



November 24, 2021

Dear Tribal Leader and Urban Indian Organization Leader:

I am pleased to share that the 2022 application cycle for the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA's) [National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program \(NHSC LRP\)](#) opened on November 2, 2021. In March of 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act increased overall NHSC funding by \$800 million, supporting our largest-ever field strength. Additionally, HRSA expects that \$15 million in NHSC award funds will once again be dedicated to clinicians serving at Indian Health Service facilities, Tribally-Operated 638 Health Programs, and Urban Indian Health Programs in our annual appropriations.

Between the dedicated funding to tribal sites and the additional American Rescue Plan funding, all eligible NHSC applicants serving in Indian Country received an award in fiscal year 2021 - regardless of their sites' Health Professional Shortage Area scores. We want to expand that support even further this year. I ask your help in sharing this historic funding opportunity with health care facilities in your communities, and encouraging all eligible applicants to apply.

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.

HRSA's NHSC program offers licensed primary care providers in eligible disciplines the opportunity to receive loan repayment of up to \$100,000. In exchange, providers commit to serve full- or half-time at an NHSC-approved site in a designated Health Professional Shortage Area for at least 2 years. The application cycle is for three NHSC loan repayment programs: the [National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program](#), the [Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program](#), and the [Rural Community Loan Repayment Program](#).

I ask that you share this information with the NHSC-approved health care facilities in your communities. Additionally, these facilities can promote their open positions on the HRSA [Health Workforce Connector](#) to attract clinicians interested in the NHSC program.

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

Sincerely,

Diana Espinosa
Acting Administrator