



Bureau of Health Workforce

Health Resources & Services Administration

The **Bureau of Health Workforce** improves the health of underserved and vulnerable populations by strengthening the health workforce and connecting skilled professionals to communities in need.

We accomplish this by focusing on three priorities:

- Preparing a workforce that increases the number of diverse, culturally competent primary care providers representing various disciplines;
- Improving workforce distribution throughout the nation, particularly in underserved, rural, and tribal areas; and
- Transforming health care delivery by supporting innovative models of care that integrate health care services and disciplines.

Through scholarship, loan, and loan repayment programs, we help underserved communities recruit and retain primary health care providers. These programs include:

- [National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program](#) for primary care medical, dental, and mental and behavioral health clinicians;
- [National Health Service Corps Scholarship Program](#) for primary care medical and dental providers-in-training;
- [NURSE Corps Scholarship and Loan Repayment](#) programs for registered nurses and RN students;
- [Faculty Loan Repayment Program](#) for health professions faculty from disadvantaged backgrounds; and
- [Scholarship and Loan Programs](#) for health professions schools, which make scholarships and low-interest loans available to students with financial need.

We also strengthen the health workforce through health professions training, research, and management of the National Practitioner Data Bank and Shortage Designation.

- [Health Professions Training Grants](#) advance the education and training of a 21st century health workforce. They support primary care training programs to increase diversity, encourage clinicians to practice in underserved areas, and foster interprofessional training and practice.
- [National Center for Health Workforce Analysis](#) (NCHWA) examines issues impacting supply, demand, distribution, and education of the nation's health workforce and provides policymakers with the information necessary to make decisions regarding the health professions workforce and delivery of care.
- [The National Practitioner Data Bank](#) improves health care quality, protects the public, and reduces fraud and abuse by sharing information about past adverse actions by providers and suppliers with authorized health care entities.
- [Shortage Designation](#) designates Health Professional Shortage Areas and Medically Underserved Areas/Populations, which determine eligibility for federal programs including the Health Center and Rural Health Clinic Programs.

Our Fiscal Year 2016 appropriation is \$1.2 billion.

Visit the [Bureau of Health Workforce website](#) for more information.