

## Pfizer and RCNi –

### Providing Access to Learning Resources for Nurses in Africa

#### Request for Proposals (RFP)

Geographic Scope	African nations
Background	<p>RCNi is a subsidiary of the Royal College of Nursing, delivering high-quality educational products and services for nursing teams globally. RCNi’s vision is to inspire the nursing community by connecting, championing and developing the whole nursing team, enabling them to focus on the delivery of excellent patient care. RCNi has developed RCNi Learning (rcnilearning.com), an interactive learning resource designed to help nurses enhance their clinical and soft skills.</p> <p>The mission of Pfizer Independent Grants for Learning &amp; Change (IGLC) is to partner with the global healthcare community to improve patient outcomes in areas of mutual interest through support of measurable learning and change strategies. “Independent” means that the projects funded by Pfizer are the full responsibility of the recipient organisation. Pfizer has no influence over any aspect of the projects and only asks for reports about the results and the impact of the projects in order to share them publicly.</p> <p>The intent of this document is to encourage organisations with a focus in nurse education, continuing professional development and/or quality improvement to submit an application for access to RCNi Learning for the nursing team within their organisation.</p>
Funding and Administration of Projects	<p>Selected applications will have access to RCNi Learning funded by Pfizer Independent Grants for Learning and Change.</p> <p>Provision of the access as well as operational and technical support will be provided by RCNi.</p>
Applicant Eligibility	<p>Nursing, allied health and medical schools, healthcare institutions (both large and small), academic institutions and other organisations with a mission related to healthcare involving the nursing team.</p> <p>Access to RCNi Learning can only be awarded to organisations under this RFP, not individuals.</p>
Clinical Area	Improving access to learning resources for nurses across a variety of clinical areas
Specific Areas of	<b>To improve access to learning resources for nurses in Africa across a variety of clinical</b>

Interest	<p><b>areas.</b></p> <p>RCNi Learning is a gold standard interactive programme of self-study modules to help enable both student and qualified nurses to develop important nursing skills and deliver the best possible patient care. For more information on what the resource includes and how your institution may benefit from access, visit <a href="http://rcnilearning.com">rcnilearning.com</a>.</p> <p>Pfizer and RCNi invite academic and healthcare organisations with an interest in improving nurse education, continuing professional development and thus outcomes for patients to apply for provision of access to RCNi Learning.</p> <p>It is expected that all applications will include a needs assessment detailing why access to the programme would benefit the applying organisation, and also an implementation plan detailing how the training will be utilised and disseminated. Furthermore, it is expected that successful organisations will commit to evaluating the learning outcomes from the programme.</p> <p>Whilst applications will be accepted from all countries listed in the Geographic Scope section of this document, priority will be given to applications from organisations based in lower income countries (according to the World Bank Classifications). Priority will also be given to applications from organisations higher income countries where it can be demonstrated that there is local need for support that might not be reflected by the country's income status.</p> <p>Priority will further be given to applications from organisations with the most robust implementation plans.</p>
Rationale for the Programme	<p>Nursing is a critical factor in determining the quality of care in hospitals, in the community and the nature of patient outcomes<sup>1</sup>. Because it is well-recognised that there are nurse shortages in African nations<sup>2</sup>, it is of fundamental importance to ensure that the existing nursing team and those planning to become nurses have adequate opportunity for education and Continuing Professional Development (CPD). CPD is important for nurses globally, but in developing nations with evolving health challenges, CPD becomes of paramount importance. Resources to provide CPD opportunities for nurses in African nations are often scarce<sup>3</sup>.</p> <p>RCNi Learning offers the opportunity for nurses at any stage in their career to engage in self-directed learning to help develop their clinical and professional skills across a broad range of clinical areas. This programme provides the opportunity for institutional access to RCNi to help to contribute to educational and CPD activities for nurses without the need for financial investment.</p>
Out of Scope of this RFP	<p>Applications requesting monetary grants of any kind (this RFP aims only to provide access to RCNi Learning to successful institutions)</p>
Expected Scope of Applications	<p>Individual applications requesting institution access for up to: 10, 50, 100, 150, 200, 250 and 500 RCNi Learning programme users will be considered.</p>

	<p>The funding required for provision of access for users increases with the number of users included within the application, and as such, it is important that the projected outcomes of the application are appropriately associated with the application number of programme users requested.</p> <p>Please note that no funds will be transferred to the organisations to whom access to RCNi Learning is awarded. Access will be purchased on behalf of the successful organisations by Pfizer, and access granted by RCNi.</p> <p>Pfizer will clearly state in any approval notification, the review panel’s rationale for supporting a given institution’s application and the number of users that shall be granted access at that institution.</p> <p>Access to RCNi Learning that is granted to successful applicants will be available for 12 months. Following access, successful organisations will have a further 6 months to evaluate the utility of the programme and assess any changes that they have made to practice as a result.</p>
<p>Characteristics of a successful project</p>	<p>In order to increase the capacity of the health care system to provide improvement in the care of patients, we are interested in receiving proposals that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate that a needs assessment has been conducted</li> <li>• Include a robust and well-defined plan for evaluation and dissemination of learning</li> <li>• Build the network of nurse education champions in Africa</li> <li>• Include a plan to sustain the project beyond the period of access to RCNi Learning.</li> </ul>
<p>Key dates</p>	<p>Programme launch date: 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018</p> <p>Extended Application Deadline: 17:00 BST on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018</p> <p>Review of applications by external panel: October 2018</p> <p>Notification of access awards: November 2018</p>
<p>How to Submit</p>	<p>Please go to <a href="http://www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/loi">www.cybergrants.com/pfizer/loi</a> and sign in. First-time users should click “REGISTER NOW”.</p> <p>Select the following Area of Interest: RCNi Learning – Nurse Education Africa</p> <p>Requirements for submission:</p> <p>Complete all required sections of the online application and upload the completed application template (see Appendix). <b>Please note that all applications must be submitted in English.</b></p> <p>Be advised the system is designed for a two-stage submission process: 1) Letter of Intent and 2) Full Proposal. However, for this RFP, we are not using a Letter of Intent. Instead, the only stage will be submission of the Full Proposal.</p> <p>In the “Required Uploads” section, please follow the table below:</p>

For Field Name:	Please upload:
Letter of Intent	Full Proposal (see Appendix)
LOI Additional Required Uploads	An Excel document indicating requested amount of users for access to the RCNi Learning programme (this should be uploaded into the budget section).

In the “Budget Details” section, please enter \$0 for the ‘Total Budget’ and ‘Total Amount Requested from Pfizer’ fields.

If you have any questions during the application process, please contact Grant Officer Jo Harbron ([jo.harbron@pfizer.com](mailto:jo.harbron@pfizer.com))

**Grant review and Notification**

Applications will be reviewed by a panel of independent experts. All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their grant application by email in November 2018.

Applicants may also be contacted by Pfizer IGLC to provide further clarification in order to support the review of any applications.

**Terms and Conditions**

Please take note every Request for Proposal (RFP) released by Pfizer Independent Grants for Learning & Change (IGLC), as well as a RFP released jointly with a Partner(s), is governed by specific terms and conditions. Click [here](#) to review these terms and conditions.

## Improving Nurse Education in Africa

### Application Form

*Applications must be submitted in English in 12-point Calibri Font. Applications should not exceed 3 pages.*

Applicant Organisation	
Name/ Contact details for Individual Requester on behalf of Applicant Organisation	Name: Email: Contact phone number:
Project Goal	<i>Briefly describe how access to RCNi Learning may improve nurse education, continuing professional development and patient care at your organisation (e.g. cite the number of nurses you anticipate to receive training through RCNi Learning and the changes to clinical outcomes you expect to see as a result)</i>
Project Plan	<i>Please outline how you plan to incorporate use of RCNi Learning into your organisation's training schedule</i>
Evaluation Measures and Metrics	<i>What measures and metrics will you use to evaluate the success of the project</i> <i>Ensure robust plan to capture baseline and end of project metrics. For example, you could include current local challenges in relation to access to nurse education, challenges in relation to nurses acquiring CPD points, financial barriers to providing ongoing nurse education, clinical challenges relating to nurse education etc.) If appropriate, utilise surveys seeking information regarding nurse satisfaction relating to available training opportunities and self-assessment relating to clinical confidence. Describe the source and method used to collect the data. Describe how the data was analysed to determine that a gap in nurse education existed. If a full analysis has not yet been conducted, please include a description of your plan to obtain this information.</i>
Educational	<i>How will the project support ongoing education for nurses, healthcare assistants and</i>

Sustainability	<i>students at your organisation?</i>
Project Start Date (on or after August 2018)	
Project End Date (maximum duration 18months)	<i>Note that access to RCNi Learning will be provided for 1 year. 6 months are then available for analysis of the impact of access on nurse education and patient outcomes.</i>
Organizational Detail (1 page maximum)	<i>Describe the mission, capability, and relevant previous activity of the applicant organization and how it will facilitate the project.</i>