

HRSA Workforce Grant Opportunities for Children's Hospitals

In early 2024, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) provided insights into the [agency's grant programs](#) that can support children's hospitals' clinical workforce [in a webinar for CHA member hospitals](#). The grant programs highlighted in the webinar focus on training the next generation of nurses, physicians and other providers, and supporting hospitals' programs to recruit and retain those providers. This chart provides a snapshot of the key grant opportunities highlighted by HRSA to support children's hospitals' non-physician clinical workforce.

- [Nurse Corps Loan Repayment Program](#)
- [Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention \(NEPQR\): Interprofessional Collaborative Practice](#)
 - NEPQR – Behavioral Health Integration
 - NEPQR – Pathway to Registered Nurse Program (PRNP)
 - Clinical Faculty and Preceptor Academies (NEPQR-CFPA) Program
- [Nursing Workforce Diversity \(NWD\) Program](#)
- [Advanced Nursing Education Workforce \(ANEW\) Program](#)
- [Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training \(BHWET\)](#)
 - BHWET – General Program
 - BHWET – Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults (BHWET-CAY)
- [Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship](#)
- [Community Health Worker Training Program \(CHWTP\)](#)

For more information, contact [Jan Kaplan](#).

| Grant Program | Purpose | Use of Funds | Eligibility | Grant Amount |
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| Nurse Corps Loan Repayment Program | <p>Offers Registered Nurses and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses financial assistance to repay qualifying educational loans in exchange for full-time service either at a Critical Shortage Facility or an eligible school of nursing.</p> | <p>Pays up to 85% of unpaid nursing education debt for registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, and nurse faculty.</p> | <p>Nurses who receive an award, must work for two years in either a Critical Shortage Facility (CSF) or an eligible nursing school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A CSF is a health care facility (including children’s hospitals) located in, designated as, or serving a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA). | <p>Approx. \$65M was available to fund 1081 loan repayment awards in 2024.</p> <p>Applications for 2024 closed on March 7, 2024.</p> |
| <p>Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention (NEPQR): Interprofessional Collaborative Practice</p> | | | | |
| NEPQR – Behavioral Health Integration | <p>To increase access to, and the quality of, behavioral health services by supporting team-based care models in nurse-led primary care teams in rural or underserved areas.</p> | <p>Grant funds must be used to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the training of the current and future nursing workforce. • To strengthen their ability to provide integrated behavioral health care services in primary care settings through academic-practice partnerships. | <p>Accredited schools of nursing and health care facilities, or a partnership of schools of nursing and a health care facility.</p> | <p>Approx. \$8.5M was available to fund 17 awards in FY 2020.</p> <p>Last grants were awarded July 2020, and the cycle ended in June 2023.</p> |

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| <p><u>NEPQR – Pathway to Registered Nurse Program (PRNP)</u></p> | <p>To create a pathway from academic training to clinical practice through the creation and implementation of licensed practical nurse/licensed vocational nurse to registered nurse (LPN/LVN-to-RN) bridge programs and employment of clinical nurse faculty.</p> | <p>Grant funds can be used for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program development -- to develop and implement or enhance an accredited LPN/LVN-to-RN Bridge program. • Direct Support for LPN/LVN-to-RN students – to provide stipends, tuition, and other social supports (e.g., transportation and childcare assistance). • Curriculum and Partnership Development – to develop curriculum and build/enhance/maintain partnerships between clinical and educational institutions. • Preceptor/Faculty – to recruit, retain, and develop clinical and didactic faculty and clinical preceptors. | <p>Accredited schools of nursing, including community colleges that train associate degree nurses; health care facilities, or a partnership of a nursing school and health care facility.</p> | <p>Approx \$8.9M was available to fund 8 awards in 2023.</p> <p>Last grants were awarded August 2023, and the cycle ends in July 2027.</p> |
| <p><u>(NEPQR-CFPA) – Clinical Faculty and Preceptor Academies Program</u></p> | <p>To prepare nurses to serve as nursing clinical faculty and preceptors to newly hired or transitioning licensed nurses in a variety of care settings in rural and underserved areas.</p> | <p>Supports the creation of academies, consisting of academic-clinical-community partnerships, that develop and implement formal nurse education training curriculum for clinical nursing faculty and preceptors.</p> | <p>Accredited schools of nursing, health care facilities, or a partnership of accredited nursing schools and a health care facility.</p> | <p>Approx. \$10M was available for 10 awards.</p> <p>Last grants were awarded September 2022, and the cycle ends in September 2026.</p> |

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| <p><u>Nursing Workforce Diversity (NWD) Program</u></p> | <p>To expand and support a workforce to provide quality, culturally-aligned care to rural and underserved communities in need.</p> | <p>Supports projects that increase nursing education opportunities for individuals who are from disadvantaged backgrounds (including racial and ethnic minorities underrepresented among registered nurses).</p> | <p>Accredited schools of nursing, nursing centers, academic health centers, state or local governments, and other private or public non-profit entities.</p> | <p>Approx. \$16M was available to fund 32 grantees.</p> <p>Last grants were awarded July 2021, and the cycle ends in June 2025.</p> |
| <p><u>Advanced Nursing Education Workforce (ANEW) Program</u></p> | <p>To increase the number of primary care nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, and certified nurse midwives trained and prepared to provide primary care services, mental health and substance use disorder care, and/or maternal health care.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grants support the training and graduation of advanced practice registered nursing students/trainees in these disciplines. • Awardees provide tuition and other eligible supports to trainees, build academic-clinical partnerships to facilitate clinical training, and continue to develop and sustain clinical faculty and preceptors, as needed. | <p>Accredited schools of nursing, nursing centers, academic health centers, state or local governments, and other public or private nonprofit entities.</p> | <p>Approx. \$35M was available to fund 53 awards.</p> <p>Last grants were awarded July 2023, and the cycle ends in June 2027.</p> |
| <p>Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET)</p> | | | | |
| <p><u>BHWET – General Program</u></p> | <p>To increase the supply of behavioral health professionals and improve the distribution of a quality behavioral health workforce, particularly those with knowledge and understanding of</p> | <p>Grant funds can be used to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase experiential training sites to integrate behavioral health into primary care, especially in high-need areas. • Enhance training activities for primary and behavioral integrated care, emphasizing interprofessional team-based approaches and trauma- | <p>Accredited institutions of higher education or professional training programs that are establishing/expanding internships or other field placement programs in mental health with a focus on child and adolescent mental health, trauma, and transitional-age</p> | <p>Approx. \$44M was available to fund 92 awards.</p> <p>Last grants were awarded July 2021.</p> |

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| | <p>children, adolescents, and transitional-aged youth at risk for behavioral health disorders.</p> | <p>informed care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish community partnerships to ensure diversity and inclusion, offering field placements, education, career development, and job placement services. • Promote technology integration, including telehealth services and digital health literacy, to improve access to behavioral health services. • Reduce financial barriers by providing stipends and other support to trainees. | <p>youth; accredited residency programs of health service psychology (including clinical psychology, counseling, and school psychology).</p> | |
| <p><u>BHWET – Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults (BHWET-CAY)</u></p> | <p>Intended to increase the supply and distribution of behavioral health providers in rural and underserved communities to address the behavioral health needs of children, adolescents, and young adults (ages 16-25).</p> | <p>Grant funds support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The establishment of training opportunities (i.e., field placements, internships, etc.) for trainees in community-based settings serving children, adolescents, and young adults, prioritizing settings in underserved and rural communities. • Increasing the number of clinical supervisors for behavioral health professional trainees working with children, adolescents, and young adults. • Enhancing training opportunities for new and existing faculty and clinical supervisors focused on the behavioral health needs of children, adolescents, and young adults. • Providing assistance and supports (stipends, etc.) to connect graduates with employment opportunities. | <p>Accredited institutions of higher education or professional training programs that are establishing/expanding internships or other field placement programs in mental health with a focus on child and adolescent mental health, trauma, and transitional-age youth; accredited residency programs of health service psychology (including clinical psychology, counseling, and school psychology).</p> | <p>Approx. \$9.7M was available to fund 18 awards.</p> <p>Last grants were awarded September 2023.</p> |

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| <p><u>Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship</u></p> | <p>To increase the supply and distribution of certified registered nurse anesthetists and anesthesia services to rural, urban, and tribal underserved communities nationwide.</p> | <p>Recipient institutions disburse funds to students in the form of traineeship support.</p> | <p>Accredited schools of nursing, nursing centers, academic health centers, state or local governments, and other public or private nonprofit entities.</p> | <p>Approx. \$2.25M was available for 80 awards.</p> <p>Last grants were awarded July 2023.</p> |
| <p><u>Community Health Worker Training Program (CHWTP)</u></p> | <p>To support projects that will increase the number of Community Health Workers (CHWs)¹ and Health Support Workers.²</p> | <p>Grant funds can be used for projects that equip these individuals with the skillsets needed to provide effective community outreach, build trust with communities, support connections to and retention in care and support services, and other strategies to increase access to care, and to assist individuals in public health emergencies in underserved communities.</p> | <p>Health professions schools; academic health centers; state or local governments; or other public or private non-profit entities.</p> | <p>Approx. \$226.5M was available to fund 75 awards.</p> <p>Last grants were awarded September 2023, and the cycle ends in September 2025.</p> |

¹ CHWs are defined as members of the community who are not licensed to practice as a fully-qualified health care professional, and works in association with the local health care system as a frontline agent of change, helping to reduce health disparities in underserved communities.

² Health Support Workers are defined as those who provide various health promotion services to meet the needs of a particular recipient or community, but who is not licensed to practice as a fully-qualified health care professional, including but not limited to patient navigators, health care aides, peer support specialists, health education specialists, and doulas.