

Grants for Dental Hygiene Programs, Faculty and Students—Consider Applying!



Opportunity is knocking! As a result of the recently passed Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (health reform legislation) and 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (stimulus legislation) there will be **nearly \$100 million in grant funding available for health professions education programs, students, and faculty**. Because of the recognition of dental hygienists as primary care providers in health reform legislation, **this year marks the first time dental hygiene has been included for certain education-related grants which are administered by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration** (HRSA) under Title VII of the Public Health Service Act. ADHA is spreading the word to ensure dental hygiene educators are aware of available grants.

Within the **next week** it is anticipated that HRSA will post the **formal applications** for some of the new funding on www.HRSA.gov. Funds will support, for example, **programmatic development and faculty loan repayment**. **Interested parties will likely have only 30 days to submit an application**, so ADHA is offering some advance information about the grants. The funds will be awarded prior to September 30, 2010. The process to submit grant applications and award funds is moving very rapidly.

ADHA has advocated strongly to have dental hygiene included as part of these grant programs as they offer a great opportunity to receive significant federal support. Below is a listing of the various types of grants available to dental hygiene education programs, faculty, and students along with a notation of which types of dental hygiene programs may be best placed to apply and a general summary of the information that applicants will likely need to submit to HRSA.

ADHA **strongly encourages dental hygiene programs to apply** for the grants. The funds that come as a result of the stimulus bill will soon be exhausted and while other funding is available on an annual basis, the level of funding varies from year to year depending on the amount appropriated by Congress.

Now is the time to take advantage of new grant opportunities to support your program!

Title VII Grants DH Programs/Students/ Faculty are Newly Eligible for:	DH Education Program(s) <i>Likely</i> Eligible to Apply:	Information Applicants Should be Prepared to Submit:
Grants to plan, develop and operate or participate in an approved professional training program in general, pediatric or public health dentistry for dental students, residents, dentists, dental hygienists or other primary care dental trainees that emphasizes training for general, pediatric, or public health dentistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Entry-level degree - Degree completion - Master's degree 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Detailed program/project summary and narrative about how funds will be utilized and the impact the funds will have on program capacity, curriculum, access to care, etc - Detailed budget information - Biographical sketches and information about key personnel at your program that will be involved in the grant request and/or utilization of funding - Location/site information about your program (off-campus sites included) - Collaborations with other departments, entities, organizations that funds could facilitate or enhance - Proof of non-profit status (for non-profit entities applying) <p>Entities Eligible for Funds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dental and dental hygiene programs - Advanced education programs (in public health dentistry) - Entities may partner with Schools of Public Health to educate dentists and dental hygienists for a Masters year in public health at a School of Public Health
Grants to provide financial assistance to dental and dental hygiene students, residents, and dentists in need and who plan to work in general, pediatric, public health dentistry or dental hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Entry-level degree - Degree completion 	
Grants to plan, develop, and operate a program for the training of oral health care providers who plan to teach in general, pediatric, or public health dentistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Degree completion - Master's degree 	
Grants to meet the costs of projects to establish, maintain, or improve dental faculty development programs in primary care (which may be departments, divisions or other units)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Entry-level degree - Degree completion - Master's degree 	
Loan repayment for full-time faculty in general, pediatric, or public health dentistry programs (funds for principal and interest of outstanding student loans)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Entry-level degree - Degree completion - Master's degree 	

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Priorities in Awarding Grants

Grant applications will be scored numerically and can earn additional points by meeting any/all of the following criteria which have been identified as priority areas:

1. Applicants that propose collaborative projects between departments of primary care medicine and departments of general, pediatric, or public health dentistry
2. Applicants that have demonstrated significant improvements in the percentages of providers, who enter and remain in general, pediatric, or public health dentistry
3. Applicants that have a record of training individuals who are from a rural or disadvantaged background, or from underrepresented minorities
4. Applicants that establish formal relationships with federally qualified health centers, rural health centers, or accredited teaching facilities and that conduct training of students, residents, fellows, or faculty at the center or facility
5. Applicants that conduct teaching programs targeting vulnerable populations such as older adults, homeless individuals victims of abuse or trauma, individuals with mental health or substance-related disorders, individuals with disabilities, and individuals with HIV/AIDS, and in the risk-based clinical disease management of populations
6. Applicants that include educational activities in cultural competency and health literacy
7. Applicants that have a high rate for placing graduates in practice settings that serve underserved areas or health disparity populations, or who achieve a significant increase in the rate of placing graduates in such settings
8. Applicants that intend to establish a special populations oral health care education center or training program for the didactic and clinical education of dentists, dental health professionals, and dental hygienists who plan to teach oral health care for people with developmental disabilities, cognitive impairment, complex medical problems, significant physical limitations, and vulnerable elderly

Some Additional Information:

- The grant application will be posted on www.HRSA.gov (in the Funding Opportunities section of its website) soon
- Those interested can sign up to receive e-mails directly from HRSA alerting them to grant opportunities as they become available: <http://www.grants.gov/search/subscribeAdvanced.do>
- The HRSA application process is electronic and applications are submitted via the HRSA website – entities must obtain specific permission to submit an application in writing
- Interested parties have at most 30 days to apply for funds once the application is made public
- Applicants will be eligible for funds to carry out 5 year programs (i.e. funding is offered each year for 5 years, not just 1 year)
- All applications are peer-reviewed
- The HRSA application process is rather involved but HRSA does offer technical support to interested parties who need assistance:
E-mail: callcenter@hrsa.gov Phone: 1.877.464.4772
- HRSA does offer a number of resources, including an online tutorial, to assist those interested in applying and submitting applications: <http://www.grants.gov/help/help.jsp> – **Become familiar with the application process as soon as possible!**
- ADHA staff is available to offer any assistance it can in the development of grant applications
E-mail: gov.affairs@adha.net Phone: 312.440.8925
- Grants funds provided through the stimulus bill are available this year only – it is not anticipated that funding at this level will be maintained in the future – **the time to apply is now!**
- **Additional grant opportunities to fund up to \$300,000 in equipment (e.g., dental operatories) at education/training programs will be offered by HRSA in coming weeks/months and will involve a similar application process. Time spent now becoming familiar with the HRSA grant application process is time spent well!**