RURAL HEALTH WORKSHOP

Louisiana Primary Care Office
Louisiana Primary Care Office Sessions

Objectives

• Learn about Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) Designations
• Learn about the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Loan and Scholarship Program
• Learn about the State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)
• Learn about the Conrad 30 (J-1 Visa) Waiver Program
• Learn about the National Interest Waiver Program
• Learn about the Small Town Health Professional Tax Credit Program
Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs)
HPSA Designations

• Designation given to an area that is considered underserved with health providers compared to the population
• Preliminary approved and submitted by this office to the Federal Office of Shortage Designation, who gives final approval
• Multiple programs use HPSA designations as a requirement (grants, loan repayment, J-1 Visa waiver, etc.)
94% of Louisiana is designated as a Primary Care HPSA
90% of Louisiana is designated as a Dental Health HPSA
100% of Louisiana is designated as a Mental Health HPSA
National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Loan and Scholarship Program
National Health Service Corps (NHSC)

- Awards scholarships to students training to become healthcare workers
- Pay school loans for current primary healthcare workers
- Three key programs:
  - Loan Repayment Program
  - Scholarship Program
  - Student to Service Loan Repayment Program
NHSC Loan Repayment Program

• Service Commitment
  • Full-Time Option:
    • 2 years of full-time service (minimum 40 hours/week, 45 weeks/year) at an NHSC-approved site.
  • Half-Time Option:
    • 2 years of half-time service (minimum 20 hours/week, 45 weeks/year) at an NHSC-approved site.

• Financial Benefits

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<tr>
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<th>2 Years Full-Time</th>
<th>2 Years Half-Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sites with HPSA Score of 14-26</td>
<td>Up to $50,000</td>
<td>Up to $25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sites with HPSA Score of 0-13</td>
<td>Up to $30,000</td>
<td>Up to $15,000</td>
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NHSC Scholarship Program

• Service Commitment
  • 1-year service commitment per scholarship year or partial scholarship year; 2-year minimum and 4-year maximum

• Financial Benefits
  • Funding for a maximum of 4 years:
    • Tuition
    • Required fees
    • Reasonable educational costs
    • Monthly support stipend
NHSC Student to Service Loan Repayment Program

• Service Commitment
  • Upon completion of residency, years of full-time or 6 years of half-time service:
    • Full-Time Clinical Practice—no less than 40 hours per week, for a minimum of 45 weeks a year
    • Half-Time Clinical Practice—no less than 20 hours per week (not to exceed 39 hours per week), for a minimum of 45 weeks per year

• Financial Benefits
  • Loan repayment assistance up to $120,000 with 3 years of full-time or 6 years of half-time service
NHSC Loan and Scholarship Program

- Participants in these programs are located in 114 NHSC sites across Louisiana.

- National Health Service Corp-Loan Repayment
  - Louisiana currently has 164 health professionals participating in this program

- NHSC Student to Service Loan Repayment Program
  - Louisiana currently has 4 health professionals participating in this program

- NHSC Scholarship Program
  - Louisiana currently has 5 health professionals participating in this program
State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)
State Loan Repayment Program

• Encourages primary care practitioners to serve in HPSAs
• Eligible primary care practitioners include dentists (DDS or DMD) and physicians (allopathic or osteopathic) who have completed a residency in
  • Family Practice
  • General Practice
  • Obstetrics/Gynecology
  • Internal Medicine
  • Pediatrics
  • General Psychiatry
State Loan Repayment Program

• Physicians and Dentists
  • Up to $30,000 annually
  • Three (3) year initial commitment

• Other Healthcare Professionals
  • Up to $15,000 annually
  • Three (3) year initial commitment

• The next application cycle should open April 1, 2021
Conrad 30 (J-1 Visa) Waiver Program
J-1 Visa

• Exchange Visitor Visa
• Obtained by international medical graduates who enter the U.S. to complete their medical education through residency or fellowship programs
• Terms of the Visa stipulate the healthcare professional must return to his/her home country to practice for at least two years before petitioning for re-entry into the U.S.
Conrad 30 (J-1 Visa Waiver) Program

• Practice Areas: Primary Care (Pediatrics, OB/GYN, Internal Medicine, Family Practice, General Practice Geriatrics, and Psychiatry)
• Physicians must have completed a US residency in primary care
• Physicians must work in HPSA
  • Louisiana will consider FLEX applicants for a facility not in a HPSA so long as 30% or more of the patients served are residents of the HPSA
Small Town Health Professional Tax Credit Program
Small Town Health Professional Tax Credit Program

• Small Town Health Professionals credits provides an individual income tax for certain healthcare professionals
  • Licensed Primary Care Physicians
  • Primary Care Nurse Practitioners
  • Primary Care Physician Assistants
  • Licensed Dentists
  • Optometrists

• The healthcare professional must establish and maintain their primary office within a HPSA
Small Town Health Professional Tax Credit Program

• 2018 Application Cycle:
  • 262 applications were received
  • 160 applications were approved
  • $576,000 in tax credits were awarded

• 2019 Application Cycle:
  • 311 applications were received
  • 284 applications were approved
  • $1,022,400 in tax credits were awarded

• 2020 Application Cycle:
  • NOW OPEN
Rural Recruitment and Retention Network (3RNet)
Rural Recruitment and Retention Network

- Louisiana’s Rural Recruitment and Retention Network (3RNet) connects healthcare professionals with job opportunities in rural and underserved communities.

- Primary Care Office
  - Works with Rural Health Clinics and FQHCs in developing and posting job opportunities.
  - Provides technical assistance to healthcare professionals in establishing a profile and posting a CV on the site.
3RNet Impact Statement (1/1-9/21/20)

Jobs posted/updated: 93
Jobs active: 47
Jobs viewed: 2889

Location page viewed: 1680
Candidates logged in: 4220
New candidates: 847

Employers active: 110
New employers: 8
Referrals through 3RNet: 400
Contact

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Thank You!

WELL-AHEAD