
HOUSE BILL 1621

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By Representatives Mosbrucker, Orwall, Duerr, Chase, Graham, Wicks, J. Johnson, Bateman, Walen, Valdez, Bronoske, Callan, Cody, Davis, Goodman, Ramos, Simmons, Slatter, Kloba, Pollet, Griffey, Riccelli, Ormsby, Macri, Chambers, Frame, and Taylor

Prefiled 12/09/21. Read first time 01/10/22. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating programs to encourage sexual assault
2 nurse examiner training; and adding new sections to chapter 43.70
3 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.70
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
8 specific purpose, the department shall establish a stipend program to
9 defray the out-of-pocket expenses incurred by licensed nurses
10 completing the training necessary to become certified sexual assault
11 nurse examiners.

12 (2) Out-of-pocket expenses eligible for defrayment under this
13 section include:

14 (a) Fees, tuition, or other charges imposed by the entity
15 providing the training;

16 (b) Reasonable transportation expenses, including air travel,
17 rental car costs, or mileage on a personal vehicle at the standard
18 state reimbursement rate;

19 (c) Reasonable lodging and meal costs;

1 (d) Wages lost as a result of the time spent completing the
2 training, including the time spent traveling to and from the training
3 site; and

4 (e) Any other expenses deemed appropriate by the department.

5 (3) A nurse participating in the stipend program established in
6 this section shall document his or her out-of-pocket expenses in a
7 manner specified by the department.

8 (4) The total amount of the stipend for any individual nurse may
9 not exceed \$2,500.

10 (5) If the amount appropriated for purposes of the stipend
11 program is insufficient to provide stipends to all nurses who apply
12 to the program, the department shall give priority to nurses who work
13 in rural or underserved areas of the state.

14 (6) The department shall establish the stipend program no later
15 than January 1, 2023.

16 (7) The department may adopt any rules necessary to implement
17 this section.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.70
19 RCW to read as follows:

20 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
21 specific purpose, the department shall establish a hospital grant
22 program to increase access to certified sexual assault nurse
23 examiners by hospitals that do not have regular or sufficient access
24 to sexual assault nurse examiners to perform forensic examinations of
25 victims of sexual assaults.

26 (2) A hospital applying for a grant under this section must
27 document in a manner specified by the department:

28 (a) The hospital's need for increased access to certified sexual
29 assault nurse examiners;

30 (b) The manner in which the hospital will spend any grant funding
31 it receives under this section;

32 (c) The outcome measures the hospital will use to determine
33 whether the grant funding is addressing the hospital's needs; and

34 (d) Any other information required by the department.

35 (3) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
36 specific purpose, the department shall provide grant funding to any
37 hospital that demonstrates to the department's satisfaction that
38 grant funding will be used effectively to address the hospital's
39 unmet needs for certified sexual assault nurse examiners. If the

1 amount appropriated for purposes of the grant program is insufficient
2 to provide grants to all eligible hospitals that apply to the
3 program, the department shall give priority to hospitals in rural or
4 underserved areas of the state.

5 (4) A hospital receiving grant funds under this section may use
6 the funds only in a manner consistent with its grant application. The
7 hospital shall submit progress reports to the department at regular
8 intervals specified by the department on how the funds were spent and
9 the hospital's progress toward meeting the outcome measures in its
10 grant application.

11 (5) The department shall establish the grant program no later
12 than January 1, 2023.

13 (6) The department may adopt any rules necessary to implement
14 this section.

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