



**Department of Health Care  
Access and Information**

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

October 9, 2023 Email Newsletter



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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**

**October 12, 2023** – Song-Brown Registered Nurse Application Cycle Opens

**October 12-13, 2023** – PCO and SORH Annual Shortage Area Workshop

**October 16, 2023** – HPPP Application Cycle Closes

**October 16, 2023** – JSIY BH Pipeline Application Closes

**October 24, 2023** – Webinar: Song-Brown Registered Nurse

**October 27, 2023** – TNT PC Fellowship Scholarship Application Closes

**October 31, 2023** – J1 Visa Conrad 30 Program Application Cycle Closes

**October 31, 2023** – Scholarship Program Application Cycles Close:

- 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

**November 9, 2023** – Song-Brown Program Application Cycles Close:

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

**November 28, 2023** – Song-Brown Registered Nurse (RN) Application Cycle Closes

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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.](#)

In July 2023, the California Legislature's budget bill of 2023-2024 provided HCAI with \$15,000,000 for the CHW/P/R workforce. HCAI will host a new series of online stakeholder engagement sessions to collect ideas and priorities for fund distribution. Contact [CHW@hcai.ca.gov](mailto:CHW@hcai.ca.gov) to be added to our stakeholder list.

## **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 50 years.

### *2023 Song-Brown Primary Care Residency (PCR)*

The PCR application cycle is closed. HCAI will announce awards in January 2024. For more information visit, [Primary Care Residency](#).

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

The FNP/PA application cycle opened on September 28, 2023, and closes on November 16, 2023.

An informational webinar was held on October 5, 2023. For more information, visit [Family Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant \(FNP/PA\)](#).

### *2023 Song-Brown Midwifery*

The Midwifery application cycle opened on September 28, 2023, and closes on November 16, 2023. This year Song-Brown is offering funding for existing and expanding midwifery programs.

An informational webinar was held on October 5, 2023. For more information, visit [Midwifery](#).

### *2023 Family Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant Postgraduate Fellowship*

*(FNP/PA)*

The FNP/PA Postgraduate Fellowship application cycle opened on September 28, 2023, and closes on November 16, 2023. This is the first FNP/PA Postgraduate Fellowship grant opportunity offered by HCAI.

An informational webinar was held on October 5, 2023. For more information, visit [Family Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant \(FNP/PA\) Postgraduate Fellowship](#).

*2023 Song-Brown Registered Nurse (RN)*

The 2023 Song-Brown RN application cycle opens on October 12, 2023, and closes on November 28, 2023.

An informational webinar will be held on October 24, 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 application cycle closed on September 15, 2023.

HCAI plans to announce awards by December 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](#).

HCAI announced awards for the following loan repayment program cycles in 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. 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 on October 12-13, 2023 in Monterey, California. Please reference the [flyer](#) for registration and lodging details; special room rates are limited. The agenda is in progress and will be sent out to registrants closer to the date. For further assistance, please contact [shortage@hcai.ca.gov](mailto:shortage@hcai.ca.gov). If you would like to receive regular updates about HCAI's workforce programs, click [here](#) to subscribe.

The SORH will be attending the Fall 2023 Federal Office of Rural Health Policy Flex Program Workshop in Duluth, Minnesota on October 17-19, 2023.

### **J-1 Visa Waiver Program**

The Application cycle for the Conrad 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program opened on October 1, 2023 and will close on October 31, 2023. Please review the [J-1 Visa Waiver Program](#) website for information on program changes and how to complete and submit your application. A recent change for the Conrad 30 J-1 Visa Waiver program impacted facilities that were located in a Medically Underserved Area (MUA)/Medically Underserved Population (MUP). For the current application cycle, a grace period will be provided for applicants who can prove they accepted a job prior to us announcing the J-1 Visa Waiver program changes on August 23, 2023.

### **Available Resources**

California Primary Care Association (CPCA) has resources available for clinics such as the CPCA Medical Assistant Toolkit, Affiliations Agreement Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) Templates, and Promising Practices: Preceptor Training. Available resources can be viewed on the [CPCA website](#).

The Nevada Primary Care Association created a *Building Partnership and*

*Program Through Cultural Competency* training to strengthen equitable and accessible care delivery. The training is also designed to improve provider and healthcare worker's understanding of how to address health inequities and barriers and using a best practice approach. It's a 9-hour training taught via Zoom and offered monthly on Fridays and Saturdays. Participants have 30 days to complete the training. The training is available to everyone and you can use the code HRSA30 to receive a 30% discount until 11/13/23. The training meets NRS 449.103 and AB 327 requirements. <https://www.nvculturalcompetency.com/>.