

HRSA's Health Workforce Programs to Support Nursing Careers

The Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) offers a wide range of programs to strengthen the health workforce and connect skilled health care providers to the communities that need them most. These programs provide support for several types of clinicians and at multiple points along the career path.

Below we present examples of HRSA Health Workforce Programs to support nursing careers. The information is grouped by who can apply for the funding: [Individuals](#); [Only Schools](#); [Only Schools and Health Facilities](#); or [Schools, Health Facilities, and Other Groups](#). However, each program has specific eligibility criteria. More details can be found by following the links to view program information on the HRSA BHW website.

More programs are available to support other health professionals. **Learn more about all of HRSA's Health Workforce Programs at the Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW) website:** bhw.hrsa.gov.

PROGRAMS TO WHICH INDIVIDUALS CAN APPLY	
<i>Individuals (students or clinicians) can apply directly to the programs listed below. Some programs are intended for specific types of nurses (e.g., registered nurses, nurse practitioners, or nurse midwives) or nurses in a particular area of focus (e.g., primary care).</i>	
Scholarship Programs	
Nurse Corps Scholarship Program	Scholarships for nursing students in exchange for a minimum two-year, full-time service commitment (or part-time equivalent) at an eligible health care facility with a critical shortage of nurses. Scholarship covers tuition, fees and other educational costs, as well as a monthly stipend.
National Health Service Corps Scholarship Program (NHSC SP)	Scholarships for students pursuing primary care health professions training in exchange for a service commitment of two-to-four years to provide primary care health services in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) .
Native Hawaiian Health Scholarship Program (NHHSP)	Scholarships to Native Hawaiians pursuing careers in primary and behavioral health disciplines to deliver culturally competent primary health care services to Native Hawaiians and disadvantaged people who live in high-need and rural communities in Hawaii.
Loan Repayment Programs	
Nurse Corps Loan Repayment Program	Loan repayment program for registered nurses (RNs), advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), and nurse faculty. The program pays up to 85 percent of unpaid nursing education debt in return for serving at least two years in a Critical Shortage Facility (CSF) or an eligible school of nursing.

National Health Service Corps Students to Service Loan Repayment Program (NHSC S2S LRP)	Loan repayment program for students in their last year of medical, nursing, or dental school. In return for loan repayment, individuals provide at least three years of service at an NHSC-approved site in a HPSA.
National Health Service Corps Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program (NHSC SUD Workforce LRP)	Trained and licensed providers in eligible disciplines can receive loan repayment in exchange for serving at least three years at an NHSC-approved SUD treatment facility. Providers must use evidence-based treatment models to treat substance use disorders.
National Health Service Corps Rural Community Loan Repayment Program (NHSC Rural Community LRP)	Loan repayment program for clinicians addressing the opioid epidemic in rural areas. Licensed primary care clinicians must serve at least three years at a rural NHSC-approved substance use disorder (SUD) treatment facility to receive loan repayment under this program. Clinicians must be working in an eligible discipline to apply for loan repayment.
Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Loan Repayment Program (STAR LRP)	Loan repayment program for eligible SUD treatment clinicians and community health workers. In return for a loan of up to \$250,000, individuals must work full-time for six years in a facility approved for the STAR LRP.
Pediatric Specialty Loan Repayment Program (LRP)	Loan repayment program for eligible clinicians in pediatric medical subspecialty, pediatric surgical specialty, or child and adolescent mental and behavioral health care including SUD prevention and treatment services. The program gives up to \$100,000 in loan repayment in return for working full-time for three years in a Pediatric Specialty LRP-approved facility.
Faculty Loan Repayment Program (FLRP)	The program repays a portion of student loan debt for faculty members who serve at an eligible health professions school. Eligible individuals are from a disadvantaged background, have an eligible health professions degree or certificate, and are a faculty member at an approved health profession school.

PROGRAMS TO WHICH ONLY SCHOOLS CAN APPLY

Only schools can apply for this funding (Note: schools, along with other groups, are also able to apply for the other programs listed in the following sections).

School Loan and Scholarship Programs

Nursing Student Loans (NSL)

Schools are eligible if they offer a degree in nursing. The Registered Nurse (RN) degree has to yield any of the following: a diploma degree, an associate degree, a baccalaureate degree, or a graduate degree. Loan program for students enrolled full time or half time and completing an RN degree.

Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students (SDS) Program

Provides funding to schools for scholarships to disadvantaged students to build pathways to health occupations and access to quality care. Eligible entities include public health professions schools and other specified schools and entities.

Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP)

Funding from this program aims to boost the number of qualified nurse faculty. Accredited schools of nursing, including advanced education nursing programs, are eligible.

Other Programs

Area Health Education Centers (AHEC)

Funding to improve health care access through academic-community partnerships. Eligible entities include public or nonprofit private accredited schools of allopathic medicine and analogous institutions in osteopathic medicine, and accredited nursing schools in states where an AHEC program is not being implemented.

PROGRAMS TO WHICH ONLY SCHOOLS AND HEALTH CARE FACILITIES CAN APPLY

Only accredited schools of nursing and health care facilities (or a partnership between the two) can apply to the Nursing Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention (NEPQR) program. In most cases eligible health care facilities include only federally qualified health centers or nurse managed health clinics/centers, however the Workforce Expansion Program includes a wide range of eligible health care facilities.

Training and Career Development Programs

NEPQR Pathway to Registered Nurse Program (PRNP)	Aims to increase the number of nursing students trained in acute care.
NEPQR Registered Nurse Training Program (RNTP)	Aims to increase the number of nursing students trained in acute care.
NEPQR Workforce Expansion Program (WEP)	Aims to expand the nursing workforce in rural and underserved settings, focusing on acute and long-term care. Follow program link for a full list of eligible entities.
NEPQR Simulation Education Training (SET) Program	Supports experiential learning to support health in rural and high-need settings.
NEPQR Mobile Health Training Program (MHTP)	Supports nurse-led mobile units in rural and underserved locations.
NEPQR Clinical Faculty and Preceptor Academies Program (CFPA)	Supports the recruitment and training of clinical nursing faculty and preceptors to expand the nursing workforce.

PROGRAMS TO WHICH SCHOOLS, HEALTH CARE FACILITIES, AND OTHER GROUPS CAN APPLY

In addition to accredited schools of nursing and a range of health care facilities, other types of organizations can apply to these programs. These other organizations include state or local governments, private or public nonprofit entities that are deemed appropriate by the HHS Secretary, and in some cases, tribes and tribal organizations, and domestic faith-based or community-based organizations.

Workforce Expansion Programs

[Nursing Workforce Diversity \(NWD\)](#)

Supports projects that increase nursing education opportunities for individuals who are from disadvantaged backgrounds. Eligible entities include accredited nursing schools and other specified entities.

[Maternity Care Nursing Workforce Expansion \(MatCare\) Program](#)

Targets education and training in rural and underserved communities to support the maternal and perinatal health nursing workforce. Eligible entities include accredited nursing schools and other specified entities.

[Advanced Nursing Education Workforce \(ANEW\)](#)

Supports the training and graduation of advanced practice registered nursing (APRN) students/trainees to become primary care nurse practitioners, primary care clinical nurse specialists, and nurse midwives. Eligible entities include nursing schools, nursing centers, academic health centers, and other organizations.

[Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship \(NAT\)](#)

Supports traineeship for nurse anesthetists. Eligible programs include accredited nursing schools and other specified entities.

[Advanced Nursing Education - Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners \(ANE-SANE\)](#)

Aims to increase the number of RNs, advanced practice RNs, and forensic nurses trained and certified for sexual assault nurse examinations. Eligible entities include nursing schools, nursing centers, nurse-managed health clinics, and other organizations.

Residency and Fellowship Programs

[Advanced Nursing Education Nurse Practitioner Residency and Fellowship \(ANE-NPRF\) Program](#)

Supports new Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) to deliver primary care by supporting the establishment, expansion and/or enhancement of existing community-based Nurse Practitioner (NP) residency and fellowship training programs. Eligible entities include nursing schools, nursing centers, academic health centers, and other organizations.