



**NCSBN**  
Leading Regulatory Excellence

# **International Center For Regulatory Scholarship**

**Academic Partnership Program  
Request for Proposal  
(RFP)**

## KEY DATES

---

The International Center for Regulatory Scholarship (ICRS) Academic Partnership Program accepts RFPs annually in the spring for implementation the following fall.

Proposal Deadline	May 16, 2022, 4:59 pm, U.S. Central time
-------------------	------------------------------------------

Notification of Partnership	tbd
-----------------------------	-----

Implementation of Partnership	Fall 2022 or Winter 2023
-------------------------------	--------------------------

---

## CONTACT INFORMATION

---

Maryann Alexander is the NCSBN point of contact (POC) to whom all communications should be directed.

Maryann Alexander, PhD, RN, FAAN  
Chief Officer, Nursing Regulation  
National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN)  
111 East Wacker Drive, Ste. 2900  
Chicago, IL 60601  
312-525-3695  
[malexander@ncsbn.org](mailto:malexander@ncsbn.org)

In addition, please copy Jen Kohl on all emails directed to Maryann Alexander.

Jenifer Kohl  
Sr. Coordinator, Nursing Regulation  
[jkohl@ncsbn.org](mailto:jkohl@ncsbn.org)

**Please Note:** Except with the POC's prior written approval, communication with any other actors regarding this RFP—internal or external of NCSBN or ICRS—is strictly prohibited.

## ABOUT NCSBN & ICRS

---

Established in 1978, the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) is an independent, 501(c)(3) not-for-profit membership organization comprised of state boards of nursing (BONs) across the United States and its territories as well as associate and exam user members around the world. Collectively, these organizations are referred to as nursing regulatory bodies (NRBs). NRBs are charged with protecting the public's health, safety and welfare, and though their authority may vary, many oversee nursing education programs, licensure, practice and discipline in their jurisdiction. To learn more, please visit: <https://www.ncsbn.org/>.

NCSBN's International Center for Regulatory Scholarship (ICRS) was launched in the fall of 2019



with the goal of providing learning, networking and collaboration opportunities for regulatory, nursing and policy leaders around the world. ICRS's pinnacle program is the ICRS certificate program, a competency-based online and blended course of study. The ICRS Competency Assessment guides participants to choose courses from three distinct

pathways: *Governance and Leadership*, *Public Policy and Legislation*, and *Research and Measurement*. Courses are taught by experts in their fields who have extensive experience and specialization unique to health care regulation. These courses, which are hosted through the Canvas learning management system, are generally eight weeks in length, and offer both program credits toward the certificate and continuing education credits (CEs) for eligible professionals. Once participants earn the required six program credits, they are invited to the ICRS Advanced Leadership Institute where they will be able to network with regulatory leaders and colleagues from around the world.

## SAMPLE COURSES BY PATHWAY

---

### **Governance and Leadership Pathway**

#### **Just Culture, Reliability Science and Crisis Management: Innovations for Regulators**

(Faculty: Kathy Scott, PhD)

In today's dynamic world, regulators need to move from a focus on compliance to a focus on seeing, understanding, and managing the risks to public safety. This course about the science of high reliability can better equip regulators to anticipate the unexpected and justly respond.

### **Public Policy and Legislation Pathway**

#### **Administrative Law\*** (Faculty: Eileen Fry-Bowers, PhD, JD, APRN, FAAN)

Administrative agencies have specific legislative, executive and judicial powers and play essential roles in government. This course introduces participants to the general principles of U.S. administrative law.

### **Research and Measurement Pathway**

#### **Fundamentals of Research\*\*** (Faculty: Brendan Martin, PhD, MS)

Just as responsible, ethical research methodologies are essential to any research study, so are the fundamentals of research essential to understanding proper methodologies in the first place. This course provides the necessary foundations for researchers to answer research questions and, ultimately, to advance our collective knowledge.

To learn more, please visit: <https://www.icrsncsbn.org/about.htm>

\*A Canadian version of this course, Introduction to Administrative Law for Regulators in Canada, is taught by Richard Steinecke, BA, LLB.

\*\*Fundamentals of Research is also offered in Chinese with Elizabeth Zhong, PhD, MEd.

# ICRS ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

---

NCSBN, through the ICRS certificate program, is seeking to partner with select academic institutions to promote regulatory science and help equip future health care leaders with the knowledge, skills and abilities needed to succeed in the complex and ever-changing fields of nursing, health care delivery and health profession regulation.

This envisioned partnership would allow participants in the ICRS certificate program to transfer course credits to an academic institution and apply them toward a graduate-level degree in public or health policy, nursing, public health, health care administration and leadership or other germane degree. Furthermore, NCSBN would allow graduate students from the academic partner to take courses in the ICRS certificate program in lieu of or in addition to relevant course requirements in the student's degree program. For example, if a school has an existing DNP program with a track in administration/practice leadership or health policy, a student could focus on nursing regulation, supported by some of the ICRS courses. Additionally, NCSBN could provide ideas and resources for practicum hours and the capstone project.

Students would also have access to NCSBN's [Center for Regulatory Excellence \(CRE\)](#). The CRE offers several regulatory scholarship programs, such as a fully-paid [Scholar in Residence](#) program for graduate students or faculty, where students can work with leading experts in policy and nursing regulation. Additionally, the CRE awards grant money to graduate students and seasoned researchers for scientific research projects related to nursing regulation and policy. Furthermore, the potential exists to collaborate with [NCSBN's Research Department](#) in conducting cutting-edge, award-winning research that supports evidence-based regulatory decisions for patient safety and public protection.

Academic institutions selected to partner with NCSBN will benefit from joint marketing campaigns, ongoing nursing regulation learning opportunities, access to research and publications such as the [Journal of Nursing Regulation \(JNR\)](#), a peer-reviewed scholarly journal that provides a global forum for sharing research, evidence-based practice, and innovative

strategies and solutions related to nursing regulation and practice, and opportunities to network and collaborate with leaders in health care and nursing regulation worldwide.

# RFP GUIDELINES

---

The RFP should be no longer than 20 pages in total and must be submitted electronically in PDF format to the NCSBN point of contact. The RFP should include a cover page that clearly identifies:

- Name of institution
- Point of contact at institution
- Name and title of the person or persons who prepared the RFP
- Date of submission

**Please address all of the following in your proposal:**

- A. Describe *your* vision for an academic partnership between your institution and NCSBN's ICRS. If applicable, briefly elaborate on an example of a similar partnership your institution currently has or has had in the past.
- B. Institution and/or programmatic Information
  1. Number of years in existence
  2. Number of locations
  3. Organizational philosophy
  4. Mission statement
  5. Any recent or planned mergers or acquisitions
  6. Your experience with international students
  7. Academic institution structure
    - i. Number of *relevant* programs and their focus, if applicable (e.g., public health, master's in nursing, health care administration, advanced nursing practice, DNP, PhD, etc.).
    - ii. Accreditation status of each program of study.
  8. Describe the following about *each* relevant academic program:
    - i. Required courses including course description.
    - ii. Number of faculty members and their qualifications in regulatory science or other related policy expertise and professional experiences.

- iii. Process for course and program evaluation, and the student experience.
- C. Describe your experience with providing online instruction.
- D. Describe the support your organization would provide for ICRS participants, including resources available to accommodate various access to technology and languages; and your processes to ensure learner satisfaction and success.
- E. Any additional information you believe important for NCSBN to consider.

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

---

- i. Communication regarding this RFP will only occur between the academic representative and NCSBN's point of contact (POC), except with the POC's explicit prior written approval.
- ii. This request for proposals (RFP) is copyrighted and cannot be reproduced except as necessary to complete the application and to inform key internal personnel. Any related communications, whether in person or by email, phone, or other means, is the intellectual property of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN).
- iii. NCSBN will treat your response to this RFP as a deliverable that NCSBN owns unless you specifically identify sections as your intellectual property.
- iv. Responding to this RFP is at the academic institution's own expense and risk, including but not limited to postage, materials, time, consultants, oral presentations, travel and miscellaneous fees.
- v. NCSBN reserves the right to contract with multiple academic partners or no partners at its sole discretion. ICRS Academic Partners are not guaranteed any business or outcome.
- vi. NCSBN retains the right to make changes to this RFP or to cancel the request at NCSBN's sole discretion.

**Please Note:** Failure to follow the guidelines and/or adhere to the terms and conditions will result in rejection of the proposal.