

Pathways to Health Careers Act Fact Sheet

The Health Professions Opportunity Grant (HPOG) is a tested, effective health care job training program that connects low-income individuals with in-demand jobs in the health care sector in order to address workforce shortages.

The HPOG model offers a supportive pathway to well-paying careers in health professions experiencing workforce shortages. HPOG participants pursuing careers in the health care sector receive supportive services like child care, transportation, career coaching, job placement, income support, and ongoing post-employment training.

Those receiving HPOG services are more likely to enroll in and complete health workforce training and are more likely to meet their career goal of being employed in a health profession upon graduation, when compared to otherwise similar workers.

Despite its success, the HPOG Program ended during the pandemic. At time of closure, HPOG funded 32 effective local programs in 21 states and 5 tribal nations using demonstration grant funding which was first authorized in 2010 and fully expired at the end of FY 2022.

The Pathways to Health Careers Act would provide \$435 million annually to restart and expand HPOG programs to every state in the country.

The dozens of career pathways available through the HPOG model include becoming a Nurse, an Emergency Medical Technician, health information technician, or a surgical technician. The proven model includes:

- Career pathway approach: including apprenticeships, stackable credentials, and ongoing training to support advancement
- Work supports: including child care, transportation, stipends, work supplies, uniforms, and application fees
- Case management: including goal setting, mentoring and career coaching, education planning, interview coaching, and job placement