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Growth and Development Fund

Background

In October 2005, the House of Delegates representing the membership of the Georgia Nurses Association voted to transition from a geographically based district structure to a more member-driven chapter structure. In the new structure, chapters can form based on geography or shared interest. GNA members may choose to belong to more than one chapter. The proportion of the dues that were previously distributed to districts now go into the Growth and Development Fund. Funds are distributed to GNA Chapters through an application process and are awarded by the Membership Development Committee, a group of elected peer volunteers in the positions of regional coordinators and the director of membership development.

Eligibility Criteria

All GNA Chapters are eligible to apply. Funds will be awarded to chapters who provide the most compelling case for support among the applicants and who meet the requirements set forth by the Membership Development Committee. Generally, a chapter requesting funds must be in good standing with the Georgia Nurses Association, meaning they must have ten or more GNA members and must have filed timely contact information and a membership roster with GNA headquarters.

What categories of funding are available?

Eligible chapters may apply for funds in three varying categories:

1. Community service projects
2. Special projects
3. Start-up or continuing operations

Category Definitions

Community service projects include projects chapters organize for the public such as health fairs, education or screenings.

Special projects funds may be needed for speakers and programs for nurses/ members.

Start-up or continuing operations funds may be funds for start-up seed money or supplies, services, newsletters or recognition/awards.

Note: *Funding can not be awarded for the purpose of granting scholarships.*

Growth and Development Fund applications are available online at www.georgianurses.org

Correspondence can be directed to the Membership Development Committee:

Central Region—
Gwendolyn Johnson
East Central Region—
Melanie Cassity
North Region—
Cindy Balkstra
North Central Region—
Debbie Davis
Southeast Region—
Kathleen Koon
Southwest Region—
Kimberly Gordon
Committee Chair—
Sally Welsh

Mail, fax or email completed applications and supporting documents to CEO Debbie Hackman at:

Georgia Nurses Association
c/o Growth and
Development Fund
3032 Briarcliff Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30329

FAX: 404.325.0407
Email: ceo@georgianurses.org



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GDF Funding Policies

- All applications for funding will be reviewed within appropriate time frames with the first review taking place July 2006.
- Applications for funding must be postmarked by 11:59 p.m. of submission date for consideration.
- A Chapter's request must be submitted in writing on the approved forms and budget template
- All applications must include an assessment of what the chapter has done to determine the best methods to increase recruitment of new members, the retention of current members and how they will utilize the funds for chapter growth and development of GNA membership.
- When requesting funding for food and beverage, the cost of food and beverage can be no more than 30% of the Chapter's total amount budgeted per grant request.
 - *Proviso:* The Growth & Development Fund committee reserves the right to oversee the total amount of food and beverage spent per chapter per year.
- Applications must be received in the grant cycle prior to the quarterly cycle in which the event(s) will occur (example: for an event in May, the application must be received in the cycle ending March 31st)
- Grant cycles coincide with the calendar year quarterly cycle, therefore the grant applications are due on or before:
 - March 31st
 - June 30th
 - September 30th
 - December 31st
- No retroactive grants can be approved.
- Grant outcome evaluations must be received utilizing the official GNA evaluation form, reviewed and "accepted" by the state Membership Development Committee before a chapter is eligible to receive another grant.
- Applications that demonstrate collaboration and matching funds are encouraged.
- Chapter events supported by grant funding provided by GNA Growth and Development shall use the official GNA logo to indicate GNA's sponsorship.
- Any funds not utilized by the grant recipient for the purposes specified and approved by the grant committee must be returned to the state GNA Growth & Development Fund.
- Future grants will not be considered if the chapter has an incomplete grant. A grant is deemed incomplete for any of the following reasons:
 - Event cancelled and funds not returned to GNA Growth & Development Fund
 - A Chapter's failure to submit a full and complete outcome evaluation on the approved form.
 - A Chapter's misapplication or lack of knowledge of how awarded funds were utilized and grant requirements met.
- Funds will be awarded without public notice. Applicants will be notified in writing of the Committee's decision to decline further consideration or the decision to award funds.
- \$15,000 will be held in reserve to ensure there is adequate funding for all four grant cycles in a year.
- A \$250 start-up grant is available for all newly approved GNA Chapters
- All awards will be distributed only upon signed contract. GNA reserves the right to perform measures to ensure their fiscal responsibility is upheld.
- Submission dates and award limits are to be posted at www.georgianurses.org.
- Applications are available online at www.georgianurses.org.