Florida Nurses Leadership Academy: Experienced Nurse

2013
Florida Nurses Leadership Academy: Experienced Nurse
A Corporate Special Interest Group of the Florida Nurses Association and the Florida Nurses Foundation

Description
The Florida Nurses Leadership Academy (FNLA) is a partnership program of the Florida Nurses Association (FNA) and the Florida Nurses Foundation (FNF) with the purpose of developing future nursing leaders. The goal is to provide tools, education, and opportunities to experienced nurses to assist them in becoming active members and skillful leaders in their professional organization.

The Participants (Associate)
A maximum of two (2) new nurses will be selected from each of the eight (8) regions of the Florida Nurses Association, for a possible total of 16 associates each year. A new class of FNLA associates will be appointed each year and will be involved in FNLA for a period of two years. In the first year, the associate will receive mentoring into proactive roles in the FNA. In the second year the associate will transition to a mentor role for new associates. Membership in the FNLA is continuous for the life of FNA membership.

Application process
Application packets will be distributed to members of FNA. The FNLA applicant must provide evidence of leadership or advocacy activities in their work environment and community volunteerism.

The completed application packet must be received in the FNA office on or before August 1, 2013. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Recipients will be notified of Associate appointment no later than August 30 and should plan to attend the FNA Membership Assembly, September 19-20, 2013.

Checklist of required documents for application packet:

| Completed application form, including personal statement on the importance of professional advocacy and list of extracurricular activities. |
| Copy of FNSA membership card, if applicable. |
| Current resume |
| Letter of support from fellow nurse at place of employment attesting to leadership qualities and/or activities. |
| Letter of reference from a nursing professor or work supervisor (nursing-related) attesting to leadership qualities. |
| Signed agreement to participate in FNLA for two (2) years. |

Selection Process
A selection committee will review all applications received by the published deadline and notify associates of acceptance to the FNLA. Members of the selection committee will be appointed by the FNA President, with the exception of the FNF appointment. Committee members will serve for a term of one year and may not serve more than six years consecutively. Nominees to the selection committee must be current member of the FNA with full membership privileges. Members may self-nominate to serve on the FNLA selection committee.

Composition of the selection committee:
- a current elected member of the FNA Board of Directors
- a past member of the FNA Board of Directors (not currently elected)
- a member of the Florida Nursing Students Association (FNSA) Board of Directors who is currently elected or was elected in the previous two years
- a faculty consultant to the FNSA, excluding a state consultant
- two FNA members in good standing with full membership privileges (ANA/FNA)
- a current FNF Trustee, appointed by the FNF President

**Expectations of Florida Nursing Leadership Academy Associates**

Associates will be guided by a mentoring team and are expected to engage in at least eight (8) leadership or advocacy activities during the program year. Ideally, these activities will be spread throughout the year and include a blend of observation and active participant experiences (see below).

**Required Activities** *(Associates are expected to participate in all listed activities)*:

- Attend FNLA orientation meeting
- Participate in quarterly FNLA conference call
- Submit quarterly activity report

**Observation Experiences** *(Choose at least two during the year)*

- Attend a Board meeting of FNA or FNF (face-to-face or conference call)
- Attend a FNA Committee or Task Force Meeting
- Join a Special Interest Group
- Write an editorial opinion to a local newspaper
- Attend a Florida Board of Nursing meeting
- Attend ANA convention
- Attend a QUIN Council Meeting

**Participation Experiences** *(Choose at least four during the year)*

- Serve as New Graduate Liaison to the FNA Board, FNF Board, or FN-PAC
- Serve in FNA appointed position
- Assist with an FNA event (planning committee, event volunteer, etc)
- Run for FNA elected position (after 6 months membership)
- Attend FNA Membership Assembly
- Attend Ingeborg Mauksch Clinical Excellence Program
- Attend FNA Lobby Days
- Participate in Special Interest Group discussion or activity
- Participate in a Regional meeting or conference call
- Submit a Reference Proposal to the FNA Reference Committee
- Become a Legislative District Coordinator (LDC)
- Develop a relationship with at least one local state legislator
- Spend a day in Tallahassee with an FNA Lobbyist during session
- Testify before a Legislative Committee
- Present at a FNA conference
- Write an article for *The Florida Nurse, New Grad Gazette, or Focus on the Foundation*
- Serve as contact/mentor to new grads in FNA
- Make a donation to the Florida Nurses Foundation