



Nurse Practitioner Expansion Grant Program

RFP Questions and Answers Nurse Practitioner Expansion Grant Program

Q1: If a program is structured such that students get their MSN in the first two years of the program and then finish their DNP with one additional year, would students be able to take out interest free loans for their MSN and DNP degrees if they were planning on doing this combined program plan from the beginning of their studies?

A1: The short answer is yes, the zero percent Loan Program would be available for students enrolling in an eligible 2-year MSN and 3-year DNP program, including if they decided not to pursue the DNP and graduate with just the MSN and start working as a PMHNP. It is also worth noting that:

1. The Loan Program / Social Finance would need to approve the program and educational institution (and sign a formal partnership contract) before we can offer the zero percent loans to students enrolled in those programs.
2. Our standard loan eligibility criteria would apply to these students and the maximum aggregate loan amount are capped at \$40,000 (and an annual maximum of \$20,000 and minimum of \$10,000). These criteria and loan caps are consistent for all loan applicants in the Loan Program as summarized in our student-facing FAQ webpage. There may be an opportunity to expand this cap during the diligence process with Social Finance.

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Q2: If a qualifying institution of higher education eligible to bid as a prime contractor is interested in partnering with another qualifying institution of higher education that is eligible to serve as a prime contractor on a joint proposal for the region, will the ELEVATE program consider awarding multiple contracts to both qualifying institutions (as oppose to one qualifying institution subcontracting with the other(s))?

A2: Yes, PIC/Trailhead will consider awarding two or more contracts to eligible institutions of higher education involved in a joint proposal if PIC/Trailhead determines doing so is in the best interest of the project.

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Q3: Some of our current students may be interested in participating in the ELEVATE program. Are they able to take out the interest free loans?

A3: Students will only be able to take out interest free loans after a qualifying program goes through the diligence process with Social Finance and becomes an approved loan program partner. If a qualifying program submits an RFP for the NP program, the proposal will serve as an expression of interest to begin the loan programs due diligence process. No further action is needed at this time.

If an education institution decides not to submit a response to this RFP but is still interested in offering 0% interest loans through the ELEVATE program, a representative from the institution can fill out this interest form at the link below. Here is a link to the [landing page of the Loan Program](#) which includes a link to the [training provider expression of interest form](#).

We do not expect to begin accepting applications for loans from students for NP programs until 2026.