

Workforce Programs Update- September 2023

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A healthier California where all receive equitable, affordable, and quality health care.



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Public Meetings

The California Health Workforce Education and Training Council ([Council](#)) is responsible for helping HCAI coordinate statewide education and training strategies to develop a health workforce that meets California's health care needs. HCAI held a meeting on **September 6-7, 2023**. To view the agenda and meeting materials, visit our [public meetings](#) site.

Next meeting: December 6, 2023.



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HCAI Program Eligibility Tool

HCAI has developed an online eligibility tool for students, healthcare professionals, and organizations to quickly see what HCAI programs they may be eligible to apply for. To determine your eligibility, visit [Funding Eligibility](#).

Important Dates

- September 15, 2023** - State Loan Repayment Program Application Cycle Closes
- September 21, 2023** - Song-Brown Primary Care Residency Application Cycle Closes
- October 1, 2023** - J1 Visa Conrad 30 Program Application Cycle Opens
- October 3, 2023** - Song-Brown Registered Nurse Application Cycle Opens
- October 12-13, 2023** - Primary Care Office and State Office of Rural Health Annual Professions Shortage Area Workshop

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Grant Programs



Community Health Workers/Promotores/Representatives (CHW/P/R)

HCAI hosted a six month stakeholder engagement process with the CHW/P/R community. During this process, stakeholders collaborated with HCAI to develop a model for statewide CHW/P/R training and state certificate

requirements. HCAI has posted the finalized model on [Community Health Workers/Promotores/Representatives](#).

Song-Brown Grant Program

Song-Brown awards grants to training programs committed to increasing the number of primary care providers in California.

Song-Brown Family Physician Training Act Contributions

Physicians can help increase access to quality care for many of California's underserved populations by voluntarily contributing \$25 to Song-Brown when renewing their physician license. Contributions will support a program that has been committed to serving primary care training programs throughout the state for over 45 years.

2023 Song-Brown Primary Care Residency (PCR)

The PCR application cycle opened on July 18, 2023, and closes on September 21, 2023. An informational webinar was held on July 27, 2023. For more information visit, [Primary Care Residency](#).

2023 Family Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant (FNP/PA)

The FNP/PA application cycle has been postponed. For current information, visit [Family Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant \(FNP/PA\)](#).

2023 Family Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant Postgraduate Fellowship (FNP/PA)

The FNP/PA Postgraduate Fellowship application cycle has been postponed. This is the first FNP/PA Postgraduate Fellowship grant opportunity offered by HCAI. For current information, visit [Family Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant \(FNP/PA\) Postgraduate Fellowship](#).

2023 Song-Brown Midwifery

The Midwifery application cycle has been postponed. This year Song-Brown is offering funding for existing and expanding midwifery programs. For current information, visit [Midwifery](#).

2023 Song-Brown Registered Nurse (RN)

The 2023 Song-Brown RN application cycle opens on October 3, 2023, and closes on November 16, 2023. For more information, visit [Registered Nurses \(RN\)](#).

Health Professions Pathway Program (HPPP)

HPPP is a grant opportunity for organizations to develop and implement health professions pathways programs that can include pipeline programs, summer internships, post undergraduate fellowships and post-baccalaureate scholarships.

The HPPP application cycle opened on August 15, 2023, and closes on October 16, 2023. An informational webinar was held on August 30, 2023. For more information, visit [Health Professions Pathways Program](#).

Justice System Involved Youth: Behavioral Health Pipeline (JSIY BH Pipeline)

JSIY BH Pipeline is a grant opportunity for organizations to support and encourages underrepresented and disadvantaged individuals to pursue behavioral health careers to develop a more culturally and linguistically competent behavioral healthcare workforce, including providing comprehensive wrap-around supports. These supports include but are not limited to income and rent support, academic enrichment, career development, mentorship, and advising to support currently or recently system-involved students in attaining behavioral health careers.

The JSIY BH Pipeline application cycle opened on August 15, 2023, and closes on October 16, 2023. An informational webinar was held on August 30, 2023. For more information, visit [Justice-System Involvement Youth: Behavioral Health Pipeline \(JSIY BH Pipeline\)](#).

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Loan Repayment and Scholarship Programs



State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)

SLRP assists with the repayment of educational loans in exchange for working at an eligible site. Eligible practice sites must be located in a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) and agree to match SLRP awards. The SLRP application cycle opened on July 17, 2023, and closes on September 15, 2023.

HCAI held two informational webinars on August 21, 2023 and on August 22, 2023. For more information visit, [State Loan Repayment Program](#).

Reproductive Health Access Initiative

Clinical Infrastructure/Workforce Development

HCAI is administering Clinical Infrastructure scholarship and loan repayment programs to expand the number of health care providers offering abortion-related care and reproductive health services. Reproductive Health Care funds are currently available through the HCAI loan repayment and scholarship

programs below. For more information, visit [Reproductive Health Care Access Initiative](#).

The following loan repayment program cycles closed on July 31, 2023. HCAI anticipates to announce awards by September 2023.

- [Bachelor of Science Nursing Loan Repayment Program](#)
- [Licensed Mental Health Services Provider Education Program](#)
- [Licensed Vocational Nurse Loan Repayment Program](#)
- [Steven M. Thompson Physician Corps Loan Repayment Program](#)

Capital Infrastructure

HCAI partnered with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to administer a grant program to provide physical and digital security enhancements to facilities providing abortion and reproductive health care. The first Request For Proposal (RFP) resulted in grants totaling \$8.2 million to 21 health care facilities and individual providers offering abortion care and reproductive health services. HCAI and Cal OES anticipate release of another RFP in the Spring of 2024. For more information, visit [Cal OES](#).

Uncompensated Care and Abortion Practical Support Funds

HCAI has contracted with Essential Access Health (Essential Access) to administer the [Uncompensated Care](#) and [Abortion Practical Support](#) grant programs. In July 2023, Essential Access [announced](#) Uncompensated Care grants totaling \$20.7 million to 12 health care providers and Abortion Practical Support grants totaling \$5 million to 16 nonprofit organizations. Essential Access anticipates releasing another RFP for each fund in 2024. For more information, contact [Essential Access](#).

Reproductive Health Service Corps

The Reproductive Health Service Corps will recruit, train, retain, and financially support a diverse workforce of health care professionals who commit to providing reproductive health services, including abortion care, for at least three years. As of August 2023, HCAI is in the process of contracting with two organizations to develop and provide this training.

Scholarship Application Cycles

The following scholarship program application cycles opened on August 1, 2023, and closes on October 31, 2023.

- [Allied Healthcare Scholarship Program](#)
- [Advanced Practice Healthcare Scholarship Program](#)
- [Associate Degree Nursing Scholarship Program](#)
- [Bachelor of Science Nursing Scholarship Program](#)
- [Licensed Vocational Nurse to Associate Degree Nursing Scholarship Program](#)
- [Vocational Nurse Scholarship Program](#)

Train New Trainers (TNT) Primary Care Psychiatry (PCP) Fellowship Scholarship

The TNT PCP Fellowship Scholarship supports students accepted into the year-long clinical education program for primary care providers who wish to

receive advanced training in primary care psychiatry.

The TNT PCP Fellowship Scholarship application opened on April 7, 2023, and closes on October 27, 2023. For more information, visit [Train New Trainers Primary Care Psychiatry Fellowship Scholarship](#).

Primary Care – Training and Education in Addiction Medicine (PC-TEAM) Fellowship Scholarship Program

The PC-Team is a scholarship program for primary care physicians who have been accepted into the year-long fellowship training at UC Irvine PC-TEAM Fellowship.

The PC-TEAM Fellowship Scholarship application closes on November 30, 2023. For more information, visit [PC-TEAM Scholarship](#).

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Primary Care Office (PCO) and State Office of Rural Health (SORH) Programs

The PCO recommends federal shortage designations, provides technical assistance on Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) programs, and collaborates with statewide partners and stakeholders on clinician recruitment and retention. CalSORH serves to link rural communities with state and federal resources and collaborates with statewide rural health associations and other public and private agencies to promote rural health services. CalSORH also provides structure for the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility/Critical Access Hospital (FLEX/CAH) Program, Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program (SHIP), and J-1 Visa Waiver Programs.

PCO and SORH Annual Health Professions Shortage Area Workshop

The [PCO](#) and [SORH](#) are hosting their Annual Health Professional Shortage Area Designation Workshop. This event will take place on October 12-13, 2023 in Monterey, California. Please reference the attached flyer for registration and lodging details, special room rates are limited. Agenda is in progress and will be sent out to registrants closer to the date. For further assistance, please contact shortage@hcai.ca.gov. If you would like to receive regular updates about HCAI's workforce programs, click [here](#) to subscribe.

SORH Conference

The SORH is planning to have an exhibitor table at the California State Rural Health Association Annual Conference on September 20-21, 2023. SORH will also be participating in the following conferences: 2023 National Organization of State Offices Rural Health (NOSORH) Annual Meeting virtually on September 19-22, 2023 and Rural Health Clinic (RHC) and Critical Access Hospital (CAH) conference in Kansas City, Missouri on September 26-29, 2023.

J-1 Visa Waiver Program

Effective immediately the California Department of Health Care Access and Information HCAI is changing the way it receives applications for the [J-1 Visa Waiver Program](#). Applications for the Conrad 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program, the HHS J-1 Visa Waiver Program, and the NIW Program will only be accepted in PDF format via email. All applications must be sent to J1VisaWaiverProgram@hcai.ca.gov.

The J-1 Visa Waiver Program has made several changes to Conrad 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program. These changes include: application cycle date changes, application priority, MUA/MUP designation requirements, number of applications allowed per employer, and duration required for recruitment attempts. These changes have been posted on the J-1 Visa Waiver Program website and updated on our application requirements guide. The 2023-24 Conrad 30 Program initial application cycle will open on October 1, 2023, and close on October 31, 2023. Applications will be reviewed in order of receipt and priority will be given to rural practice sites. For more information, visit [J-1 Visa Waiver Program](#).

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HCAI Careers

HCAI has multiple opportunities for talented individuals to join our team. We are a team committed to the HCAI mission to expand equitable access to quality, affordable health care for all Californians through resilient facilities, actionable information, and the health workforce each community needs. Check out some of our open positions below and continue to check the HCAI Careers page for more opportunities.

- [Health Program Specialist II](#)

Please visit the following link to find out more about open positions at HCAI:



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The Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) administers programs that improve access to health care in underserved areas of California. The programs support students and graduates with scholarships, loan repayment, and educational training programs that show a commitment to increasing the number of healthcare providers serving the underserved. HCAI also acts as the State's Primary Care Office (PCO), State Office of Rural Health

(SORH), and liaison to the Health Services and Resources Administration (HRSA).

Department of Health Care Access and Information

HCAI expands equitable access to quality, affordable health care for all Californians through resilient facilities, actionable information, and the health workforce each community needs.

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