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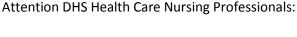
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To ensure access to high-quality, patientcentered, cost-effective

health care to Los Angeles County residents through direct services at DHS facilities and through collaboration with community and university partners.

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The 2014 NURSE Corps application cycle is now open. The Program is competitive and applicants are encouraged to begin the application process early. Applications must be initiated at http://www.hrsa.gov/loanscholarships/repayment/nursing/index.html prior to February 12th.

Although the website indicates an application close date of February 27th, please keep in mind that is for all components of the application, including the employment verification which takes 5-7 business days. The employment verification request is initiated once the applicant begins a new application.

You must work in a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) to qualify for this program. To identify the facility's HPSA score as of January 1, 2014, applicants are requested to visit: http://datawarehouse.hrsa.gov/GeoAdvisor/ShortageDesignationAdvisor.aspx and enter the facility's address to see if the facility is located in a HPSA. Please note that once the results are generated, the facility MUST be located in a mental health or primary medical care HPSA. More specifically, "Yes" must appear beside "In a Mental Health or Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Area." The primary care HPSA score(s) will appear beneath the respective designation(s).

There are several LAC-DHS facilities that have recently been HPSA designated, but are not listed in the "pull down menu" on the HRSA web site. If you encounter this situation, please contact Ellen Gail at egail@dhs.lacounty.gov or (818) 364-3272.

Nurse Corps LRP

- Program Description: Loan repayment assistance is available to registered nurses
 and advanced practice registered nurses, such as nurse practitioners, working in a
 public or private nonprofit Critical Shortage Facility OR nurse faculty employed by
 an accredited school of nursing who have qualifying educational loans, and who are
 dedicated to serving the Nation's medically underserved populations in mental
 health or primary medical care Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSAs).
- Financial Assistance: NURSE Corps Loan Repayment award recipients receive 60
 percent of their unpaid nursing student loans for 2 years of full-time service, and an
 additional 25 percent of the original balance for an optional third year. The program
 is seeking applicants who are interested in serving those most in need, and
 remaining in a HPSA beyond their service commitment.
- Service Commitment: 2 year minimum with an optional third year.
- **Eligibility Requirements:** To be eligible for loan repayment, all applicants must:
 - o Be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or lawful permanent resident;
 - Have a current license to practice as a registered nurse and received a diploma, associate's, bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree in nursing;
 - Be employed full time (at least 32 hours per week) at a public or private nonprofit Critical Shortage Facility OR be employed full time at an accredited, public or private nonprofit school of nursing; and



- Have completed the education program for which the loan applies.
- **Funding Preference:** Preference will be given to applicants with the greatest financial need, the type of facility and the mental health or primary care Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) designation. Applicants with the greatest financial need are defined as those qualified applicants whose debt to salary ratio (i.e., total qualifying educational loans divided by base annual salary) is 20 percent or greater.
- **Tax Liability:** The full loan repayment award is taxable.
- Additional information: Two Q&A Technical Assistance Conference Calls are scheduled for January 30, 2014 from 2:00 4:00 pm, ET and February 13, 2014 from 8:00 10:00 pm, ET. Continue to check the NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Program for further information on the times and login information at www.hrsa.gov/loanscholarships/repayment/nursing. You may also contact Customer Service Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays), 8:00 am to 8:00 pm EST at 1-800-221-9393 or via email at GetHelp@hrsa.gov.

We encourage all eligible applicants to take advantage of this program.

Good luck in the application process,

Jeffrey J. Guterman MD, MS Chief, Research & Innovation, ACN LA County, DHS