CLMHD Regional Planning Consortium- National Health Service Corps and Nurse Corps
May 21, 2019

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Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW)
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
Agenda

• Brief Overview of HRSA and BHW
• How to Become a NHSC Site
• National Health Service Corps (NHSC) and Nurse Corps: Strengthening Health Workforce in Limited Access Areas
• NHSC and Nurse Corps Resources for Provider Recruitment and Retention
• Q & A
Brief Overview of HRSA and BHW
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Overview

- HRSA supports more than 90 programs that provide health care to people who are geographically isolated, economically or medically challenged.

- HRSA does this through grants and cooperative agreements to more than 3,000 awardees, including community and faith-based organizations, colleges and universities, hospitals, State, local, tribal governments, and private entities.

- Every year, HRSA programs serve tens of millions of people, including people living with HIV/AIDS, pregnant women, mothers and their families, and those otherwise unable to access quality health care.
## HRSA Funding (dollars in millions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HRSA Program</th>
<th>FY 2018 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2019 Enacted</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Health Care</td>
<td>$5,511</td>
<td>$5,627</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
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<td>Health Workforce</td>
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<td>Maternal and Child Health</td>
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<td>Rural Health</td>
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<td>$318</td>
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<td>Family Planning*</td>
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<td>$286</td>
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<td>Program Management</td>
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<td>Healthcare Systems</td>
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<td>$115</td>
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<td>Vaccine Injury Compensation</td>
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<td>$9</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$11,492</strong></td>
<td><strong>$11,714</strong></td>
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*Administered by the HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary of Health, Office of Population Affairs*
Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW)

VISION – From education and training to service, BHW will make a positive and sustained impact on health care delivery for underserved communities

MISSION – Improve the health of underserved and vulnerable populations by strengthening the health workforce and connecting skilled professionals to communities in need
BHW Priorities

• Transform the health care workforce by creating training opportunities, incentives, and sustained support for clinicians working in rural and underserved areas

• Increase access to **behavioral health services**, including substance use disorder treatment

• Use health care **workforce data** to inform program and policy

• Infuse **BHW values and priorities** across the organization to guide decision making
National Health Service Corps (NHSC)

THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS (NHSC) builds healthy communities by supporting qualified health care providers dedicated to working in areas of the United States with limited access to care.

The NHSC is part of HRSA’s Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW).

BHW improves the health of underserved populations by strengthening the health workforce and connecting skilled professionals to communities in need.

28% of BHW funding supports the NHSC and other programs that improve the distribution of health professionals to underserved areas.
NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS: NOW

- Physicians: 20%
- Nurse Practitioners: 23%
- Behavioral Health Providers: 29%
- Registered Hygienists: 3%
- Nurse Midwives: 2%
- Physicians Assistants: 10%
- Registered Hygienists: 3%

Health Workforce
How to Become a NHSC Site
Benefits of Being an NHSC Site

- Recruitment and Retention of Providers
  - NHSC Loan Repayment Program
    - MD/DO, NP, PA, CNM, DDS/DMD, RDH, HSP, LCSW, PNS, MFT, LPC
  - NHSC Scholarship Program
    - MD/DO, DDS/DMD, NP, PA, CNM
  - NHSC Students to Service Loan Repayment Program
    - MD/DO or DDS/DMD
  - Health Workforce Connector and Virtual Job Fairs

- Networking and Resources
  - NHSC Site Network
  - Primary Care Offices
  - Division of Regional Operations
NHSC Site Eligibility

- Located in and serves a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)
- Is a primary care outpatient facility (medical, dental, or behavioral)
- Provides comprehensive primary care services
- Utilizes and advertises a qualified discounted/sliding fee schedule
- Does not deny services based on inability to pay or enrollment in Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP
- Ensures access to ancillary, inpatient, and specialty care
Eligible Site Types*

Automatically Approved Site Types:
1. Federally-Qualified Health Centers (FQHC)
2. FQHC Look-Alikes
3. American Indian Health Facilities: Indian Health Service Facilities, Tribally-Operated 638 Health Programs, and Urban Indian Health Programs (ITU)
4. Federal Prisons
5. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

* All NHSC sites must deliver comprehensive primary care (medical, dental, and/or mental/behavioral health) on an outpatient basis, with exception of CAHs and IHS hospitals.
Eligible Site Types* (Continued)

Regular Application Process:
1. Certified Rural Health Clinics
2. State or Local Health Departments
3. State Prisons
4. Community Mental Health Centers
5. School-Based Clinics
6. Mobile Units/Clinics
7. Free Clinics
8. Critical Access Hospitals (CAH)
9. Community Outpatient Facilities
10. Private Practices

**Newly eligible SUD site types
1. Opioid Treatment Program (OTP)
2. Office-based Opioid Agonist Treatment (OBOT)
3. Non-Opioid SUD treatment sites

**Sites eligible for the SUD Workforce LRP and Rural Community LRP
Comprehensive Primary Care

- Sites must provide preventive, acute, and chronic primary health services in an NHSC-approved specialty
  - Adult, family, internal medicine, pediatric, geriatrics, psychiatry, general behavioral health, women’s health, and obstetrics/gynecology
- Continuum of care not focused or limited to non-approved NHSC specialty *(e.g., organ system, singular illness, categorical population)*
- Provide care for the whole person on an ongoing basis
- Access to ancillary, inpatient, and specialty referrals
How to Apply

Is your site eligible to apply? If so...

1. Collect the required documentation.
2. Login to the BHW Customer Service Portal to begin your application during the application period.
   • 2019 date for NEW site applications TBA
3. Check with your state PCO or the Division of Regional Operations (DRO) if you have questions about the site requirements or application process.

**Remember to allow enough time to collect documentation and complete the online application well before the stated application deadline.**
BHW Customer Service Portal

Login
Please log in using the fields below:
Your Email *
Your Password *
Forgot Password?

Create an Account
SITE POINTS OF CONTACT
Not a registered user?
Create a Site Point of Contact account

STATE PRIMARY CARE OFFICE MEMBERS
Not a registered user?
Create a State Primary Care Office Member account

Questions?
- PCO Portal: For support, please call your regional office representative.
- Site Portal: Please refer to the Site FAQ.
- PCO & Site Portal: For technical issues, contact the BHW Customer Care Center.
  - Open Monday-Friday (except Federal holidays), 8:30 am to 5:00 pm ET
  - 1-800-221-9093
  - 1-877-827-9910 (TTY for hearing impaired)
  - Contact Us

Site POC Portal User Guide (3MB) | Privacy Policy
Start NHSC Site Application Page

The Site Point of Contact Portal allows site points of contact to complete important National Health Service Corps (NHSC) and NURSE Corps program activities. If you have never been approved to participate in one of our programs, please submit an application from the New Site Applications section below.

New Site Applications

NHSC APPLICATIONS

Apply For a New NHSC Site

Please submit an NHSC Site Application if your practice site has never been approved by the NHSC. If your site was approved in the past, please submit an NHSC Site Recertification during the open recertification cycle by clicking on the site name and choosing the "Recertify" option. Visit the NHSC website for more information about becoming an NHSC approved site. You may call the number below under Contact Us if you are unsure of a previous approval or if you represent an auto-approved site.

The NHSC Site Recertification cycle is now closed. The next cycle for recertifying a site will begin in the fall of 2018. Please visit the NHSC website for information about being an NHSC approved site.

NURSE CORPS APPLICATIONS

Eligible Nurse Corps Sites do not need to submit a site application. If you believe your facility may qualify as a Critical Shortage Facility or an eligible school of nursing, please contact us at the number listed below.
After You Submit Your Application

• Once submitted, your application will be reviewed by the State Primary Care Office and NHSC.

• You can view your application status by logging into the Customer Service Portal.

• NHSC site application reviews generally take 6-8 weeks, but may take longer due to application volume, pre-approval site visit requirements, and the quality of submitted application information.

• If approved, your site can recruit through NHSC immediately and clinicians can apply for the next NHSC Loan Repayment Application Cycle.
National Health Service Corps (NHSC) and Nurse Corps: Strengthening Health Workforce in Limited Access Areas
NHSC Loan Repayment Program

The NHSC offers primary care medical, dental, and mental and behavioral health care providers the opportunity to have their student loans repaid in exchange for providing health care in urban, rural, or tribal communities with limited access to care.

*NHSC is the largest and broadest of BHW funding streams for outpatient providers

Must be a U.S. citizen or national working at an NHSC-approved site

Eligible Providers:

- **Primary Care Medical:** MD & DO, PAs, NP, CNMs
  - General internal medicine, pediatrics, family medicine, ob-gyn, geriatrics
- **Dentistry:** DMD & DDS (general, adult, pediatric, geriatric) and RDH
- **Mental/Behavioral health:** MD/DO Psychiatry/Pediatric psychiatry, HSP (e.g., PsyD), LCSW, PNS, MFT, LPC
NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program

Supports the recruitment and retention of health professionals needed in underserved areas to expand access to substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and prevent overdose deaths

Must be a U.S. citizen or national working at an NHSC-approved SUD treatment facility

Must be trained and licensed to provide SUD treatment

Eligible Providers:

- **Primary Care Medical**: MD & DO, PAs, NP, CNMs
  - General internal medicine, pediatrics, family medicine, ob-gyn, geriatrics

- **Mental/Behavioral health**: MD/DO Psychiatry/Pediatric psychiatry, HSP (e.g., PsyD), LCSW, PNS, MFT, LPC

- **Registered Nurses**

- **Pharmacists**
NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program

Expands and improves access to quality opioid and substance use disorder treatment in rural areas

Must be a U.S. citizen or national working at an NHSC-approved rural SUD treatment facility

Must be trained and licensed to provide SUD treatment

Eligible Providers:

• Primary Care Medical: MD & DO, PAs, NP, CNMs
  ➢ General internal medicine, pediatrics, family medicine, ob-gyn, geriatrics

• Mental/Behavioral health: MD/DO Psychiatry/Pediatric psychiatry, HSP (e.g., PsyD), LCSW, PNS, MFT, LPC

• Registered Nurses

• Pharmacists

• Licensed registered nurse anesthetists

*Application cycle opens late spring 2019
PROVIDERS RECEIVE LOAN REPAYMENT IN ADDITION TO A COMPETITIVE SALARY FROM THEIR EMPLOYERS

1

Providers find a job at an NHSC-approved site

THEN

2

Apply to the NHSC for loan repayment

Watch the NHSC Site Video on the "HRSATube" YouTube channel.

Find positions at NHSC-approved sites using the Health Workforce Connector: https://connector.hrsa.gov/
• Incentivize Physicians (MD/DO) and Dentists (DDS/DMD) to choose to go into the primary care fields (same as LRP) at the time they are making that decision.

• Timing of when they apply is tied to “the match” in final year of school
NHSC Scholarship Program

The NHSC awards scholarships to students pursuing eligible primary care health professions training. In return, scholars commit to provide primary care health services in underserved areas.

- **Scholarship includes:**
  - Tuition
  - Fees
  - Books
  - Supplies (tax-free)
  - Monthly living stipend (taxable)
  - Other reasonable education costs

Eligible degree programs: MD/DO, DDS/DMD, NP, PA, CNM
Same primary care disciplines as LRP
Rural Health

The National Health Service Corps (NHSC) and Nurse Corps increase the number of health professionals practicing in rural health clinics, critical access hospitals, and other health facilities located in rural areas.

- Almost one in five Nurse Corps clinicians serve in rural areas
- More than one in three NHSC clinicians serve in rural areas
National Health Service Corps
Substance Use Disorder Investments

$225 Million
Expand and improve access to quality opioid and substance use disorder treatment

$45 Million
Opioid response in rural communities

$180 Million
SUD Workforce LRP
Nurse Corps
The Nurse Corps offers loan repayment and scholarships to nurses who work in health centers, rural health clinics, hospitals, and other facilities experiencing a critical shortage of nurses.
Nurse Corps Scholarship Program

• Nurse Corps scholarships cover the entire cost of nursing school.
• Participants serve in an eligible critical shortage facility for a minimum two-year service commitment.
• The Nurse Corps LRP pays 60% of the outstanding loan balance for all awardees in exchange for 2 years of service.

• For an optional third year of service, participants may receive an additional 25% of their original, qualifying loan balance.
Types of Critical Shortage Facilities (CSF)

**Hospitals:**
- Critical Access Hospital
- Disproportionate Share Hospital
- Public Hospital
- Private Non-Profit Hospital

**Outpatient Clinics:**
- Federally Qualified Health Center
- Indian Health Service Health Center
- Native Hawaiian Health Center
- Rural Health Clinic
- State or Local Public Health or Human Services Department
- Nurse Managed Health
- Clinic/Center
- Urgent Care Center
- Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic
- End Stage Renal Disease Dialysis
- Free and Charitable Clinics
- Ambulatory Surgical Center
- Residential Nursing Home
- Home Health Agency
- Hospice Program
Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs)
Health Professional Shortage Areas

• Throughout the U.S., there are geographic areas, populations, and facilities with too few primary care, dental, and mental health providers and services. HRSA works with state partners to determine which of these should be “shortage designations,” and are therefore eligible to receive certain federal resources.

• https://bhw.hrsa.gov/shortage-designation
Three HPSA Types:
1. Primary Care
2. Dental
3. Mental Health

- HPSA type must match site’s services and NHSC provider discipline
- Funding priority of NHSC clinicians based on HPSA
- Higher HPSA score = higher funding priority
- HPSA scores for the NHSC are updated annually on January 1
- Find HPSAs: [http://hpsafind.hrsa.gov/](http://hpsafind.hrsa.gov/)
Types of HPSAs

A shortage of:

- Primary Care
- Mental Health
- Dental Health

providers in a:

- Geographic Area
- Population Group
- Facility
Employer Recruitment Resources & Job Seekers Employment Search Resources
Health Workforce Connector (HWC)

Where Health Care Professionals Connect with Sites!

View more than **20,000** NHSC and Nurse Corps-approved sites with nearly **5,000** job vacancies
HWC Site Profile

Expand Reach
NHSC and Nurse Corps-approved sites can create a profile and post job vacancies, visible to thousands of health care professionals who are actively seeking employment in underserved communities.

- Create a site profile highlighting:
  - Job Opportunities
  - Services Provided
  - Employee Benefits
  - Site Characteristics
  - Local Community (schools, attractions, etc.)
  - Photos
  - Relevant Links & Websites
Discover Qualified Clinicians

Verified recruiters and site administrators can search for potential candidates from a database of job seeker profiles, including NHSC and Nurse Corps participants.
HWC Search Example: Jobs Actually Posted
Virtual Job Fair
What is a Virtual Job Fair?

BHW’s Virtual Job Fairs offer an innovative way for NHSC and Nurse Corps-approved organizations to promote job opportunities to a targeted audience of primary care clinicians who are interested in serving communities with limited access to health care.

**Benefits:**

- Sites advertise to a wider audience
- Connections are made virtually, with no travel costs
- Clinicians connect with sites in targeted areas where they are looking to work
- Clinicians explore jobs at sites they may not have been aware of for consideration
- Both job-seekers and sites are provided technical assistance on using the Health Workforce Connector
What happens in the Virtual Job Fair?

• Using Adobe Connect and conference call lines, sites have 15 minutes in a “virtual” breakout room (10 minutes for presentation, 5 minutes for Q&A)

• Presentations include information about the site, local community and population served, position(s) available, practice models, salary and benefits

• 3 to 3 ½ hours long and can accommodate up to 100 sites

• Virtual breakout rooms can be configured with up to 10 breakout rooms and 10 consecutive presentations
Additional Resources

• NHSC website: nhsc.hrsa.gov

• Customer Care Center: 1-800-221-9393 (TTY:1-877-987-9910) from 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except federal holidays

• State Primary Care Offices:
  http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/shortage/hpsas/primarycareoffices.html

• DRO Contacts:
Questions
Contact Us

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Phone: 1-800-221-9393 (Customer Care Center)

Web: nhsc.hrsa.gov
Virtual Job Fair: jobfair.hrsa.gov
Health Workforce Connector: https://connector.hrsa.gov/
LinkedIn: http://www.linkedin.com/company/national-health-service-corps
Twitter: http://twitter.com/NHSCorps
Facebook: http://facebook.com/nationalhealthservicecorps
To learn more about our agency, visit

www.HRSA.gov

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