

## Making a Match: Exploring Critical Shortage Facilities

As a NURSE Corps Scholar, you are required to serve at a Critical Shortage Facility with a primary care or mental HPSA score of 14 or above. While you are in training, think about the type of facility where you would like to practice to fulfill your service commitment. Take some time to explore the range of facilities that are available and determine which site would be a good match for you. For a complete list of eligible types of facilities, please refer to the Application and Program Guidance for the year you entered the program. Application and Program Guidance documents can be found [here](#).

### Eligible Health Care Facilities

- A. **Hospitals.** A hospital means an institution which is primarily engaged in providing, by or under the supervision of physicians, to inpatients, diagnostic and therapeutic services for medical and psychiatric diagnosis, treatment, and care of injured, disabled, or sick persons; or rehabilitation services for the rehabilitation of injured, disabled, or sick persons.

#### *Types of Hospitals include:*

1. **Critical Access Hospital (CAH).** A facility that is (a) located in a State that has established with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) a Medicare rural hospital flexibility program; (b) designated by the State as a CAH; (c) certified by the CMS as a CAH; and (d) in compliance with all applicable CAH conditions of participation. CAH-based outpatient clinics are included under this definition. For more information, please visit: <http://www.cms.gov/Center/Provider-Type/Critical-Access-Hospitals-Center.html>.
2. **Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH).** A hospital that has a disproportionately large share of low-income patients and receives an augmented payment from the State under Medicaid or a payment adjustment from Medicare. Hospital-based outpatient clinics are included under this definition. For more information, please visit: <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Servicepayment/AcuteInpatientPPS/dsh.html>.
3. **Public Hospital.** Any hospital that is owned by a government (Federal, State, or Local) and receives government funding and is primarily engaged in providing, by or under the supervision of physicians, to inpatients: (a) diagnostic and therapeutic services for

medical diagnosis, treatment, and care of injured, disabled, or sick persons; or (b) rehabilitation of injured, disabled, or sick persons. Hospital-based outpatient clinics are included under this definition.

4. **Private Hospital.** An institution that is primarily engaged in providing care, by or under the supervision of physicians, to inpatients: (a) diagnostic and therapeutic services for medical diagnosis, treatment, and care of injured, disabled, or sick persons, or (b) rehabilitation of injured, disabled, or sick persons. Hospital-based outpatient clinics, tribal facilities and veterans facilities are included under this definition.

## B. Health Centers

### *Types of Health Centers include:*

1. **Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC).** FQHCs include: (1) nonprofit entities that receive a grant, or funding from a grant, under section 330 of the Public Health Service Act to provide primary health services and other related services to a population that is medically underserved; (2) FQHC “Look-Alikes” which are nonprofit entities that are certified by the Secretary of HHS as meeting the requirements for receiving a grant under section 330 of the Public Health Service Act but are not grantees; and (3) outpatient health programs or facilities operated by a tribe or tribal organization under the Indian Self-Determination Act or by an urban Indian organization receiving funds under Title V of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act. FQHCs include Community Health Centers, Migrant Health Centers, Health Care for the Homeless Health Centers, and Public Housing Primary Care Health Centers. For more information, please visit: <http://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov>.
2. **Indian Health Service Health Center.** A health care facility (whether operated directly by the Indian Health Service or by a tribe or tribal organization, contractor or grantee under the Indian Self-Determination Act, as described in 42 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 136, Subparts C and H, or by an urban Indian organization receiving funds under Title V of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act) that is physically separated from a hospital, and which provides clinical treatment services on an outpatient basis to persons of Indian or Alaskan Native descent as described in 42 CFR Section 136.12. For more information, please visit: <http://www.ihs.gov>.
3. **Native Hawaiian Health Center.** An entity: (a) which is organized under the laws of the State of Hawaii; (b) which provides or arranges for health care services through practitioners licensed by the State of Hawaii, where licensure requirements are applicable; (c) which is a public or nonprofit private entity; and, (d) in which Native Hawaiian health practitioners significantly participate in the planning, management, monitoring, and evaluation of health services. For more information, please see the Native Hawaiian Health Care Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-579), as amended by Public Law 102-396, and <http://healthfinder.gov/orgs/HR3600.htm>.

4. **Rural Health Clinic.** An entity that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has certified as a rural health clinic under section 1861(aa)(2) of the Social Security Act. A rural health clinic provides outpatient services to a non-urban area with an insufficient number of health care practitioners. For more information, please visit: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/center/rural.asp>.
  5. **State or Local Public Health or Human Services Department.** The State, county, parish, or district entity that is responsible for providing healthcare services which include health promotion, disease prevention, and intervention services in clinics or other health care facilities that are funded and operated by the health department.
  6. **Nurse Managed Health Clinic/Center.** Nurse-managed health clinics/centers are community-based health centers. They are either independent non-profit entities, or they are affiliated with schools of nursing and provide a full range of health services, including primary care, health promotion, and disease prevention, to low-income, underinsured, and uninsured clients.
  7. **Urgent Care Center.** Urgent Care centers are setup to assist patients with an illness or injury that does not appear to be life-threatening, but also can't wait until the next day, or for primary care doctor to see them.
  8. **Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs).** A health care facility that meets the basic standards of Section 223(a) of the PAM Act and certified by the State. These standards fall into six areas: staffing, availability and accessibility of services, care coordination, scope of services, quality and other reporting, and organizational authority. Certified Community Mental Health Centers also fall under this definition.
- C. **End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Dialysis Centers** - An ESRD facility is an entity that provides outpatient maintenance dialysis services, or home dialysis training and support services, or both. ESRD facilities are classified in Section 1881 of the Act and codified in 42 CFR 413.174 as being either hospital-based or independent facilities.
- D. **Ambulatory Surgical Center.** An entity that operates exclusively for the purpose of furnishing surgical services to patients who do not require hospitalization and in which the expected duration of services does not exceed 24 hours following admission.
- E. **Residential Nursing Home.** An institution that is primarily engaged in providing, on a regular basis, health related care and service to individuals who because of their mental or physical condition require care and service (above the level of room and board) that can be made available to them only through institutional facilities. This definition includes skilled nursing facilities, transitional facilities, assisted living and group homes.
- F. **Home Health Agency.** An agency or organization, certified under section 1861(o) of the Social Security Act that is primarily engaged in providing skilled nursing care and other

therapeutic services. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.cms.gov/Center/Provider-Type/Home-Health-Agency-HHA-Center.html>.

- G. **Hospice Program.** An agency or organization, certified under section 1861(dd)(2) of the Social Security Act, that provides 24-hour care and treatment services (as needed) to terminally ill individuals and bereavement counseling for their immediate family members. This care is provided in individuals' homes, on an outpatient basis, and on a short-term inpatient basis, directly or under arrangements made by the agency or organization. For more information, please visit: <http://www.cms.gov/Center/Provider-Type/Hospice-Center.html>.