



## NURSING EDUCATION INVESTMENT FUND



*Marvin Medina, Los Angeles Southwest College  
College Seen Photo Contest 2007*

The California Community Colleges graduate 4,500, or roughly 70 percent, of California's new registered nurses each year. The California Employment Development Department forecasts an increased demand for nursing care in a time that many nurses are retiring. Currently, the state has the capacity to educate only 50 percent of the new registered nurses needed to fill the expected shortage.

The purpose of the Nursing Education Investment Fund is to expand nursing education in the Community Colleges. The investment fund currently provides grants to colleges, nursing organizations, and students, with the end goal of educating more nurses in California. The Foundation manages the fund, determines distribution, and tracks grantees' use of funds.

### Program Support

The first grants were awarded in 2006 to supplement the five-year, \$90 million California Nurse Education Initiative commitment by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Through an application process, seven Community College nursing programs were awarded grants of \$500,000 over five years. The schools each determine how they will use their funds. Some common uses have been expanding educational capacity, initiating student support strategies and services, increasing program completion rates, and better preparing students for licensure as registered nurses.

### Seamless Transitions

In 2009, the Foundation and the Kaiser Permanente Fund for Health Education awarded grants to several partnerships between California Community Colleges and four-year universities. Grantees were tasked with developing models of how colleges can work together to create seamless transitions between associate's degree and bachelor's degree nursing programs, creating a better educated nursing workforce. These grants were part of a two-phase initiative to encourage more collaboration between Community College and four-year nursing programs.

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### Highlights

- California Community Colleges educated 70 percent of California's registered nurses.
- 565 additional nursing students have been enrolled due to grant-funded capacity building efforts.

### Community College Grantees

- American River College/Sacramento City College
- Cabrillo College/Hartnell College/Monterey Peninsula College
- City College of San Francisco
- College of the Redwoods/Shasta College
- Golden West College
- Grossmont College
- Napa Valley College/Solano Community College
- Santa Ana College
- Santa Barbara City College/Ventura College/Moorpark College

The Foundation for California Community Colleges is the official foundation to the California Community Colleges' Board of Governors and Chancellor's Office. The Foundation's mission is to benefit, support, and enhance the missions of the California Community College system, the largest higher education system in the nation. Incorporated in 1998, the Foundation works with Community Colleges and partner organizations to manage donations, grants, programs, and services that drive excellence in education. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit corporation and receives no direct state support.

*For more information, visit [www.foundationccc.org](http://www.foundationccc.org).*