

# CONSENT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

**Governing Board Agenda**

**Meeting Date:** September 22, 2009

<u>Item Number</u>	<u>Item Title</u>	<u>Responsible Agents</u>
	South Mountain Community College (SMCC) & Phoenix College (PC) Bilingual Nursing Fellowship Program (BNFP)	Dr. Maria Harper-Marinick Dr. Ken Atwater Dr. Anna Solley

**Recommendation**

There is currently a shortage of nurses who are fluent in both English and Spanish. The United States Department of Education, through FIPSE, has awarded \$285,000 to fund a Bilingual Nursing Fellowship Program (BNFP). The award covers a three-year period, the typical time needed to complete an associate degree in nursing. The three year funds are awarded to South Mountain Community College to work with Phoenix College in the delivery of programs for the period of August 1, 2009 to December 30, 2012. It is therefore recommended that the Governing Board accept the Bilingual Nursing Fellowship Program Award.

**Justification**

This award focuses on increasing the retention and graduation of associate degree prepared nurses who are fluent in both English and Spanish. South Mountain Community College and Phoenix College, in partnership with Banner Health System, will collaborate to deliver the nursing program. The Bilingual Nursing Fellowship Program will support a minimum of 20 Spanish-English speaking nursing students. Selected students will be eligible to receive a \$200 scholarship while in their nursing assistant (NA) courses; \$300 each semester while in their practical nurses (PN) courses; and \$500 a semester while in their two registered nursing semesters. Students will also be required to apply for federal financial aid. The program calls for retention activities, academic tracking and monitoring for academic success. The students will be monitored as a cohort and will receive extensive academic and student support services. The BNFP will fill the gap for qualified nurses who are fluent in both English and Spanish.

<b>Funding</b>	<b>Approvals/Certifications</b>
<p><u>Source:</u> <b>U.S. Department of Education</b></p> <p><u>Account Identification:</u></p>	<p>Chancellor _____</p> <p>Academic &amp; Student Affairs _____</p> <p>Business Services _____</p> <p>Human Resources _____ ITS _____</p> <p>Res Dev &amp; Cmty Relations _____</p> <p>College President _____</p>