

**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

Memorandum

Date: August 4, 2020

From: Chief, Health Professions Education (10X1), VA Central Office, Washington, DC

Subj: Academic Year (AY) 2021-22/Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Trainee Support for Associated Health and Nursing Professions: Request for Training Positions and Standards of Excellence Reports

To: Designated Education Officers

1. Please see the attached program announcement, “**Academic Year 2021-22 or Fiscal Year 2022 Trainee Support for Associated Health and Nursing Professions: Request for Training Positions and Standards of Excellence Reports.**” Copies have been sent to Directors of all Veterans Integrated Services Networks, Designated Education Officers, and National Program Offices.
2. The program announcement provides policies and procedures for the preparation and submission of requests for AY 2021-22 or FY 2022 funding support for associated health and nursing health professions trainees (HPT). The entire report will be entered on-line in a web-based system developed by the Office of Academic Affiliations. (See Attachment B of Program Announcement for instructions).
3. Training position requests and profession-specific Standards of Excellence (SoE) reports are due in the OAA database on or before **Friday, September 18, 2020**. *Note that nine professions will **not** have facilities complete SoE reports or request positions for AY 2021-22.* Seven of these training programs (chiropractic care, licensed professional mental health counseling, marriage and family therapy, nursing, physical therapy, physician assistant, and psychology) will maintain funding at the AY 2020-21 **approved base position levels**, while two (clinical pastoral education and orthotics/prosthetics) are undergoing a recompetete Request for Proposals process to secure HPT positions.
4. Please note that starting AY2021-22, **the OAA will no longer fund nursing pre-degree (student) positions, with exception to Nurse Anesthesia student positions.**
5. This year you will find two new requests for information:
 - a. **Request for Information on Engagement with Vet Centers:** OAA’s AHE section is requesting that all DEOs complete a short request for information to better understand current engagement with Vet Centers. Each DEO is asked to complete one question via the below SurveyMonkey link. <https://www.research.net/r/VetCenter>
 - b. **Request for Information on Profession-Specific Training Program Retention and Educational Infrastructure:** OAA is collecting baseline data from profession-specific training directors to review trends in retention rates, training director protected time, and appropriate infrastructure to support training programs. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GQL8J85>

6. Questions regarding associated health education programs should be referred to the Associated Health Education team at Assoc.Health@va.gov. Questions regarding Nursing Education programs should be directed to VHACOOAANURSING@va.gov . Technical questions regarding uploading documents may be directed to OADMCMC@va.gov.

Paul B. Greenberg, MD, MPH
Chief, Health Professions Education, Office of Academic Affiliations

Attachments