only. |
| Feasibility Study Award | Purpose: Generation of preliminary data to test the procedures to be used in a larger study, to determine if they are appropriate for the population. |
| | Award: Up to \$75,000 in direct costs for a 12- to 18-month study that will provide preliminary data to support development of future projects. |
| | Eligibility: Open to all Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard, and retired Nurse Corps officers. |

C. APPLICANT ORGANIZATIONS

Awards are made to institutions, not individuals. Although the Principal Investigator writes the application, implements the research, and disseminates the results, the monetary award is made to an institution known as the **applicant or grantee organization**.

As the granting authority for TSNRP's congressionally appropriated funds, the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences is allowed to award grants only to organizations outside the federal sector. **USU's granting authority is limited to nonprofit organizations and academic institutions.** Investigators may submit applications through a **non-federal nonprofit or academic applicant (grantee) organization** of their choice. Appendix B contains information on nonprofit organizations frequently used by military personnel.

You MUST include specific information about the grantee organization you have chosen in your Letter of Intent!

Below is the language in Article 1 of our Terms & Conditions.

"10 U.S.C. 2113 (j) (1) (A) provides authority for the Secretary of Defense to enter into contracts with, accept grants from, and make grants to the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine [...] or any other nonprofit entity, for the purpose of carrying out cooperative enterprises in medical research, medical consultation, and medical education (hereinafter referred to as the Grantee)."