

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
SCHOOL OF NURSING

ADVANCED EDUCATION NURSING TRAINEESHIP GRANT PROGRAM

The Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship (AENT) Grants program is funded by the U.S. government and is administered through the Division of Nursing in the U.S. Public Health Service. AENT grants are governed by the provisions of the Public Health Service Act, as amended, and policies and procedures of the PHS Grants Administration. This program was first implemented in 1957 to provide long-term traineeships for full-time academic study in institutions of higher learning. The AENT Grant Program at The University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing provides traineeships for nurses in the masters' and doctoral degree nursing programs.

FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To qualify for AENT support, an individual must:

- 1) be accepted for graduate study by The University of Texas at Austin and the School of Nursing
- 2) be a United States citizen, a noncitizen national of the United States, or a foreign national with permanent residency status in the United States,
- 3) have completed basic nursing preparation, as determined by the School of Nursing,
- 4) be currently licensed as a registered/professional nurse in the United States,
- 5) be enrolled full-time in a graduate degree program in nursing (MSN, AEMSN, PhD),
- 6) be enrolled part-time in a graduate degree program in nursing and be in the **last 12 months of study**.

PRIORITIES FOR AENT AWARDS

Within the context of the above eligibility criteria, the following priorities established by The University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing will be addressed as applications are reviewed and awards made. No exact hierarchy is implied by the order of the priorities listed.

- 1) Continuing PhD and MSN students
- 2) New PhD and MSN students
- 3) AEMSN students holding current RN licensure

GUIDELINES FOR SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS

Traineeship recipients may receive supplemental funds from additional sources as compensation for services, such as Teaching Assistantships and Research Assistantships. However, those individuals who receive significant fellowship and/or scholarship support for which there is no compensation for services will not be eligible for AENT funds during the time of such fellowship and/or scholarship support. Further, it is expected that AENT recipients will report any such awards to the School of Nursing to determine their continued eligibility for AENT support.

TERMINATION OF TRAINEESHIP

AENT support will be terminated if the awardee :

- 1) is unable to carry out the program of study (does not enroll or changes to a non-nursing major)
- 2) withdraws from the School of Nursing
- 3) fails to meet the academic standards of The University of Texas at Austin
- 4) registration status falls below the required minimum number of semester hours

CONDITIONS OF AENT AWARD

1. Required number of semester hours. A trainee must be enrolled in full-time study unless he or she is in the last 12 months of study during the award period. Full-time study during the fall and spring semesters is defined as a minimum of 9 hours a semester. Full-time study during the summer semester is any combination totaling 3 semester hours.
2. Term of appointment. Each appointment or reappointment may not be for less than 9 months, except to assist a trainee completing the required program of study. Applications may be for: 1) fall and spring, or 2) fall, spring, and summer.
3. Length of support. Support to an individual is limited to a maximum period of 36 months. An eligible student who has had a traineeship at one institution might subsequently be appointed at another institution and receive traineeship support, but only if the cumulative total has not exceeded 36 months. For this reason, accurate information about previous AENT support is important.
4. Level and/or type of support. A trainee will be paid a monthly stipend during the fall and spring semesters for which the appointment is made; during the summer, one "lump sum" check will be issued. The amount of the monthly stipend will depend on the total funds available and the number of qualified applicants each semester. The total amount of funding available to each applicant is not to exceed \$8,800. The funds received are grants, with no obligation for concurrent service or subsequent monetary payback.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRAINEE

1. Provision of information for appointment and continuing eligibility. Persons accepting AENT funds are obligated to provide the information necessary to complete the PHS appointment form, to verify the accuracy of the information in the appointment form when they sign it, and to comply with the AENT guidelines. Compliance includes the trainee initiating requests for clarification when his or her registration status and/or supplemental support changes.
2. Continued service in health-related fields. Because the intent of the enabling legislation is to prepare nurses for service in needed health-related fields by providing advanced education, each recipient should plan such service after completion of the advanced degree. AENT recipients are required to provide information about their professional activity after their training is completed.

DEADLINE DATES FOR APPLICATIONS FOR AENT AWARDS

September 2 for fall and spring award period

September 2 for fall, spring, and summer award period

(AEMSN students, in order to meet the application deadline, may apply before taking the exam for RN licensure, but may not receive the stipend until licensed. It is the student's responsibility to inform Graduate Student Affairs of licensure and provide license number. Only after student provides verification of licensure can an award be made for remainder of award period.)

Return applications to:

Graduate Student Affairs Office, 2.104L
The University of Texas at Austin
School of Nursing
1700 Red River
Austin TX 78701