



**Request for Applications**

**Nursing/Allied Health Grant Program**

**Application portal: <https://impact.acceleratems.org/>**

Funding for the Accelerate Mississippi Nursing/Allied Health Grant Program was approved through Senate Bill 2371 (Mississippi Legislature, 2023). Funding for this program is derived from federal COVID-19 relief funds allocated to the State of Mississippi through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (CFDA 21.027), as authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2 (Mar. 11, 2021). All funds awarded through this program will be considered a sub-award of federal funds, subject to the provisions of the Code of Federal Regulations governing the use of federal grant funds.

Enabling legislation calls for the office to direct funds “for the purpose of increasing the capacity of nursing and allied health training programs, including accredited paramedic programs, in response to the workforce disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.” During the 2023 Regular Session of the Mississippi Legislature, funds for this program were appropriated through Senate Bill 3113.

The Office of Workforce Development, known commonly as Accelerate Mississippi (AccelerateMS), requests applications for grant funding from eligible recipients to support said nursing and allied health training programs, including accredited paramedic programs in Mississippi.

**Application and Submission Instructions:**

1. Review this RFA document in its entirety.
2. Complete the budget template available for download on the application portal. This will be a required attachment when completing the application.
3. Complete the Risk Assessment via the link on the application portal. This will be a required step when completing the application.
4. Complete the AccelerateMS ARPA Application via the link on the application portal.

**Eligible applicants for this program include:**

Seventy-five (75%) of the funds awarded totaling \$16.5M for this program will be reserved for Public Mississippi Community and Junior Colleges. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the funds awarded totaling \$5.5M will be to recipients who facilitate healthcare-focused training programs as determined by AccelerateMS. There will be an award ceiling of \$2 million per Subrecipient.

**Priority will be given to applicants based on the following criteria:**

1. Applications with specific interventions and associated reporting metrics to address jobs within the nursing, allied health, and paramedic fields which are currently experiencing staffing shortages in hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, and other healthcare providers across the state.
2. Applications that clearly communicate anticipated outcomes by the individual participant.

**Eligible Expenses:**

Expenses eligible under this program include but are not limited to:

1. Necessary equipment or supplies to sustain or increase capacity in nursing and allied health training programs, including accredited paramedic programs.
2. Infrastructure improvements, including building renovation or construction, to support capacity expansion in nursing and allied health training programs, including accredited paramedic programs.
3. Curricula or other academic or training materials to enhance nursing and allied health training programs, including accredited paramedic programs.
4. Remote learning or other classroom technology to support nursing and allied health training programs, including accredited paramedic programs.
5. Job placement services for nursing and allied health students and graduates, including those in accredited paramedic programs.
6. Recruitment programs for nursing and allied health students and graduates, including those in accredited paramedic programs.
7. Other services aimed at retaining and graduating current nursing and allied health students, including those in accredited paramedic programs.

**By submitting an application, the potential Awardee understands, as a condition of approval and continued funding, it must ensure the funded program is aligned with both American Rescue Plan Act goals as well as those for AccelerateMS and agrees to share data with AccelerateMS as needed to meet reporting requirements and to measure the success of desired outcomes. These requirements will be outlined in the Subgrant Agreement between Subgrantee and AccelerateMS.**

**Important Dates and Deadlines:**

| <b>Event</b>                            | <b>Date/Deadline</b>       |
|---|----------------------------|
| Publication of Request for Applications | June 9, 2023               |
| Deadline for Applications               | July 14, 2023              |
| Notice of Intent to Award to Recipients | July 28, 2023              |
| Final Award Notification                | August 11, 2023, or sooner |
| Legislative Report Due to AccelerateMS  | September 2024             |
| Legislative Report Due to AccelerateMS  | September 2025             |
| Legislative Report Due to AccelerateMS  | September 2026             |
| Deadline for ALL grant-funded expenses  | December 30, 2026          |

**Submit proposals via the form linked in the application portal.**

Questions should be directed to: [grants@acceleratems.org](mailto:grants@acceleratems.org)



**Nursing/Allied Health Grant Program**  
**Deadline for Submission: Friday, July 14, 2023, 5:00 pm**

**\*Questions are to be completed via the link in the application portal\***

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1. Provide a non-technical description of the need and how the proposed program will address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on nursing and allied health sectors in the proposed region. The summary should include an overview of the expected outcomes of the project.
2. Clearly indicate the specific activities and how they are linked to the project's purpose, key milestones, and deliverables. The proposed intervention must address the need identified clearly and concisely using relevant, local data.
3. Describe the outcome-based performance measures that will be tracked and how the applicant will track and report them to AccelerateMS. At a minimum, include the number of new trainees expected through the program and the targeted occupations for training completers, including geographically limited wages. Applicants must collect participant information, identified by AccelerateMS, and submit it through the established process.
4. Describe your organization's experience carrying out projects funded by state and/or federal grants. Include statements regarding how your organization will adhere to state and/or federal guidelines governing the proper use of award funds, proper internal controls, and adherence to record-keeping requirements and reporting.
5. Please describe the potential for sustainability of the proposed program beyond the initial grant funding.

6. Detail the key deliverables and program schedule by date for your program.