# **Subject: Expanded Loan Repayment and Scholarship Options for Nurses**

# **More Options for Nurses!**

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW) is excited to announce new updates for its NURSE Corps Programs. Beginning in 2016, additional site types will become eligible for the NURSE Corps Loan Repayment and Scholarship Programs.

NURSE Corps members who are fulfilling their service obligation earn competitive pay and benefits negotiated with their employers, which could be any of thousands of hospitals, clinics and other facilities located in designated Health Professional Shortage Areas across the U.S. All eligible site types are listed below:

#### Eligible Nurse Corps Site Types in 2016

- Critical Access Hospital (CAH)
- Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH)
- Public Hospital
- Private Hospital
- Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)
- Indian Health Service Health Center
- Native Hawaiian Health Center
- Rural Health Clinic
- State or Local Public Health or Human Services Department
- Nurse Managed Health Clinic/Center
- Urgent Care Center
- Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHSs)
- End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Dialysis Centers
- Ambulatory Surgical Center
- Residential Nursing Home\*
- Home Health Agency
- Hospice Program

Registered nurses and advanced practice nurses currently employed at one of the site types listed above may be eligible to apply for the NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Program, which is scheduled to open in January 2016.

The NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Program helps alleviate the shortage of nurses across the country by offering loan repayment assistance to registered nurses and advance practice nurses, such as nurse practitioners working at Critical Shortage facilities, and nurse faculty employed at accredited schools of nursing. Program participants receive repayment of up to 60 percent of their qualifying student loans in exchange for a 2-year service commitment – plus an additional 25 percent of their original loan balance for an optional third year.

<u>The NURSE Corps Scholarship Program</u> helps students complete their nursing education by paying tuition, fees, and other education costs, while providing a monthly living stipend. The program is open to full or part-time nursing students accepted or enrolled in diploma, associate, baccalaureate, or graduate nursing programs at accredited schools located in the U.S. Upon

<sup>\*</sup>Includes: skilled nursing facilities, transitional facilities, assisted living and group homes.

graduation, scholarship program participants fulfill a minimum two-year service commitment at a Critical Shortage Facility.

Below are program resources you can share with potential NURSE Corps Loan Repayment and Scholarship applicants to help them prepare for application cycles scheduled to open in January and March, 2016, respectively. For your reference, the <a href="2016 Application Bulletin">2016 Application Bulletin</a> summarizes BHW loan repayment and scholarship opportunities, including the NURSE Corps Programs.

## **Loan Repayment Resources:**

- NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Program Factsheet
- NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Application Checklist

## **Scholarship Program Resources:**

- NURSE Corps Scholarship Program Factsheet
- NURSE Scholarship Program Application Checklist

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