

Office of the Public Counsel who have been contracted to be witnesses in the proceeding **shall** have access to designated information and testimony on the same basis as the staff of the commission and the Office of the Public Counsel except that the outside expert *[must]* **shall** comply with the provisions of sections (7) and *[(19)]* (15). Outside experts of the staff of the commission and the Office of the Public Counsel who have not been contracted to be witnesses in the proceeding *[are]* **shall** be subject to all provisions of this rule.

[(22)](18) A claim that information is *[proprietary or highly]* confidential *[is]* **constitutes** a representation to the commission that the claiming party has a reasonable and good faith belief that the subject document or information is *[, in fact, proprietary or highly]* confidential pursuant to the section of this rule cited as justification for the designation.

[(23)](19) The commission may waive or grant a variance from any provision of this rule for good cause shown.

AUTHORITY: sections 386.040 and 386.410, RSMo [2000] 2016. Original rule filed May 25, 2006, effective Jan. 30, 2007. Amended: Filed March 2, 2011, effective Oct. 30, 2011. Amended: Filed Nov. 21, 2016.

PUBLIC COST: This proposed amendment will not cost state agencies or political subdivisions more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.

PRIVATE COST: This proposed amendment will not cost private entities more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.

NOTICE TO SUBMIT COMMENTS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: Anyone may file comments in support of or in opposition to this proposed amendment with the Missouri Public Service Commission, Morris L. Woodruff, Secretary of the Commission, PO Box 360, Jefferson City, MO 65102. To be considered, comments must be received at the commission's offices on or before February 2, 2017, and should include reference to Commission Case No. AX-2017-0068. Comments may also be submitted via a filing using the commission's electronic filing and information system at <http://www.psc.mo.gov/efis.asp>. A public hearing regarding this proposed amendment is scheduled for February 16, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison St., Jefferson City, Missouri. Interested persons may appear at this hearing to submit additional comments and/or testimony in support of or in opposition to this proposed amendment, and may be asked to respond to commission questions.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Any persons with special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing at one (1) of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline 1-800-829-7541.

**Title 4—DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
Division 240—Public Service Commission
Chapter 4—Standards of Conduct**

PROPOSED RULE

4 CSR 240-4.015 General Definitions

PURPOSE: This rule sets forth the definitions of certain terms used in rules 4 CSR 240-4.017 through 4 CSR 240-4.050.

(1) Contested case—Shall have the same meaning as in section 536.010(4), RSMo.

(2) Commission—Means the Missouri Public Service Commission as created by Chapter 386, RSMo.

(3) Commissioner—Means one (1) of the members of the Missouri Public Service Commission.

(4) Discussed case—A contested or noticed contested case that includes, or will likely include, substantive issues that are the subject of an ex parte or extra-record communication regulated under this rule.

(5) Ex parte communication—Any communication outside of the case process between a member of the office of the commission and any party, or the agent or representative of a party, regarding any substantive issue in, or likely to be in, a contested or noticed contested case. Ex parte communications shall not include a communication regarding general regulatory policy allowed under section 386.210.4, RSMo, communications listed in 4 CSR 240-4.040, communications made thirty (30) days after the commission issues a final determination in a case, or communications that are de minimis or immaterial.

(6) Extra-record communication—Any communication outside of the case process between a member of the office of the commission and any person not a party to a contested or noticed contested case regarding any substantive issue in, or likely to be in, that contested or noticed contested case. Extra-record communications shall not include communications regarding general regulatory policy allowed under section 386.210.4, RSMo, communications with members of the general assembly or other government official allowed under section 386.210.5, RSMo, communications listed in 4 CSR 240-4.040, communications made thirty (30) days after the commission issues a final determination in a case, communications between the office of the commission and the commission's non-party employees, or communications that are de minimis or immaterial.

(7) Final determination—A decision of the commission that resolves a contested case, including all applications for rehearing and reconsideration.

(8) Noticed contested case—Any case for which a notice of contested case has been filed in compliance with 4 CSR 240-4.017.

(9) Office of the commission—Commissioners, a commissioner, a member of the commission's advisory staff, or the commission's regulatory law judges.

(10) Party—Any applicant, complainant, petitioner, respondent, intervenor, or person with an application to intervene pending in a contested or noticed contested case before the commission. Commission staff and the public counsel are also parties unless they file a notice of their intention not to participate in the relevant proceeding within the period of time established for interventions by commission rule or order.

(11) Person—Any individual, partnership, company, corporation, cooperative, association, political subdivision, or any other entity or body.

(12) Public counsel—Shall have the same meaning as in section 386.700, RSMo.

(13) Substantive issue—Facts, evidence, claims, or positions specific to a contested or noticed contested case that have been or are likely to be presented or taken in that case. The term substantive issue does not include procedural issues, unless those procedural issues are contested or likely to materially impact the outcome of a contested case.

AUTHORITY: section 386.410, RSMo 2016. Original rule filed Nov. 28, 2016.

PUBLIC COST: This proposed rule will not cost state agencies or political subdivisions more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.

PRIVATE COST: This proposed rule will not cost private entities more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.

NOTICE TO SUBMIT COMMENTS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: Anyone may file comments in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule with the Missouri Public Service Commission, Morris L. Woodruff, Secretary of the Commission, PO Box 360, Jefferson City, MO 65102. To be considered, comments must be received at the commission's offices on or before February 2, 2017, and should include reference to Commission Case No. AX-2017-0128. Comments may also be submitted via a filing using the commission's electronic filing and information system at <http://www.psc.mo.gov/efis.asp>. A public hearing regarding this proposed rule is scheduled for February 16, 2017, at 1:00 p.m., in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison St., Jefferson City, Missouri. Interested persons may appear at this hearing to submit additional comments and/or testimony in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule, and may be asked to respond to commission questions.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Any persons with special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing at one (1) of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline 1-800-829-7541.

Title 4—DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Division 240—Public Service Commission

Chapter 4—Standards of Conduct

PROPOSED RULE

4 CSR 240-4.017 General Provisions

PURPOSE: This rule sets forth provisions that are applicable to both *ex parte* and *extra-record* communications.

(1) Any person that intends to file a case likely to be a contested case shall file a notice with the secretary of the commission a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to filing such case. Such notice shall detail the type of case and issues likely to be before the commission and shall include a summary of any communication regarding substantive issues likely to be in the case between the filing party and the office of the commission that occurred in the ninety (90) days prior to filing the notice. The filing of such notice shall initiate a new noticed contested case and be assigned an appropriate case designation and number. If the expected contested case filing is subsequently made, it shall be filed in the noticed contested case. If the expected contested case filing is not made within one hundred eighty (180) days, the noticed contested case shall close.

(A) The commission may reject any filing not in compliance with this section.

(B) This section shall not apply to small formal complaints under commission rule 4 CSR 240-2.070 or small utility rate cases under commission rule 4 CSR 240-3.050.

(C) This section shall not apply to formal complaints under commission rule 4 CSR 240-2.070. However, formal complaints shall include, contemporaneous with the filing initiating the complaint, a summary of any communication regarding substantive issues likely to be in the case between the filing party and the office of the commission that occurred in the sixty (60) days prior to filing the complaint.

(D) A party may request a waiver of this section for good cause. Good cause for waiver may include, among other things, a verified declaration from the filing party that it has had no communication with the office of the commission within the prior one hundred fifty (150) days regarding any substantive issue likely to be in the case or that circumstances prevented filing the required notice and delaying the filing for sixty (60) days would cause harm.

(2) Unless properly admitted into evidence in subsequent proceedings, no *ex parte* or *extra-record* communication shall be considered as part of the record on which the commission reaches a decision in a contested case.

(3) A utility regulated by the commission that offers a tour of its facilities to the office of the commission shall also offer the Office of the Public Counsel an opportunity to participate in that tour, and the tour shall be posted on a public calendar for each commissioner who plans to participate.

(4) Pursuant to section 386.210.4, RSMo, nothing in this rule shall be construed as imposing any limitation on the free exchange of ideas, views, and information between any person and the commission or any commissioner, provided that such communications relate to matters of general regulatory policy and do not address substantive issues in or likely to be in a contested or noticed contested case.

AUTHORITY: section 386.410, RSMo 2016. Original rule filed Nov. 28, 2016.

PUBLIC COST: This proposed rule will not cost state agencies or political subdivisions more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.

PRIVATE COST: This proposed rule will not cost private entities more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.

NOTICE TO SUBMIT COMMENTS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: Anyone may file comments in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule with the Missouri Public Service Commission, Morris L. Woodruff, Secretary of the Commission, PO Box 360, Jefferson City, MO 65102. To be considered, comments must be received at the commission's offices on or before February 2, 2017, and should include reference to Commission Case No. AX-2017-0128. Comments may also be submitted via a filing using the commission's electronic filing and information system at <http://www.psc.mo.gov/efis.asp>. A public hearing regarding this proposed rule is scheduled for February 16, 2017, at 1:00 p.m., in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison St., Jefferson City, Missouri. Interested persons may appear at this hearing to submit additional comments and/or testimony in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule, and may be asked to respond to commission questions.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Any persons with special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing at one (1) of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline 1-800-829-7541.

Title 4—DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Division 240—Public Service Commission

Chapter 4—Standards of Conduct

PROPOSED RESCISSION

4 CSR 240-4.020 Ex Parte and Extra-Record Communications. This rule regulated communications between the commission, technical advisory staff, and presiding officers, and anticipated parties,

agents of parties, and interested persons regarding substantive issues that are not part of the evidentiary record.

PURPOSE: *This rule is being rescinded and replaced with six (6) new rules relating to ex parte and extra-record communications.*

AUTHORITY: *section 386.410, RSMo 2000. Original rule filed Dec. 19, 1975, effective Dec. 29, 1975. Amended: Filed April 26, 1976, effective Sept. 11, 1976. Rescinded and readopted: Filed Nov. 4, 2009, effective July 30, 2010. Rescinded: Filed Nov. 28, 2016.*

PUBLIC COST: *This proposed rescission will not cost state agencies or political subdivisions more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.*

PRIVATE COST: *This proposed rescission will not cost private entities more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.*

NOTICE TO SUBMIT COMMENTS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: *Anyone may file comments in support of or in opposition to this proposed rescission with the Missouri Public Service Commission, Morris L. Woodruff, Secretary of the Commission, PO Box 360, Jefferson City, MO 65102. To be considered, comments must be received at the commission's offices on or before February 2, 2017, and should include reference to Commission Case No. AX-2017-0128. Comments may also be submitted via a filing using the commission's electronic filing and information system at <http://www.psc.mo.gov/efis.asp>. A public hearing regarding this proposed rescission is scheduled for February 16, 2017, at 1:00 p.m., in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison St., Jefferson City, Missouri. Interested persons may appear at this hearing to submit additional comments and/or testimony in support of or in opposition to this proposed rescission, and may be asked to respond to commission questions.*

SPECIAL NEEDS: *Any persons with special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing at one (1) of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline 1-800-829-7541.*

**Title 4—DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
Division 240—Public Service Commission
Chapter 4—Standards of Conduct**

PROPOSED RULE

4 CSR 240-4.020 Ex Parte Communications

PURPOSE: *To set forth the standards to promote the public trust in the commission with regard to pending filings and cases. This rule regulates communication between members of the office of the commission and parties regarding substantive issues.*

(1) Neither any party nor any member of the office of the commission shall initiate, participate in, or undertake, directly or indirectly, an ex parte communication.

(A) If such a communication occurs, the party and the member of the office of the commission involved in the communication should immediately make a reasonable effort to terminate the communication.

(2) A party or member of the office of the commission who initiates an ex parte communication shall, within one (1) business day, following such communication give notice of that communication as follows:

(A) If the communication is written, the initiating party shall file a copy of the written communication in the official case file for the discussed case; or

(B) If the communication is not written, the initiating party shall file a memorandum disclosing the communication in the official case file for each discussed case. The memorandum must contain a list of all participants in the communication; the date, time, location, and approximate duration of the communication; the means by which the communication took place; and a summary of the substance of the communication and not merely a listing of the subjects covered. Alternatively, a recording or transcription of the communication may be filed, as long as that recording or transcription indicates all participants and the date, time, location, approximate duration, and means of communication.

(3) If an ex parte communication occurs and the initiating party fails to file a notice in the manner set forth in section (2), any other party or member of the office of the commission involved in the communication, upon learning of the person's failure to file such notice, shall give notice of the ex parte communication in the manner set forth in section (2) as soon as practicable.

AUTHORITY: *section 386.410, RSMo 2016. Original rule filed Dec. 19, 1975, effective Dec. 29, 1975. Amended: Filed April 26, 1976, effective Sept. 11, 1976. Rescinded and readopted: Filed Nov. 4, 2009, effective July 30, 2010. Rescinded and readopted: Filed Nov. 28, 2016.*

PUBLIC COST: *This proposed rule will not cost state agencies or political subdivisions more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.*

PRIVATE COST: *This proposed rule will not cost private entities more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.*

NOTICE TO SUBMIT COMMENTS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: *Anyone may file comments in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule with the Missouri Public Service Commission, Morris L. Woodruff, Secretary of the Commission, PO Box 360, Jefferson City, MO 65102. To be considered, comments must be received at the commission's offices on or before February 2, 2017, and should include reference to Commission Case No. AX-2017-0128. Comments may also be submitted via a filing using the commission's electronic filing and information system at <http://www.psc.mo.gov/efis.asp>. A public hearing regarding this proposed rule is scheduled for February 16, 2017, at 1:00 p.m., in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison St., Jefferson City, Missouri. Interested persons may appear at this hearing to submit additional comments and/or testimony in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule, and may be asked to respond to commission questions.*

SPECIAL NEEDS: *Any persons with special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing at one (1) of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline 1-800-829-7541.*

**Title 4—DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
Division 240—Public Service Commission
Chapter 4—Standards of Conduct**

PROPOSED RULE

4 CSR 240-4.030 Extra-Record Communications

PURPOSE: To set forth the standards to promote the public trust in the commission with regard to pending filings and cases. This rule regulates communication between members of the office of the commission and persons who are not parties to a case regarding substantive issues.

(1) If any person initiates an extra-record communication, that person shall, within one (1) business day following such communication, give notice of that communication as follows:

(A) If the communication is written, file a copy of the written communication in the official case file for the discussed case; or

(B) If the communication is not written, file a memorandum summarizing the communication in the official case file for each discussed case. Alternatively, a recording or transcription of the communication may be filed, as long as that recording or transcription indicates the date, time, location, approximate duration, and means of communication.

(2) If an extra-record communication occurs and the initiating party fails to file a notice in the manner set forth in section (1), any other party or member of the office of the commission involved in the communication, upon learning of the person's failure to file such notice, shall give notice of the extra-record communication in the manner set forth in section (1) as soon as practicable.

AUTHORITY: section 386.410, RSMo 2016. Original rule filed Nov. 28, 2016.

PUBLIC COST: This proposed rule will not cost state agencies or political subdivisions more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.

PRIVATE COST: This proposed rule will not cost private entities more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.

NOTICE TO SUBMIT COMMENTS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: Anyone may file comments in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule with the Missouri Public Service Commission, Morris L. Woodruff, Secretary of the Commission, PO Box 360, Jefferson City, MO 65102. To be considered, comments must be received at the commission's offices on or before February 2, 2017, and should include reference to Commission Case No. AX-2017-0128. Comments may also be submitted via a filing using the commission's electronic filing and information system at <http://www.psc.mo.gov/efis.asp>. A public hearing regarding this proposed rule is scheduled for February 16, 2017, at 1:00 p.m., in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison St., Jefferson City, Missouri. Interested persons may appear at this hearing to submit additional comments and/or testimony in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule, and may be asked to respond to commission questions.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Any persons with special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing at one (1) of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline 1-800-829-7541.

**Title 4—DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
Division 240—Public Service Commission
Chapter 4—Standards of Conduct**

PROPOSED RULE

4 CSR 240-4.040 Communications that are not Ex Parte or Extra-Record Communications

PURPOSE: To identify examples of communications that are not ex parte or extra-record communications.

(1) Pursuant to section 386.210.3, RSMo, no communication shall be prohibited by, or subject to, the disclosure and notice requirements of rule 4 CSR 240-4.020 or 4 CSR 240-4.030, if those communications are made before an evidentiary hearing has been scheduled in the case and are—

(A) Made at a public agenda meeting of the commission where such matter has been posted in advance as an item for discussion or decision; or

(B) Made at a forum where representatives of the public utility affected thereby, the Office of the Public Counsel, and any other party to the case are present.

AUTHORITY: section 386.410, RSMo 2016. Original rule filed Nov. 28, 2016.

PUBLIC COST: This proposed rule will not cost state agencies or political subdivisions more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.

PRIVATE COST: This proposed rule will not cost private entities more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.

NOTICE TO SUBMIT COMMENTS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: Anyone may file comments in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule with the Missouri Public Service Commission, Morris L. Woodruff, Secretary of the Commission, PO Box 360, Jefferson City, MO 65102. To be considered, comments must be received at the commission's offices on or before February 2, 2017, and should include reference to Commission Case No. AX-2017-0128. Comments may also be submitted via a filing using the commission's electronic filing and information system at <http://www.psc.mo.gov/efis.asp>. A public hearing regarding this proposed rule is scheduled for February 16, 2017, at 1:00 p.m., in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison St., Jefferson City, Missouri. Interested persons may appear at this hearing to submit additional comments and/or testimony in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule, and may be asked to respond to commission questions.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Any persons with special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing at one (1) of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline 1-800-829-7541.

**Title 4—DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
Division 240—Public Service Commission
Chapter 4—Standards of Conduct**

PROPOSED RULE

4 CSR 240-4.050 Limitation on Appearance before Commission

PURPOSE: To set forth the standards of conduct to promote the public trust and maintain public confidence in the commission's integrity and impartiality with regard to pending filings and cases.

No person who has served as a member of the office of the commission shall, after termination of service with the office of the commission, appear before the commission in relation to any contested case that existed while that person served with the office of the commission.

AUTHORITY: section 386.410, RSMo 2016. Original rule filed Nov. 28, 2016.

PUBLIC COST: This proposed rule will not cost state agencies or political subdivisions more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.

PRIVATE COST: This proposed rule will not cost private entities more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the aggregate.

NOTICE TO SUBMIT COMMENTS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: Anyone may file comments in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule with the Missouri Public Service Commission, Morris L. Woodruff, Secretary of the Commission, PO Box 360, Jefferson City, MO 65102. To be considered, comments must be received at the commission's offices on or before February 2, 2017, and should include reference to Commission Case No. AX-2017-0128. Comments may also be submitted via a filing using the commission's electronic filing and information system at <http://www.psc.mo.gov/efis.asp>. A public hearing regarding this proposed rule is scheduled for February 16, 2017, at 1:00 p.m., in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison St., Jefferson City, Missouri. Interested persons may appear at this hearing to submit additional comments and/or testimony in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule, and may be asked to respond to commission questions.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Any persons with special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing at one (1) of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline 1-800-829-7541.

[Title 6—DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION]
Title 20—DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE,
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND PROFESSIONAL
REGISTRATION

[Division 10—Commissioner of Higher Education]
Division 2200—State Board of Nursing

[Chapter 11] Chapter 7—Nursing Education Incentive
Program

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

[6 CSR 10-11.010] 20 CSR 2200-7.010 Nursing Education Incentive Program. The board is moving the rule, amending the purpose statement, and sections (2), (3), (4), and (6).

PURPOSE: This amendment moves the Nursing Education Incentive Program from the Department of Higher Education to the State Board of Nursing due to the passage of HB 1816 in 2016.

PURPOSE: This rule sets forth the criteria to be used by the [Department of Higher Education and the] State Board of Nursing regarding the awarding of grants to eligible institutions of higher education under the Nursing Education Incentive Program.

(2) Institutional Criteria for Grant Awards. To be eligible to receive a Nursing Education Incentive Grant, the applicant must meet the following eligibility criteria:

(B) Be accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association, another regional accreditor recognized by the U.S. Department of Education or provide evidence of active participation in a regional state authorization reciprocity agreement administered through the National Council of State Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA); *[and]*

(C) Offer a pre-licensure and/or post-licensure nursing program

or programs that meet the following program criteria:

1. Pre-licensure nursing program qualifying criteria—

[1./A. Official National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) pass rates consistently greater than or equal to eighty percent (80%);

[2./B. Record of consistently meeting requirements for full approval by the Missouri State Board of Nursing;

[3./C. Student graduation rates greater than or equal to eighty percent (80%). Graduation rate shall mean the percent of first time students who complete their program within one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the normal time to completion; and

[4./D. Job placement rates greater than or equal to ninety percent (90%). Job placement rate shall mean the percent of program graduates (less those continuing their education) who have secured employment in the nursing field within six (6) months of graduation/.];

2. Post-licensure nursing program qualifying criteria—

A. National nursing accreditation by a national agency specific to nursing education that is recognized by the board;

B. Post-licensure certification exam pass rates consistently greater than or equal to eighty percent (80%), if applicable;

C. Student graduation rates greater than or equal to eighty percent (80%). Graduation rate shall mean the percent of first time students who complete their program within one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the normal time to complete the program; and

D. Job placement rates greater than or equal to ninety percent (90%). Job placement rate shall mean the percent of program graduates (less those continuing their education) who have secured employment in the nursing field within six (6) months of graduation; and

(D) Qualifying criteria specific to the nursing program(s) impacted by projected grant funding shall be included.

(3) Required Components of The Grant Proposal. *[To receive consideration, e/Each proposal [must] shall include the following components:*

(B) Abstract—Applicants *[must]* shall provide a one- (1-)/- page overview of the project that includes its goals, purpose, and scope; and

(C) Narrative description of the proposal including:

1. Description of the activities that will be undertaken as part of the grant;

2. Description of the capacity and structure the institution has in place to administer the grant activities;

3. Explanation of how the proposal will impact the goals established for the grant program; *[and]*

4. Projected timeline for implementation and completion of proposed grant activities;

[4./5. Measures to be utilized to evaluate impact and effectiveness. The following data/information should be included:

A. Student admissions/progression requirements;

B. For each of the past three (3) years, the number of applicants for admission that met those requirements yet were denied admission due to a lack of capacity;

C. The number of faculty positions that are currently vacant and the duration of any such vacancy;

D. Any evidence that would indicate that additional graduates will serve geographically underserved areas of the state; and

E. Description of the applicant's plan for maintaining the benefits of the initiative following the expiration of the grant;

[5./6. Goals and objectives—Applicants *[must]* shall identify the goals and objectives of the project. Activities, services, and anticipated outcomes should be described and clearly aligned with the objectives of the overall grant program; and

[6./7. Budget summary and narrative—Applicants *[must]* shall provide detail concerning personnel, activities, and services paid for through grant funds. This should include: