

Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs Health Resources and Services Administration

Advanced Nursing Education (ANE)

The ANE program supports infrastructure grants to schools of nursing for advanced practice programs preparing nurse-midwives, nurse anesthetists, clinical nurse specialists, nurse administrators, nurse educators, public health nurses, or other advanced level nurses. In FY 2013, ANE program grantees trained 10,504 nursing students and produced 2,475 graduates. In addition, 36 percent of students trained were underrepresented minorities and/or from disadvantaged backgrounds. The majority of ANE students were female (90 percent) and between ages 20 and 29 (31 percent).

Nursing Workforce Diversity (NWD)

NWD grants increase educational opportunities for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds (including racial and ethnic minorities underrepresented in nursing) through scholarship or stipend support, pre-entry preparation, and retention activities. In FY 2013, the number of nursing program students trained was 6,691, 2,419 nursing students graduated from nursing programs, and grantees of the NWD program provided scholarships to 1,416 students.

Nurse Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention Grants (NEPQR)

NEPQR addresses the critical nursing shortage via projects to expand the nursing pipeline, promote career mobility, provide continuing education, and support retention. The NEPQR program trained more than 1,289 BSN students in FY 2013. The NEPQR program funded the Veterans' Bachelor of Science in Nursing (VBSN) program for the first time in FY 2013 and made awards to nine schools. Forty-five veterans were enrolled in BSN degree programs and five graduated with a BSN degree. It is estimated that 42 percent of participating veterans were underrepresented minorities in the field of nursing, and 56 percent reported coming a financially and/or educationally disadvantaged background. Lastly, the NEPQR program funded several Nurse Managed Health Clinics (NMHC) with the primary purpose of creating infrastructure and serving as clinical training sites for students across the health professions. It is estimated that more than 900 health professions students were trained because of these activities.

Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP)

NFLP supports the establishment and operation of a loan fund at participating schools of nursing to assist nurses in completing their graduate education to become qualified nurse faculty. Ongoing NFLP support for faculty production is critical to building the pipeline that assures the full capacity of the nation's future nursing workforce. Targeting a portion of those funds for minority faculty preparation is fundamental to achieving that goal. In FY 2013, the NFLP supported 2,401 students pursuing faculty preparation. Seventeen percent of students who received a loan reported coming from a disadvantaged background and about one out of every four students receiving the NFLP loans were underrepresented minorities.

Comprehensive Geriatric Education Program (CGEP)

CGEP provides support to educate individuals in providing geriatric care for the elderly. This goal is accomplished through curriculum development and dissemination, continuing education, and traineeships for individuals preparing for advanced nursing education degrees. In FY 2013, CGEP grantees awarded traineeships to 77 students – the majority of whom (70 percent) were pursuing a Master’s Degree in Nursing to become nurse practitioners in the fields of Adult gerontology or Acute Care in Adult Gerontology. A majority of students received clinical training in a medically underserved community (62 percent) and/or a primary care setting (74 percent).

NURSE Corps Scholarship and Loan Repayment Program (NURSE Corps)

NURSE Corps offers to individuals, who are enrolled or accepted for enrollment as full-time or part-time nursing students, the opportunity to apply for funds. Upon graduation, a nurse is required to work in a health care facility with a critical shortage of nurses for no less than two years. The NURSE Corps repays up to 85 percent of nursing student loans in return for at least three years of practice in a designated nursing shortage area. The trends in nursing projections suggest that there is a greater need to focus on distribution and diversity in the RN and LPN workforce. In FY 2014, the NURSE Corps loan repayment program made 667 loan repayment awards and 412 continuation awards. The NURSE Corps scholarship program made 242 new scholarship awards and 13 continuation awards during the same time period.