



March 21, 2022

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am pleased to share that the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA's) [National Health Service Corps New Site Application](#) cycle opened on March 15, 2022. NHSC-approved sites provide outpatient, primary health care services to people in Health Professional Shortage Areas. This application cycle closes on May 10, 2022.

While Federally-recognized Indian Health Service, Tribal, and Urban Indian Healthcare Facilities are eligible to become an NHSC site year-round as auto-approved sites, I encourage you to share this announcement widely to ensure all eligible Indian and tribal unit facilities have the opportunity to become NHSC-approved.

In March of 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act increased overall NHSC funding by \$800 million, supporting our largest-ever field strength. By becoming NHSC-approved, your site would be eligible to hire and retain [NHSC scholarship, Students to Service, and loan repayment award recipients](#) for hard-to-fill positions in underserved areas. More than 1,000 NHSC clinicians are currently working at tribal sites across the country. In fiscal year 2021, HRSA made 327 awards to clinicians at 203 tribal health centers.

Additionally, NHSC sites can post job openings to the [Health Workforce Connector](#) and participate in [Virtual Job Fairs](#). These activities allow NHSC-approved sites to fill critical staffing needs with providers who are committed to serving in underserved communities.

This is a great time for eligible health care facilities to become NHSC-approved and recruit clinicians to your communities.

If you have questions, please contact your [HRSA regional points-of-contact](#). Thank you in advance for your consideration of this program.

Sincerely,

/s/

Luis Padilla, M.D.
Associate Administrator
Bureau of Health Workforce