



Affordable Care Act: Health Care Workforce

National Health Care Workforce Commission

The Affordable Care Act establishes a National Health Care Workforce Commission comprised of 15 members appointed by the Comptroller General to assess whether the demand for healthcare workers is being met and provide recommendations on improving intergovernmental coordination and ways to encourage innovations to address population needs.

For more information about the commission see: http://www.gao.gov/hcac/nat_hcwc.html and for information about the appointments made to the commission in September 2010, see: http://www.gao.gov/press/nhcwc_2010sep30.html

National Health Service Corps

The National Health Service Corps, which provides scholarships and loan repayments for medical professionals who serve for a specified number of years in a Health Professional Shortage Area, is permanently reauthorized through the law, and funding for the program is enhanced to help bring an estimated 15,000 primary care providers to areas where there is a shortage of health care providers.

Recently awarded workforce funding through the Affordable Care Act

In August 2010, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) awarded \$159.1 million in health care workforce training. For more information, see: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2010pres/08/20100805a.html>

In September 2010, HHS awarded 27 public health training centers with \$16.8 million in grants for public health workforce training. For more information, see: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2010pres/09/20100913a.html>

In September 2010, HHS announced that \$320 million in health care workforce grants have been awarded through the Affordable Care Act, and \$253 million of the funding is specifically directed to expanding and improving the primary care workforce. For more information, see <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2010pres/09/20100927e.html>