

UH Manoa Nursing Receives HRSA Grant to Improve Access to Nurse Practitioner Care

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tuition scholarships and stipends will support students studying to become family or adult/ gerontology nurse practitioners to address the shortage of primary care providers in Hawaii.

Honolulu, Hawaii (September 28, 2012) – University of Hawaii at Manoa Nursing (UHM) announced today that it has been selected as a grant recipient from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for the Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship (AENT) Program.

University of Hawaii at Manoa Nursing will receive \$648,000 to provide scholarships to 15 primary care family or adult/gerontological nurse practitioner (NP) graduate students. The project will increase the number of primary care NPs providing clinical care in the rural communities by graduating 15 primary care NPs committed to working in

underserved communities in Hawaii by summer 2014.

“The most serious health problems in Hawaii are obesity, diabetes, hypertension, hypercholesterolemia, and asthma. Yet, many people have to wait to get care or can’t access patient centered care. The NP graduates from UH Manoa will increase access to needed health care services throughout the State” said Dr. Mary G. Boland, Dean and Professor, University of Hawaii at Manoa Nursing.

UHM Nursing will provide scholarships directly to students with priority given to students from groups underrepresented in nursing, residents of rural islands of the State, and veterans. The AENT Program will allow recipients the financial ability to study full time and graduate in 2 years. Dr. Maureen Shannon, Graduate Chair and AENT Program Director, noted that the scholarships are a workforce investment in local nurses. “Hawaii nurses in rural communities return to school to expand their skills. As nurse practitioners, these locally connected nurses are well accepted and provide quality care with high patient satisfaction.”

For more information about UHM Nursing’s nurse practitioner programs, visit <http://www.nursing.hawaii.edu/nursing-practitioner.html>.

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UH Manoa Nursing, the Nursing Capitol of the Pacific, is the leader in nursing education and research in Hawaii with outreach to Asia and the Pacific Basin. We support the mission of the University of Hawaii at Manoa: to provide an innovative, caring and multicultural environment in which faculty, students and staff work together to generate and transmit knowledge, wisdom, and values to promote quality of life and health for present and future generations. The School offers BS, master’s, and doctoral programs. To reflect Hawaii’s unique cultural diversity and heritage, UH Manoa

Nursing is committed to increasing Native Hawaiian and other underserved people in all nursing programs.