

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Baldwin and Ranking Member Capito:

We respectfully request that the National Health Service Corps and Nurse Corps receive robust funding in Fiscal Year 2024 through the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies appropriations bill. These vital programs provide incentives for talented and capable health care professionals to deliver necessary, high-quality patient care in underserved areas.

The National Health Service Corps (NHSC) provides student loan repayment assistance and scholarships to health care providers in exchange for a period of service in an area experiencing a shortage of health professionals. In 2021, NHSC clinicians provided care to an estimated 23.6 million patients, including critical care during the COVID pandemic and the opioid crisis.

The Nurse Corps also provides student loan repayment assistance and scholarships to nurses or nurses who are completing their training. As of September 30, 2021, the Nurse Corps supported 2,521 nurses, including nurse practitioners, registered nurses, nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, clinical nurse specialists, and nursing faculty.

It is important that strong funding levels are maintained as health care professionals across the country extend their service obligations and new professionals join their ranks. To meet personnel and public health needs in underserved areas, Congress must ensure that the NHSC and Nurse Corps have the resources necessary to support those who commit to serving the most vulnerable Americans.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator