

# Primary Care Career Opportunities in Oregon

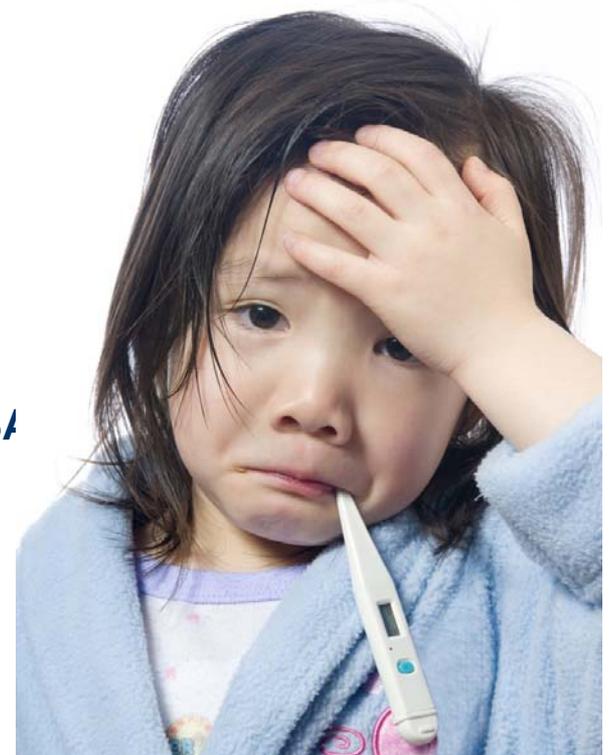
Filling a  
Fundamental Need  
in Healthcare



# Oregon Primary Care Office

The PCO promotes health equity and access to quality health services for all people living in Oregon:

- ***Technical Assistance***
  - National Health Service Corps and J-1 VISAs
- ***Data Acquisition and Analysis***
- ***Communication and Policy Analysis***
  - PCPCH Implementation



# Oregon Healthcare Workforce Recruitment and Retention Partnership

State Partners collaborate to increase their collective impact across Oregon

- Coordinated technical assistance
- Effective communications
- Shared Resources



Oregon Healthcare  
Workforce Institute



**OPCA**  
Oregon Primary  
Care Association



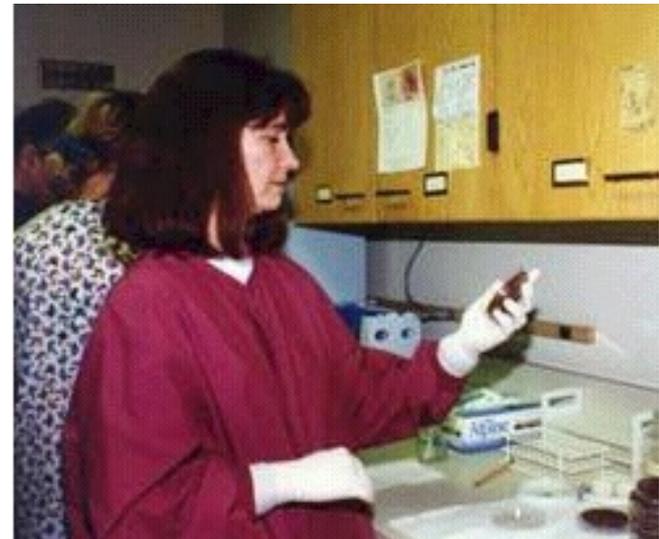
# What is primary care?

**Medical**

**Dental**

**Behavioral Health**

Primary care practitioners are a patient's principal point of contact in a health care system, providing treatment for a wide variety of illnesses and conditions.



# Current and future need for primary health care professionals is high!

Oregon Department of Health and Human Services is predicting a shortage of at least 35,000 primary care professionals by 2025!



# Changing Practice Environment:

- Integration of services
- Medical Home Model
- A more team-oriented approach to care.



# Health professionals who practice primary care in underserved places seek...



- Continuous learning
- Long-term patient relationships
- Patient diversity
- Cultural Competency
- A team approach

# Opportunities for students

- **National Health Service Corps**
  - **Loan Repayment and Scholarship Programs**
- **J-1 VISA Waiver Program**
- **Oregon Healthcare Workforce Liaisons**



# National Health Service Corps (NHSC)

Thousands of talented and dedicated clinicians are given financial incentives to practice primary health care in communities where the need is greatest.



*Medical ~ Dental ~ Mental Health*



# NHSC clinicians serve populations with a variety of barriers to healthcare:

**Cultural**

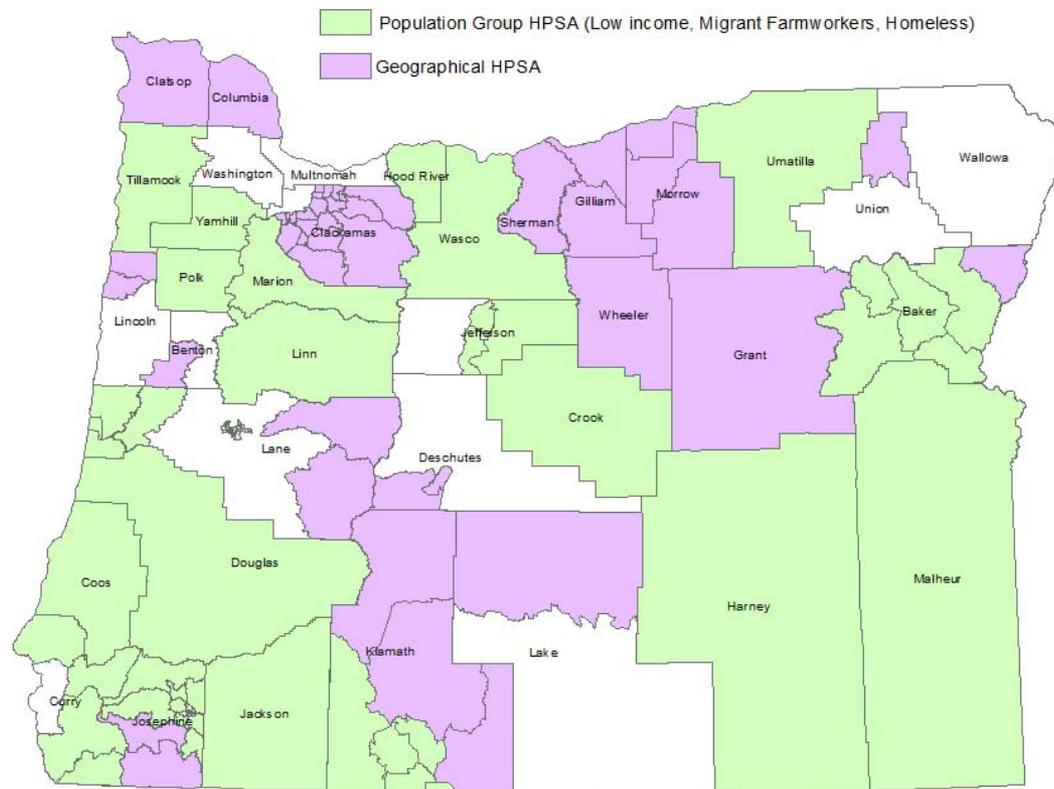
**Financial**

**Geographic**



# Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) identify areas in need of health care professionals.

Oregon Primary Medical Care Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) Designations as of 10/24/2011



# Community based practices

**NHSC Approved Sites include:**

- **Community Health Centers**
- **Rural Health Clinics**
- **Private practice**
- **Mental Health Organizations**
- **Dental Clinics**
- **Other underserved settings.**



## Approved community-based sites...

- Treat everyone regardless of their ability to pay.
- Accept all patients regardless of religion or demographics.
- Employ full-time health care clinicians.



# NHSC Loan Repayment Program

**Serve in an Approved Site as an NHSC  
Loan Repayor, and NHSC will help  
repay your  
student loans.**





# Loan Repayment Commitment

- **2-year Full-Time Clinical Practice:** Loan repayment of up to \$40-60,000 in total available, depending on the HPSA score of the practice site service.
- **Additional loan repayment:** Loan repayors can apply for continued loan repayment, one year at a time, until all qualifying educational loans are paid.
- **Part-time Loan Repayment:** Loan repayors can apply for to be part-time (20-39 hrs/wk), working less hours and receiving a smaller award.

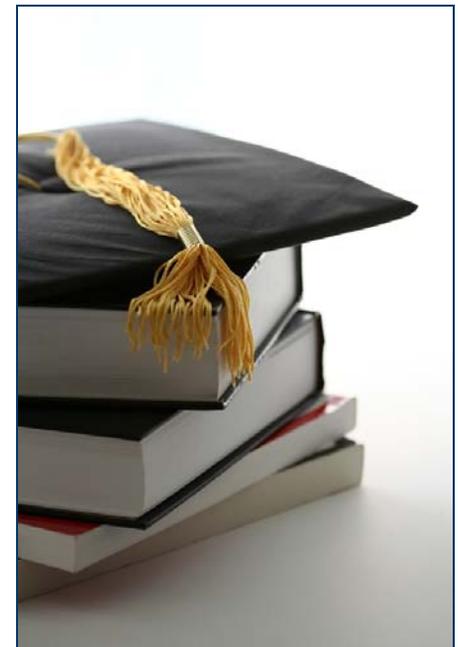


# NHSC Scholarship Program

**Full-time students willing and ready to practice where the need is greatest can compete for educational scholarships.**

**They're provided up to four years of:**

- Tuition and fees
- Reasonable educational expenses
- Monthly stipend



# Scholarship Program commitment

- **Scholars secure work at a site with high HPSA score.**
- **Scholars work one year for each school year of financial support they receive (minimum 2-year commitment)**
- **NHSC will assign Scholars to sites if they are unable to find employment on their own.**



# Medical professions qualifying for NHSC programs :

- Allopathic Physician
  - Osteopathic Physician
  - Physician's Assistant
  - Nurse Practitioner
  - Certified Nurse Midwife  
(loan repayment only)
- 
- **Other eligible professions include:** mental health professional, primary care dentist, dental hygienist. See the NHSC website for a full listing and eligibility requirements.

# Applications Process and Job Opportunities List

Check the NHSC Job Opportunities List:

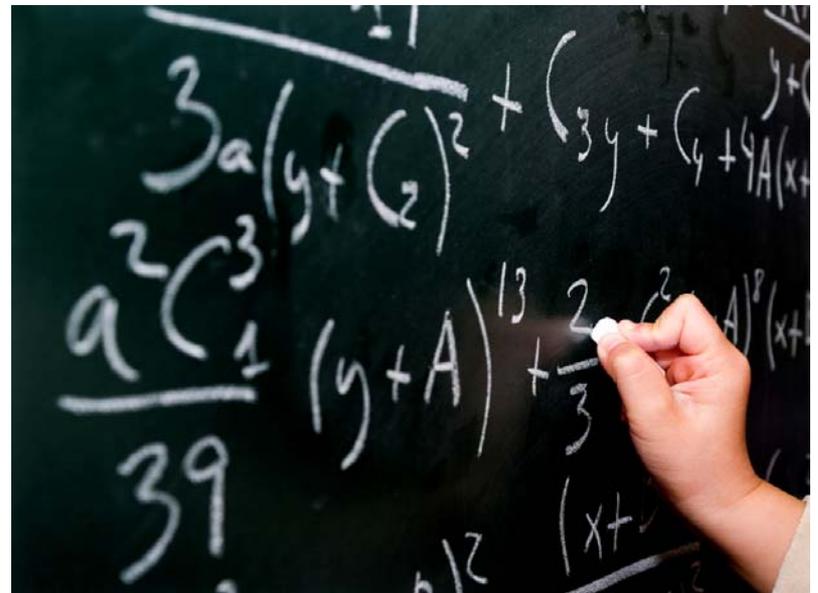


Or, become a member of NHSC's Facebook Page!

<http://nhsc.bhpr.hrsa.gov>

# NHSC programs are a commitment!

Acceptance of a NHSC scholarship or loan repayment is a long-term, serious, and binding obligation. There are significant penalties for failure to meet commitments.



# Oregon Locums Tenens Cooperative (OLTC)



# What is the SEARCH Program?



Student/Resident  
Experiences  
And  
Rotations in  
Community  
Health

# SEARCH offers medical students:

- Medical rotations in culturally diverse, community-based systems of care
- Skill-building in primary care by working alongside mentors.

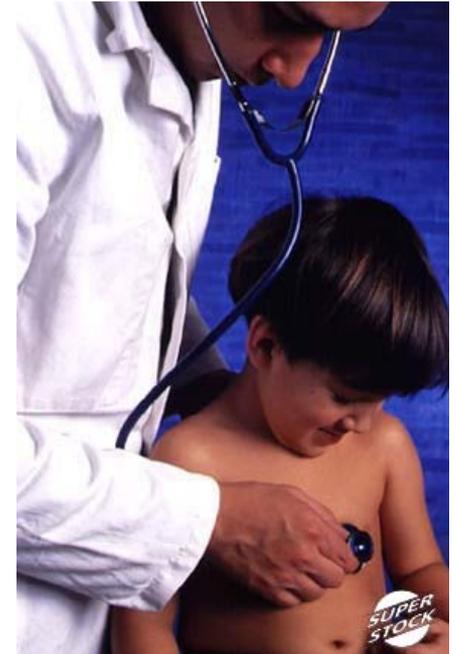
Contact Oregon Primary Care Association (OPCA):

[www.orpca.org/](http://www.orpca.org/)



# J-1 VISA Waiver Program

- International students who complete a U.S fellowship or residency must return home for two years afterward.
- This requirement is waived if they commit to practice in a high need area for three years. They then can apply for a J-1 VISA Waiver.



<http://oregon.gov/DHS/ph/hsp/conrad/index.shtml>

# Oregon Healthcare Workforce Liaisons (OHWLS)



The PCO is piloting an online network to improve information-sharing and coordination about the health care workforce across the state.

Healthcare training and workforce programs, health care students and professionals, and practice sites are encouraged to join this online network by e-mailing [OWL webspace](#)

# The PCO is Oregon's Contact for:

NHSC ~ J-1 VISA ~ OHWL

Oregon Primary Care Office (PCO)  
Oregon Office of Health Policy and Research  
(503) 373 -1779

[PCO.Oregon@state.or.us](mailto:PCO.Oregon@state.or.us)