



# NHSC Updates

## National Advisory Council Meeting

January 14, 2020

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Division of National Health Service Corps (DNHSC)  
Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW)  
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)





# National Advisory Council Meeting *Agenda*

- NHSC Program Overview
- FY19 Success
- FY20 Priorities
- Open Discussion Q&A





# NHSC Program Overview

## *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.
- We approach our grant awards, loan repayment, and scholarship programs as a continuum of education, training and service.
- Following this approach, we work to create a well-distributed and robust workforce supply of diverse, culturally competent health professionals who provide quality health care in high-need areas of the U.S. and its territories.
- Specifically, our scholarship and loan repayment programs help underserved communities recruit and retain primary health care providers.

**28%** of BHW funding supports the NHSC and other programs that improve the distribution of health professionals to underserved areas.





# NHSC Program Overview

## *Mission*

- **The National Health Service Corps (NHSC)** builds healthy communities by supporting qualified health care providers dedicated to working in areas of the United States and its territories with limited access to primary health care, regular dental, behavioral health care, and preventive screenings.
- **NHSC clinicians improve access to these crucial services** by practicing in health professional shortage areas across the country.
- **In exchange for their service in high-need areas, NHSC offers scholarship or loan repayment funding** that helps pay off their health profession student loan debt.



# NHSC Program Overview

## *Impact of the NHSC*

*More than*

**13,000**

*NHSC members are currently providing care to more than*

**13.7 million**

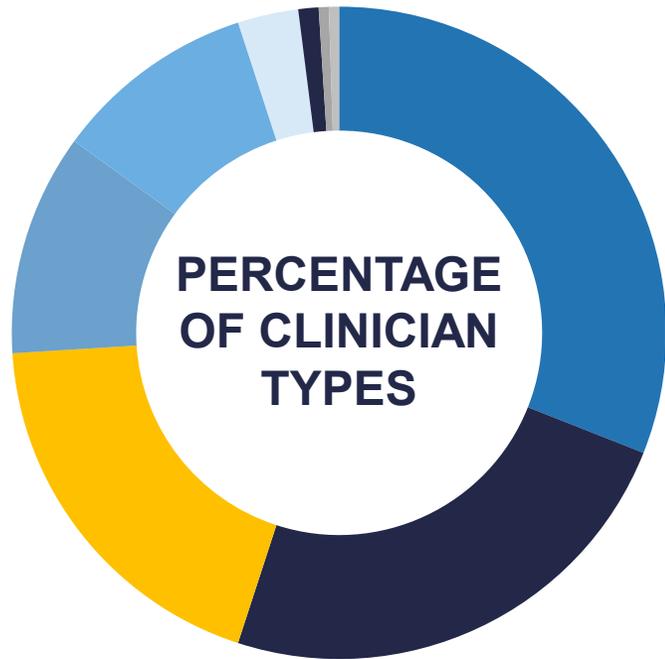
*people in the U.S.*

Many NHSC members continue to serve in areas of greatest need up to two years after completing their service obligation



# NHSC Program Overview

## Field Strength breakout



- 29% Behavioral Health Providers
- 24% Nurse Practitioners
- 19% Physicians
- 11% Dentists
- 10% Physician Assistants
- 3% Registered Hygienists
- 1% Nurse Midwives
- .5% \*Registered Nurses
- .5% \*Pharmacists

\*New disciplines added with SUD Workforce LRP and Rural Community LRP



# NHSC Program Overview

## *Loan Repayment Programs*

- **Traditional (2-yr) Loan Repayment Program (LRP):**

Offers priority funding to applicants who work at NHSC-approved sites in high-need areas, as defined by a HPSA score

- **Loan Repayment Program Continuations:**

Loan repayment to qualified NHSC participants in exchange for an additional year of service. In FY19, NHSC provided up to \$5,000 in additional award enhancements to providers capable of providing MAT services to underserved communities.

- **Substance Use Disorder Workforce LRP: (New)**

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

- **Rural Community Loan Repayment Program: (New)**

Expands and improves access to quality opioid and substance use disorder treatment in rural areas, with a priority



- **Scholarship Program:**

provides scholarships to students pursuing careers in primary care in exchange for at least two years of service in a high-need area

- **Students to Service:**

provides loan repayment in exchange for three years of full-time clinical practice at an approved HPSA

- **State Loan Repayment Program:**

provides cost-sharing grants to states and territories to operate their own loan repayment programs for primary care providers working in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA)



# NHSC Program Overview: *NHSC Approved Sites*

## NHSC-Approved Sites

- NHSC clinicians serve at approved sites throughout the nation.
- NHSC-approved sites are outpatient facilities providing primary care medical, dental, and/or mental and behavioral health services.
- The facility may be located in a rural, urban or tribal community.
- To apply to become an NHSC site, the facility must be an eligible site type and meet applicable requirements.





# NHSC Program Overview:

## *NHSC Approved Sites*

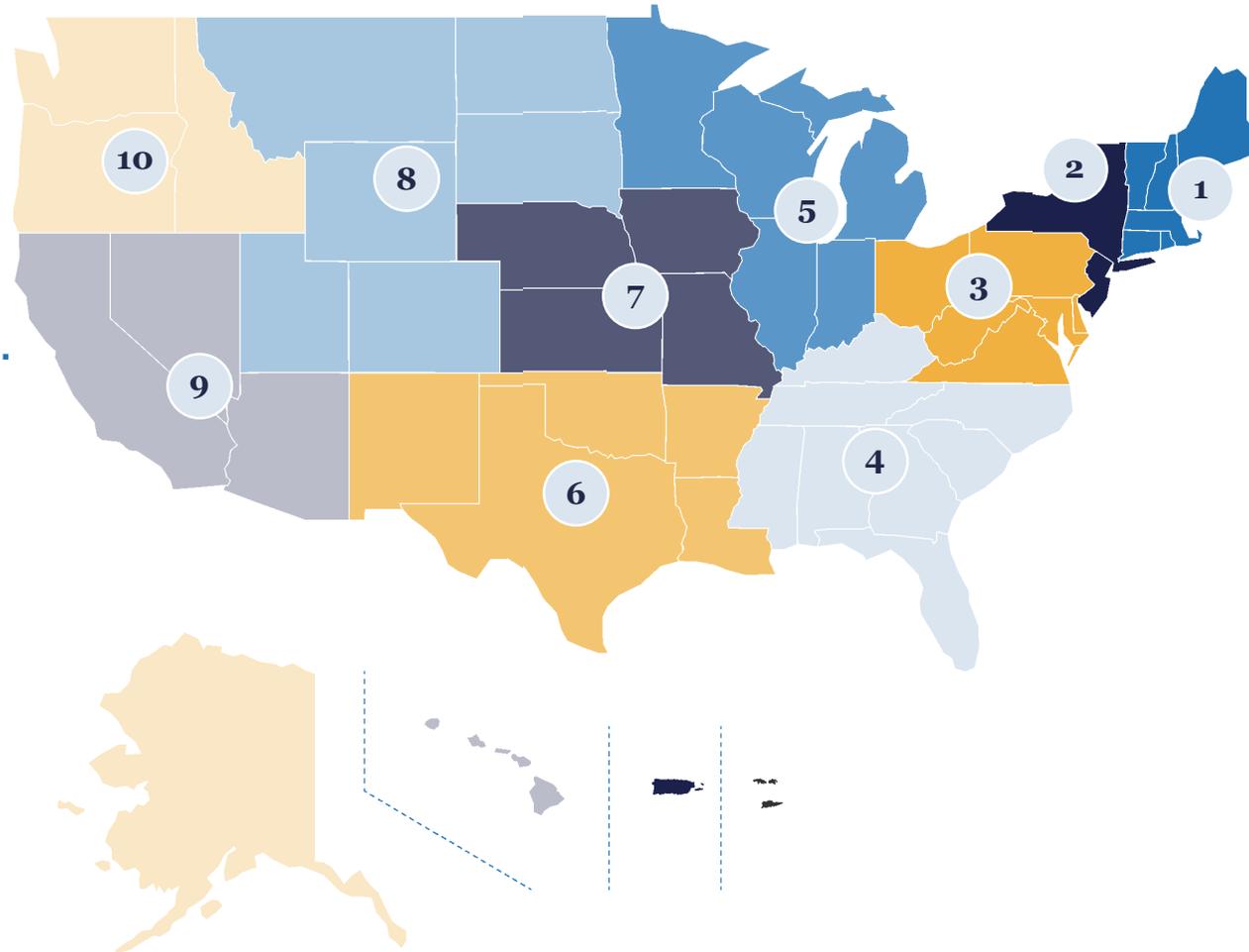
### NHSC Eligible Site Types

- Federally Qualified Health Centers
  - Community Health Center
  - Migrant Health
  - Homeless Program
  - Public Housing Program
  - School-Based Program
  - Mobile Clinic
- FQHC Look-Alikes
- Indian Health Service Facilities
- Certified Rural Health Clinics
- Correctional or Detention Facilities  
(Federal/State/Immigration and Customs Enforcement)
- Critical Access Hospitals
- Community Mental Health Centers
- State or Local Health Departments
- Community Outpatient Facilities
  - Hospital Affiliated
  - Non-Hospital Affiliated
- Private Practices (Solo & Group Practice)
- School-Based Clinics
- Mobile Clinics
- Free Clinics
- Substance Use Disorder Treatment Facilities

# NHSC Program Overview: *Regional Support*

## Support for Providers

- Support for you in your region
- Dedicated BHW staff located in 10 regional offices provide dedicated contacts for your area.
- Find your contact on the NHSC website



## Regions

- 1 Boston
- 2 New York
- 3 Philadelphia
- 4 Atlanta
- 5 Chicago
- 6 Dallas
- 7 Kansas City
- 8 Denver
- 9 San Francisco
- 10 Seattle

# FY19 Success



# FY19 Success: NHSC Applications and Awards in 2019

## Loan Repayment Program

FY 2019



\*Applications Received

**11,457**

\*New Awards

**6,397**

*\*Figure includes LRP and LRP continuations*

## Students to Service

FY 2019



Applications Received

**183**

New Awards

**127**

## State Loan Repayment Program

CURRENT



Awards Made to

**40**

States

**1**

Washington D.C.

**1**

U.S. Territory

## Scholarship Program

FY 2019



Applications Received

**1,877**

New Awards

**211**

# FY19 Success: *SUD Workforce Loan Repayment Program*

*Expands and improves access to quality opioid and substance use disorder treatment in underserved areas nationwide*



**1,074 AWARDS in FY19  
FOR A 3-YEAR SERVICE  
COMMITMENT**

- Must be trained and licensed to provide SUD treatment at NHSC-approved SUD treatment facilities

# FY19 Success:

## *Rural Community Loan Repayment Program*

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



**174 AWARDS** in FY19  
**FOR A 3-YEAR SERVICE COMMITMENT**

- Must be trained and licensed to provide SUD treatment at NHSC-approved rural SUD treatment facilities.



# *FY19 Success: Indian and Tribal Health Workforce*

- In FY19, we received an additional \$15M dedicated to the IHS health workforce
- Awards we made to all eligible applicants serving in a Indian Health or 638 Tribal Health Facility in FY19
- Partnered with the IHS Loan Repayment Program to optimize awards



# FY19 Success: Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Training

We partnered with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Providers Clinical Support System (PCSS) to connect clinicians to free MAT training.



*Helps increase the number of Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 (DATA 2000) Waiver-certified clinicians in high-need communities.*



[nhsc.hrsa.gov/mat-training](https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/mat-training)

## Why should you complete MAT training to obtain a DATA 2000 waiver?

- Be a part of the solution to our nation's opioid epidemic.
- Help increase access to comprehensive SUD treatment in rural and underserved areas.
- Be a priority applicant for some NHSC programs.

## Are you eligible for the free training?

You are eligible for MAT training (and the waiver) if you have an active \*Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) number to dispense controlled substances and are one of the following:

- **Physician (MD/DO)**
- **Nurse practitioner (NP)**
- **Physician assistant (PA)**
- **Certified nurse-midwife (CNM)**

\*Applying for your DEA number only takes a few moments. Visit <https://apps.dea diversion.usdoj.gov/webforms/> to learn more.

# FY20 Priorities





# FY20 Priorities for the NHSC

## FY20 Priorities

1. Operationalizing Characteristics Likely to Remain in a HPSA
2. Dedicate Support to the NHSC Pipeline
3. Optimize data collection and utilization





# Priorities for FY20: Operationalize Characteristics Likely to Remain in a HPSA

## ➤ Identifying BHW Program linkages

(e.g. Primary Care Training and Enhancement Fellowships, Teaching Health Center GME, NP Residency, etc.)

## ➤ Enhancing data collection via program applications

(e.g. clinician tracker, post graduate training data, telehealth)

## ➤ Establishing a framework that outlines the value of a NHSC clinician





# Priorities for FY20: Dedicate support to the NHSC pipeline

## ➤ Explore discipline expansion for our Scholarship and S2S programs

(e.g. NP residency)

## ➤ Evaluate the readiness of new providers serving in the NHSC

(e.g. Scholars and S2S participants)

## ➤ Increase NHSC scholar engagement

(e.g. Technical Assistance, Virtual Job Fairs, Health Workforce Connector)



# Priorities for FY20: Dedicate support to the NHSC pipeline

## Health Workforce Connector (HWC)

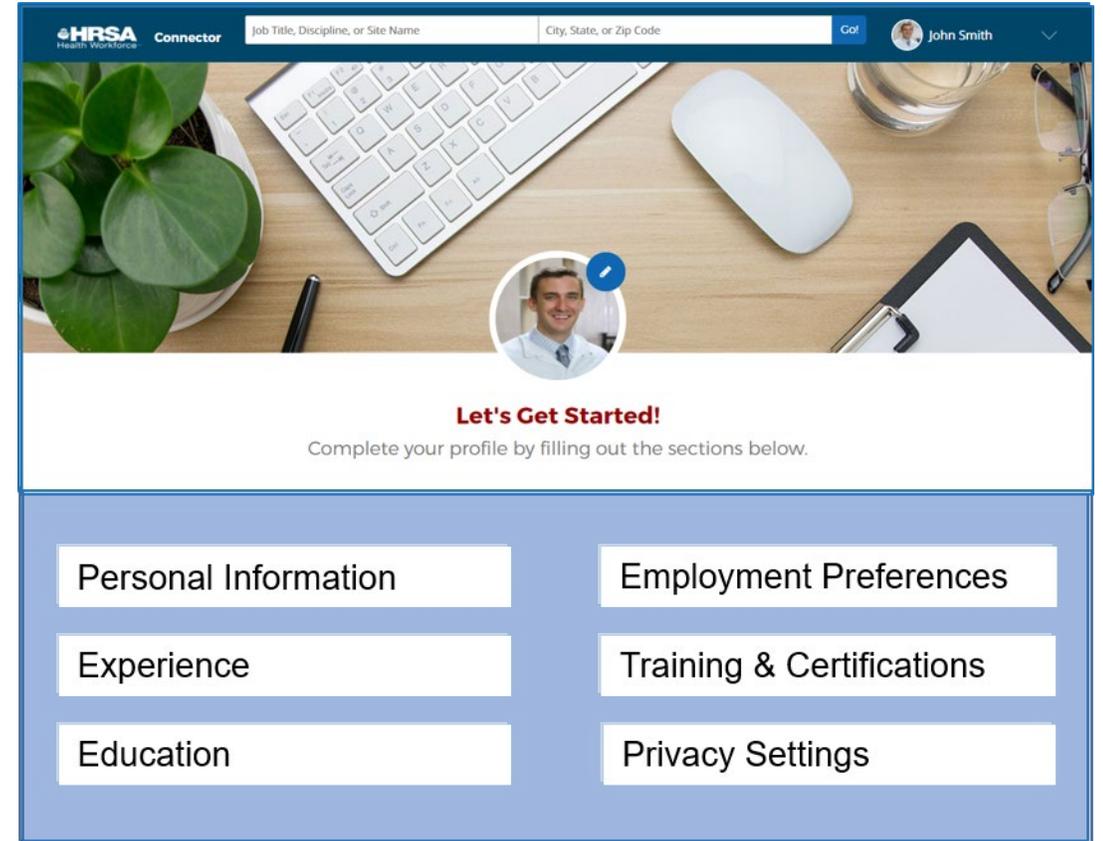
- View job vacancies at thousands of NHSC- and Nurse Corps-approved sites nationwide.
- Google Maps technology allows users to view the surrounding community (e.g., schools, restaurants, parks, places of worship, shops)
- Narrow your job search by:
  - Field of Practice
  - Specialty
  - HPSA Score
  - Site Name
  - Zip Code
  - Sites with Open Positions



# Priorities for FY20: Dedicate support to the NHSC pipeline

## Health Workforce Connector (HWC) Profiles

- Health Workforce Connector provides a free service for primary medical, dental and behavioral health job seekers to: upload a resume or CV, credential documents, personal information and search for jobs in underserved areas throughout the nation.
- Verified recruiters and site administrators can search for potential candidates from a database of job seeker profiles, including NHSC and Nurse Corps participants.

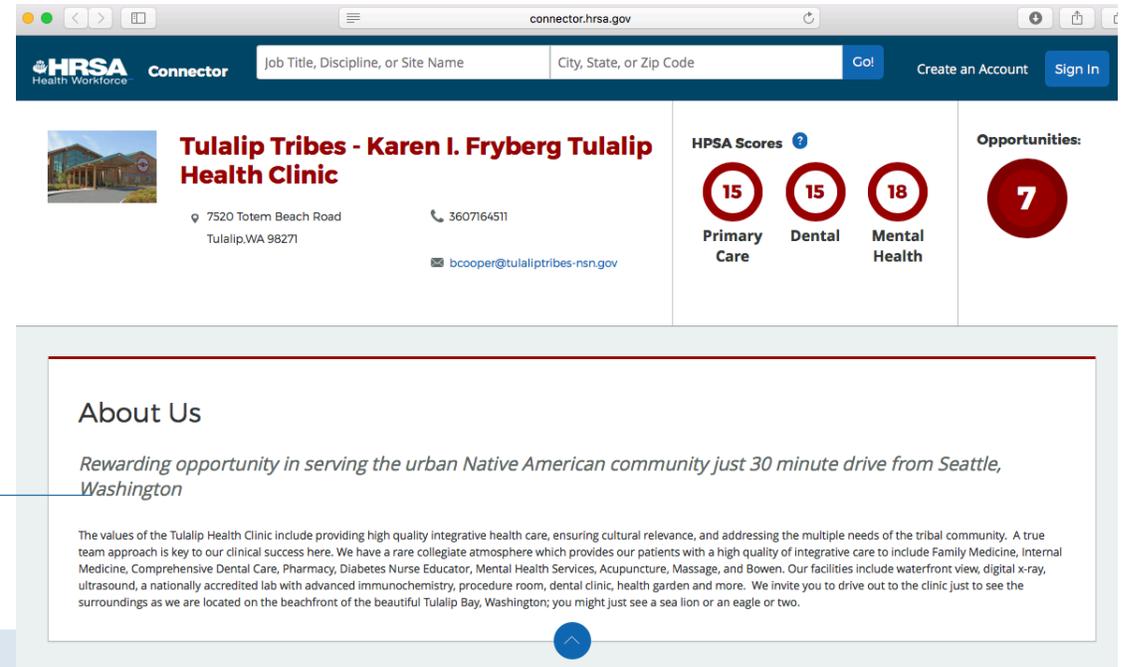


## Health Workforce Connector Site Profiles

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



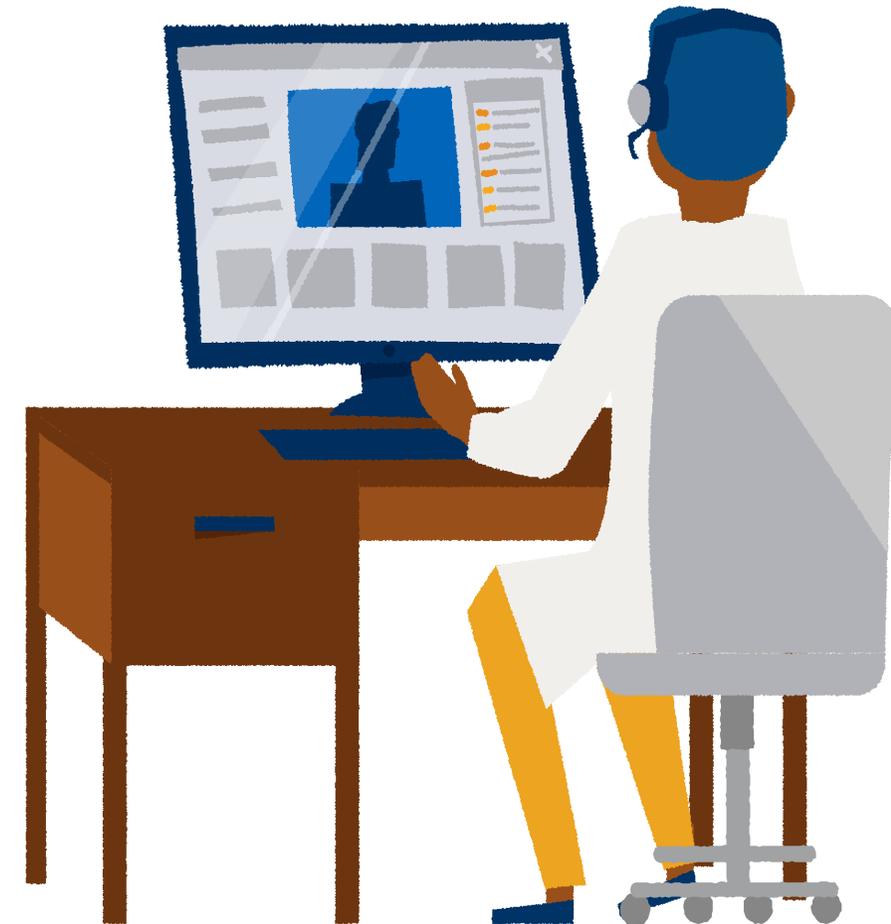
# Priorities for FY20: Dedicate support to the NHSC pipeline

## What Is A Virtual Job Fair?

Virtual Job Fairs offer an innovative way for NHSC- and Nurse Corps-approved sites 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





# Priorities for FY20: Optimizing data collection and utilization

## ➤ Evaluate the applicants who apply to NHSC programs

(e.g. the migration patterns of NHSC applicants and its influence on training and employment)

## ➤ Engaging in predictive analytics

## ➤ Laying the foundation for NHSC outcomes



# Questions





# Support & Resources

## Contact Us

- **Israil Ali, Director**
- Division of National Health Service Corps (DNHSC)
- Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW)
- Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
- Phone: 1-800-221-9393 (Customer Care Center); M-F, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET, except federal holidays

Web <http://nhsc.hrsa.gov>

Virtual Job Fair: <http://jobfair.hrsa.gov>

Health Workforce Connector: <http://connector.hrsa.gov/>

 Facebook: <http://facebook.com/nationalhealthservicecorps>

 Twitter: <http://twitter.com/NHSCorps>

 LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/company/national-health-service-corps>



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