REQUEST: COSPONSOR & PASS S. 1109

Administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, the Nursing Workforce Development Programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.]) address all aspects of nursing workforce demand, including education, practice, recruitment, and retention. Reauthorizing Title VIII ensures that these key initiatives have an authorization for funding for five years. On July 23, 2018, the House of Representatives, by a unanimous voice vote, passed H.R. 959, the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act.

“Without a robust workforce, our country cannot realize the goals of increasing access, reducing cost, and improving quality of care.”

-AACN Board Chair
Dr. Ann Cary

WHAT TITLE VIII REAUTHORIZATION DOES

RECOGNIZES ALL FOUR APRN ROLES

The Title VIII statute is amended in two places to include Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNSs), thus creating equity among the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) roles. Historically, only three (nurse practitioners, certified registered nurse anesthetists, and certified nurse-midwives) of the four APRN roles have been delineated in the Title VIII statute.


INCLUDES CLINICAL NURSE LEADERS

The Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) evaluates patient outcomes, assesses cohort risk, and has the decision-making authority to change care plans when necessary. The statute is amended to include CNLs, which allows for parity with the other master’s degree programs that can apply for the Title VIII Advanced Education Nursing program.


DEFINES NURSE-MANAGED HEALTH CLINICS

Nurse-Managed Health Clinics (NMHCs) are effective in providing individualized care that includes health promotion, disease prevention and early detection, health teaching, management of chronic conditions, treatment of acute illnesses, and counseling. NMHCs, run by nurse practitioners, traditionally focus on populations underserved by the larger healthcare system and are learning environments for healthcare providers. The statute is amended to include a NMHC definition, making them an eligible entity within Title VIII.

DIRECT IMPACT OF TITLE VIII IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2016-2017*

ADVANCED NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM
- 5,942 students supported, which includes 1,541 graduates
- Grantees partnered with 2,304 clinical training sites
- 40% of sites were located in medically underserved areas; 59% were in primary care settings

ADVANCED EDUCATION NURSING TRAINEESHIP (AENT)
- 2,166 students supported through AENT
- 61% of AENT recipients trained in medically-underserved areas; 80% were in primary care settings

NURSE ANESTHETIST TRAINEESHIP (NAT)
- 2,429 students supported through NAT
- 75% of NAT recipients trained in medically-underserved areas; 46% were in primary care settings

NURSE FACULTY LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM
- 84 schools received new NFLP grant awards
- 1,998 students supported
- 83% of students who received loans were pursuing doctoral-level nursing degrees

NURSE CORPS SCHOLARSHIP AND LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAMS
- 1,217 scholarship and loan repayment awards funded
- 55% of Nurse Loan Repayment participants extended their service commitment for an additional year
- 86% of participants retained at at critical shortage facility for up to two years beyond their service commitment

NURSE WORKFORCE DIVERSITY
- 4,416 students supported
- Grantees partnered with 571 clinical training sites
- 49% of sites were located in medically-underserved areas; 37% were in primary care settings

NURSE EDUCATION, PRACTICE, QUALITY, AND RETENTION PROGRAM
- 8,064 individuals supported
- Grantees partnered with 205 clinical training sites
- 71% of Interprofessional Collaborative Practice Program sites and 75% of BSN Practicums in Community-based Settings Program sites were located in medically-underserved areas

Students Supported Through Title VIII in Academic Year 2016-2017*