ABSTRACT

The University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) College of Nursing (CON) has a strong, multifaceted, nationally acclaimed process for recruiting underrepresented and disadvantaged students. The 10 accelerated program seats proposed for this grant will be designated for applicants meeting grant criteria. The CON works closely with the UNMC Office of Financial Aid to determine eligibility for scholarships and aid. The UNMC Office of Financial Aid will assist the CON with administration of RWJF funds in accordance with federal need analysis guidelines.

Plans for leadership development include Nurses Get 2U, the Student Volunteer Program, and Emotional Intelligence development activities. Nurses Get 2U activities are planned for twice a semester and cover a broad range of topics. The Student Volunteer Program is expected to support development of a service to others perspective. The Emotional Intelligence assessment and activities will promote characteristics that lead to personal and professional success. The CON mentoring program, in early stages of development, will be designed following guidelines provided in the Mentoring Program Toolkit.

UNMC is the only public academic health science center in the state and is responsible for training more health professionals than any other institution. UNMC is a major teaching facility serving rural, urban, and culturally diverse populations in Nebraska and the Midwest, and is recognized nationally and internationally for its educational initiatives. The CON places a high priority on recruitment of underrepresented students. In fact, the CON received the Chancellor’s Award for efforts to increase cultural awareness and diversity in the CON. Past and continued efforts to increase the diversity of our student population are evident in the number and variety of recruitment strategies targeted at underrepresented and disadvantaged populations. With recruiters on all five campuses, these activities will continue into the future.