

## The Pathways to Health Careers Act would:

- Reauthorizes the Health Profession Opportunity Grant (HPOG) to restart start the proven-effective HPOG Program
- Provide \$425 million to make HPOG available nationwide from FY2024 through FY2028 and includes set asides for Tribes and U.S. territories.

**HPOG is a tested, effective health care job training program** that addresses workforce shortages and fills in-demand jobs with individuals who need help achieving their career goal of working in health professions. The HPOG model uses a "career pathway" approach, which offers stackable credentials in entry-level, mid-level, and high-level trainings to provide a supportive pathway to a well-paying career in a health profession experiencing shortages of qualified applicants. 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 HPOG program opens the door to career opportunities for women**, who are disproportionately left behind in workforce training programs. The vast majority of HPOG participants are low-income single mothers of color in their 20s and 30s with household incomes of less than \$20,000 in the year before enrolling. To date, the HPOG program has helped over 80,000 people meet their career goals of working in the health care field.

**The HPOG program stands out** among other job training approaches because of the mix of supportive services provided as part of the program, 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.

To cosponsor this legislation, please reach out to <u>claire wengrod@heinrich.senate.gov</u>.