



# Bureau of Health Workforce Loan Repayment Programs for Nurses

Nurse practitioners who are dedicated to working in communities with limited access to health care can reduce their educational debt through the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Loan Repayment Program or the NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Program (LRP). Administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, these programs support nurse practitioners who are dedicated to working in health care facilities with a critical shortage of nurses. Both programs award loan repayment to nurse practitioners who agree to work in urban, rural, and frontier communities with limited access to care throughout the United States in exchange for a commitment to serve at a site for a minimum of two years. Nurse practitioners may be eligible to apply to both programs but are only permitted to accept loan repayment from one.

## What are the similarities—and differences—between the programs? Take a look.

	NHSC Loan Repayment Program	NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Program
<b>Program Eligibility Requirements/ Eligible Disciplines</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. citizen (U.S. born or naturalized) or U.S. national</li> <li>• Working in one of the following nursing disciplines:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>Primary Care Nurse Practitioner</i> (adult, family, pediatric, psychiatric/ mental health, geriatrics, and women’s health)</li> <li>– <i>Certified Nurse-Midwife</i></li> <li>– <i>Psychiatric Nurse Specialist</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Employed at an NHSC-approved service site (see list below)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or lawful permanent resident</li> <li>• Working in one of the following nursing disciplines:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>Registered Nurse</i></li> <li>– <i>Nurse Practitioner</i></li> <li>– <i>Certified Nurse-Midwife</i></li> <li>– <i>Clinical Nurse Specialist</i></li> <li>– <i>Nurse Anesthetist</i></li> <li>– <i>Nurse Faculty</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Employed full-time at a public or private nonprofit Critical Shortage Facility (see list below) OR employed full-time at an eligible public or private nonprofit school of nursing</li> </ul>
<b>Site Types</b>	Must work at an NHSC-approved service site, located in, designated as, or serving a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)	Must work in a public or private nonprofit Critical Shortage Facility, which is a health care facility located in, designated as, or serving a primary care or mental health HPSA  Nurse faculty must be employed by an eligible public or private nonprofit school of nursing

continued



## What are the similarities—and differences—between the programs? *(continued)*

	NHSC Loan Repayment Program	NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Program
Site Types, <i>cont'd</i>	<p><b>Site types are outpatient facilities and may be:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FQHC Look-Alike</li> <li>Dual-Funded Tribal Health Center</li> </ul> </li> <li>Rural Health Clinic</li> <li>Hospital-Affiliated Primary Care Outpatient Clinic</li> <li>Indian Health Service, Tribal, and Urban Indian Health Clinic (ITU)</li> <li>Private Practice (Solo/Group)</li> <li>State or Federal Correctional Facility</li> <li>Other Health Facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Mental Health Facility</li> <li>Community Outpatient Facility</li> <li>Critical Access Hospital</li> <li>Free Clinic</li> <li>Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Health Service Corps</li> <li>Mobile Unit</li> <li>School-Based Health Program</li> <li>State and County Department of Health Clinic</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Site types may be:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Critical Access Hospital (CAH)</li> <li>Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH)</li> <li>Public Hospital</li> <li>Private Hospital</li> <li>Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)</li> <li>Indian Health Service Health Center</li> <li>Native Hawaiian Health Center</li> <li>Rural Health Clinic</li> <li>State or Local Public Health or Human Services Department</li> <li>Nurse Managed Health Clinic/Center</li> <li>Urgent Care Center</li> <li>Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic</li> <li>End Stage Renal Disease Dialysis</li> <li>Ambulatory Surgical Center</li> <li>Residential Nursing Home</li> <li>Home Health Agency</li> <li>Hospice Program</li> </ul> <p><i>*Ineligible facilities include, but are not limited to private practice offices and clinics in prisons or correctional facilities.</i></p>
Financial Benefits	<p>Offers two levels of funding, based upon the need of the community in which the nurse practitioner works, as defined by HPSA score:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>In sites with HPSA score of 14-26:</b> Up to \$50,000 for 2-year, full-time or \$25,000 for 2-year, half-time service commitment</li> <li><b>In sites with HPSA score 0-13:</b> Up to \$30,000 for 2-year, full-time or \$15,000 for 2-year, half-time service commitment</li> </ul> <p>With continued service, nurse practitioners may be able to pay off all of their qualified student loans</p>	<p>Offers 60 percent of total outstanding qualifying educational loan balance incurred while pursuing an education in nursing for a 2-year service commitment</p> <p>Qualifying participants may receive an additional 25 percent of their original loan balance for a third year of service</p>
Tax Liability	The Loan Repayment award is not taxable	The full Loan Repayment award is taxable; however, federal taxes are deducted from the award
Program Web Sites	<a href="http://nhsc.hrsa.gov/loanrepayment/loanrepaymentprogram">http://nhsc.hrsa.gov/loanrepayment/loanrepaymentprogram</a>	<a href="http://www.hrsa.gov/loanscholarships/repayment/nursing">http://www.hrsa.gov/loanscholarships/repayment/nursing</a>

