

12900, 13021, and 13125, a funding priority will be given to approved applicants who devote significant resources to provide community-based training experiences designed to improve access to health care services in underserved areas; these applicants include Asian-American and Pacific Islander Serving Institutions, Hispanic Serving Institutions, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges, and Universities serving American Indians and Alaska Natives, or an institution that collaborates with one or more of the above listed institutions.

Based on House Report 107-229 and Senate Report 107-084, a funding priority will be given to approved applicants who educate and train allied health professionals experiencing shortage in the areas of medical technology, cytotechnology, genetic counseling and/or emergency preparedness.

Funding Preferences: As provided in section 791(a) of the Public Health Service Act, preference will be given to any approved applicant that: (1) Has a high rate for placing graduates in practice settings having the focus of serving residents of medically underserved communities; or (2) during the 2-year period preceding the fiscal year for which such an award is sought, has achieved a significant increase in the rate of placing graduates in such settings. This statutory general preference will only be applied to applications that rank above the 20th percentile of applications recommended for approval by the peer review group. A preference will be given to those new programs that meet at least four of the criteria described in section 791(c)(3) of the Public Health Service Act concerning medically underserved communities and populations so that new applicants may also compete equitably.

Estimated Amount of This Competition: \$1,500,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 13.

Estimated Project Period: 3 years.

HRSA-04-027 Allied Health Projects (AHPG) *

Application Availability Date: September 29, 2003.

Application Deadline: January 13, 2004.

Projected Award Date: July 1, 2004.

Program Contact Person: Young Song.

Program Contact Phone: 301-443-3353.

Program Contact E-mail: ysong@hrsa.gov.

Special Programs—Loan Repayments and Scholarships

National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program (NHSCLP)

CFDA: 93.162.

Legislative Authority: Public Health Service Act, Title III, Sections 338B-E, 42 U.S.C. 2541-1-2540.

Purpose: The purpose of the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Loan Repayment Program (LRP) is to ensure an adequate supply of health professionals to provide primary health services (through a culturally competent, interdisciplinary team of clinicians) to populations located in health professional shortage areas (HPSAs) identified by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. HPSAs can be found in rural and urban communities across the Nation. The NHSC LRP recruits health professionals who agree to provide primary health services in approved NHSC community sites. In return, the NHSC LRP assists clinicians in their repayment of qualifying educational loans. The NHSC is seeking clinicians who demonstrate interest in serving the Nation's medically underserved populations and remaining in HPSAs beyond their service commitment. Additional information on the NHSC may be found at <http://nhsc.bhpr.hrsa.gov.htm>.

Eligibility: An applicant for the NHSC LRP must be a citizen or national of the United States and must: (1)(A) have a degree in medicine, osteopathic medicine, dentistry, or other health profession, an appropriate degree from a graduate program in behavioral or mental health, or be certified as a nurse midwife, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant; (B) be enrolled in an approved graduate training program in medicine, osteopathic medicine, dentistry, behavioral and mental health, or other health profession; or (C) be enrolled as a full-time student in an accredited educational institution in a State, and in the final year of a course of study or program, offered by such institution and approved by the Secretary, leading to a degree in medicine, osteopathic medicine, dentistry, or other health profession; (2) be eligible for, or hold, an appointment as a commissioned officer in the Regular or Reserve Corps of the Public Health Service or be eligible for selection for civilian service in the NHSC; and (3) submit to the Secretary an application for a contract relating to the payment by the Secretary of the educational loans of the individual in consideration of the individual serving for an obligated period of time. Applicants should be in

final negotiations or have secured employment at an eligible community site, and must not have any other service obligations, and must meet the other eligibility criteria set forth in the application kit.

Review Criteria: Final review criteria are included in the application kit.

Funding Priorities: In accordance with Section 338B(d) of the Public Health Service Act, priority will be given to (A) applicants whose health professions training is needed by the NHSC (needed disciplines will be identified in the application kit), (B) applicants who have characteristics that increase the probability of their continuing to practice in HPSAs after they have completed service, and (C) subject to paragraph (B), applicants from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Administrative Funding Preference: An administrative funding preference will be given to applicants serving HPSAs of greatest need.

Estimated Amount of This

Competition: \$111,500,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 1643.

Estimated Project Period: 2 years.

National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program (NHSCLP)

Application Availability Date:

November 1, 2003.

Application Deadline: March 26, 2004.

Projected Award Date: September 1, 2004.

Program Contact Person: Kay Cook.

Program Contact Phone: (301) 594-4403.

Program Contact E-Mail: kcook@hrsa.gov.

National Health Service Corps Scholarship Program (NHSC)

CFDA: 93.288.

Legislative Authority: Public Health Service Act, Title III, Section 338A, C-H, 42 U.S.C. 2541, m-q.

Purpose: The purpose of the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Scholarship Program (SP) is to ensure an adequate supply of health professionals to provide primary health services (through a culturally competent, interdisciplinary team of clinicians) to populations located in health professional shortage areas (HPSAs) identified by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. HPSAs can be found in rural and urban communities across the Nation. The NHSC provides scholarships to full-time students of allopathic (MD) and osteopathic (DO) medicine, dentistry, family nurse practitioner, nurse midwifery, and physician assistant education. The