

## SAMPLE FUNDED RESEARCH PROPOSAL

### Research Proposal to the Joint Research Committee – NCSBN

<b>1. PROJECT TITLE:</b>		
An Investigation of Item Response Time Distributions as Indicators of Compromised NCLEX Item Pools		
<b>2. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:</b>		<b>CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:</b> (if applicable)
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3.

# An Investigation of Item Response Time Distributions as Indicators of

Item response times can provide valuable information for assessing the degree to which an item pool has been compromised and this response time information is routinely collected during an NCLEX administration. This information has been used to examine candidate behavior for individuals who run out of time, but hasn't yet been exploited to examine item exposure.

Item response time has been previously shown to be useful in identifying unusual examinee behavior. Schnipke and Scrams (2002) showed that at the end of speeded, high-stakes computer-based tests (CBTs), some examinees strategically switch from trying to identify correct answers to the items (termed



study will compare rapid responding to recalibration to percent-correct drift as processes for item identification.

#### References

Schnipke, D. L., & Scrams, D. J. (2002). Exploring issues of examinee behavior: Insights gained from response-time analyses. In Mills, C. N., Potenza, M.T., Fremer, J. J., & Ward, W. C. (Eds.). *Computer-based testing: Building the foundation for future assessments*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

Wise, S. L., & Kong, X. (2005). Response time effort: A new measure of examinee motivation in computer-based tests. *Applied Measurement in Education*, 18, 163-183.

## BUDGET SUMMARY

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### BUDGET SUMMARY

CATEGORY	Cost	Use these additional columns to split out costs each phase, if proposing a multi-phased project			
<b>DIRECT COSTS*</b>					
1. Personnel salaries and wages	\$17,000				
2. Fringe benefits					
3. Consultants and contracts					
4. Travel					
5. Supplies and materials	\$500				
6. Communications (Telephone, postage, etc.)					
7. Equipment (Purchase)					
8. Other (Equipment rental, etc.)					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$17,500</b>				

\*Note that Indirect costs or other overhead charges will not be reimbursed

### BUDGET JUSTIFICATION NARRATIVE

Project personnel costs include data analysis and report writing. Funds for supplies will cover expenses for printing, copying, postage, and long-distance telephone calls.