

THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS (NHSC)

- Builds healthy communities by supporting qualified health care providers dedicated to working in areas of the United States with limited access to care.
- Provides financial support to providers in the form of loan repayment and scholarship in exchange for working at NHSC-approved sites.
- Today is a network of more than 9,000 providers and 12,000 sites.



CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS SITE PILOT

- Three-year pilot program expanding site eligibility to Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs)
- CAHs able to apply to become NHSC-approved practice sites for a period of three years
- Allows NHSC to evaluate:
 - ✓ Impact on access to care
 - ✓ Impact on other NHSC sites to ensure that resources are going to areas most in need



RECRUITING NHSC PROVIDERS

- CAHs will be eligible to post job openings for the following primary care disciplines:
 - ✓ Physician (MD or DO)
 - ✓ Physician Assistant
 - ✓ Nurse Practitioner
 - ✓ Certified Nurse-Midwife
- Allowed a maximum total of 10 providers per site across all disciplines over the three-year period
- NHSC providers service requirements based on a 40-60 split between outpatient and inpatient services:
 - ✓ Full-time provider: minimum of 40 hours per week, with a minimum of 16 hours spent providing patient care at the affiliated outpatient clinic.
 - ✓ Half-time provider: minimum of 20 hours per week, with a minimum of 8 hours spent providing patient care at the affiliated outpatient clinic.



BECOMING AN NHSC-APPROVED SITE

- CAHs apply to become NHSC approved sites
- Online application available for CAHs early October 2011
- To be approved CAHs sites will:
 - ✓ Meet all NHSC site eligibility requirements
 - ✓ Demonstrate affiliation (either through direct ownership or affiliation agreements) with an outpatient, ambulatory care clinic
 - ✓ Demonstrate that provide comprehensive primary care and related inpatient services



NHSC APPROVED SITES

- Located in a federally designated Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs)
- Agree to Corps requirements:
 - ✓ See all patients regardless of ability to pay
 - ✓ Provide services on a discount fee schedule
 - ✓ Accept patients covered by Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program
 - ✓ Document sound fiscal management
 - ✓ Have capacity to maintain a competitive salary, benefits, and malpractice coverage package for providers



Recruit providers and residents dedicated to working where they are needed most

Post clinical vacancies on the NHSC online national recruitment database

Network with other NHSC-approved sites

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Receive community and site development assistance

Establish an integrated system of care that includes the uninsured and underinsured

Develop linkages with academic institutions and other organizations
