State Health Workforce Data Analysis, Planning and Development Grants

Summary:

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) established various projects and grants to support state health care workforce development and analysis.

State Health Care Workforce Development Grants

The ACA created a competitive state health care workforce development grants program to enable state partnerships to plan and implement activities leading to workforce development strategies and analysis at the national, state and local levels.

This program is administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in consultation with the newly created National Health Care Workforce Commission, which has yet to be funded. Twenty six states received planning or implementation grants in 2010. A list of the states can be found under “Resources” below.

The grants are split into two programs – planning grants and implementation grants.

Planning grants – One year planning grants of up to $150,000 (with a 15 percent State matching requirement) will be given to eligible states workforce investment boards to analyze health care labor markets; identify current and projected needs; identify short and long-term workforce development strategies; and identify existing Federal, State, and private resources for health workforce recruitment, education, training, and retention. The ACA authorized $8M for the planning grants.

Implementation grants – Two year grants with a 25 percent State match for previous planning grant awardees to encourage regional partnerships and promote innovative workforce pathway activities. The ACA authorized $150 million for FY 2010 and such sums as necessary in subsequent years.

Eligible entities are state workforce investment boards that include or modify their memberships to include at least one representative from each of the following:

- Health care employer
- Labor organization
- A public 2-year institution of higher education
- A public 4-year institution of higher education
- The recognized state federation of labor
- The state public secondary education agency
- The state P-16 or P-20 council, if one exists
- A philanthropic organization engaged in providing learning, mentoring and work opportunities to recruit, educate and train individuals in health care careers.
The application period for 2010 was from June 17, 2010 through July 19, 2010. The application period for 2011 has not been announced yet. Applications for this grant program can be submitted here https://grants.hrsa.gov/webexternal/login.asp

**Health Workforce Program Assessment Grants:**

*State and Regional Analysis Grants:* The ACA also provides grants to state and regional centers for health workforce analysis and increases funding for longitudinal evaluations of individuals that have participated in Title VII programs. Under the ACA, state and regional centers are authorized $4.5 million in each of FYs 2010-2014 and for longitudinal evaluation grants, the ACA authorizes, such sums as necessary for FYs 2010-2014. Entities eligible for these state workforce grants are a state workforce investment board, public health or health professions school, academic health center, or appropriate public or private nonprofit entity. Grants for longitudinal health workforce studies are also increased.

**ACTION:** Chapters should try to get a physician who runs his or her own practice appointed to the State’s Workforce Investment Board and/or request that their state board or eligible entities apply for these grants.

**Resources:**

FAQ’s prepared by HRSA on the development grants can be found at http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/grants/statehealthfaq.pdf