



# **Health Workforce Programs in the Public Health Service (PHS) Act: Appropriations History (FY2001-FY2009)**

**Bernice Reyes-Akinbileje**

Analyst in Health Resources and Services

**Mary Vennetta Wright**

Information Research Specialist

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## Summary

The health professions programs in Titles VII and VIII of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act provide grants, scholarships, and loans to support institutions and individuals in the education and training of health professionals (Title VII) and the nursing workforce (Title VIII). During the period from FY2001 through FY2008, funding for Title VII programs decreased by about 30%, from \$276 million to \$194 million. President George W. Bush's FY2009 budget proposed to eliminate funding for all Title VII programs. In contrast, funding for Title VIII programs, during the same period, increased by 86%, from about \$84 million to \$156 million. President Bush's FY2009 budget requested nearly \$110 million for Title VIII programs. Legislative authority for most of the programs established in Title VII and Title VIII expired at the end of FY2002. This report provides a history of appropriations for the various Title VII and Title VIII of the PHS Act. It will be updated as FY2009 appropriation actions occur.

## **Contents**

Background .....	1
Title VII, Health Professions Education Appropriations .....	2
Title VIII, Nursing Workforce Development Appropriations.....	2

## **Tables**

Table 1. Appropriations for Title VII, Health Professions Education Programs, FY2001 through FY2009 (Est.).....	3
Table 2. Appropriations for Title VIII, Nursing Workforce Development Programs, FY2001 through FY2009 (Est.) .....	5
Table 3. Total Appropriations for Title VII and Title VIII Programs, FY2001 through FY2009 (Est.).....	6

## **Contacts**

Author Contact Information .....	7
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## Background

In 1963, Congress enacted the Health Professions Educational Assistance Act (P.L. 88-129) to create education and training programs for various health and nursing professionals. The programs, which are found in Titles VII and VIII of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, provide grants, scholarships, and loans to individuals and institutions in order to increase the supply of health professionals, primary care providers, and nurses. Title VII programs support individuals who study to become primary care physicians, dentists, and allied health professionals. Also, institutions that train these individuals are eligible for grants to support the development of education and training opportunities through endeavors such as multidisciplinary collaborative efforts, and community partnerships. Title VIII programs support individuals who are training to work in the nursing profession, and institutions that create nursing workforce programs. All Title VII and VIII programs are administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Funding for Title VII and VIII programs is provided in the annual appropriations for the Departments of Labor, HHS, and Education. Detailed program information is available online at the website for HRSA's Bureau of Health Professions at <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/>.

The 1963 Act has been amended and reauthorized on several occasions since its initial passage.<sup>1</sup> The most recent reauthorization of Title VII programs occurred in 1998 (P.L. 105-392). Legislative authority for these programs expired at the end of FY2002 although Congress has continued to appropriate funds.

In 2002, the Nurse Reinvestment Act (P.L. 107-205) extended existing programs in Title VIII for Basic Nurse Education and Practice Grants, and Nurse Faculty Loans, and added the following new programs: National Nurse Corps, Nurse Loan Repayment and Scholarship Program, Public Service Announcements, and Comprehensive Geriatric Education. Legislative authority for these programs expired at the end of FY2007, yet Congress has continued to appropriate funds. Authority for the Advanced Education Nursing program, and the Nursing Workforce Diversity program, which were established in the Health Education Partnerships Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-392), expired at the end of FY2002.

On December 26, 2007, President George W. Bush sent his FY2009 budget to Congress in which he eliminated funding for all Title VII programs, but proposed \$110 million in funding for selected title VIII programs. On July 8, 2008, the Senate Appropriations Committee recommended FY2009 funding levels of about \$196 million for Title VII programs and about \$168 million for Title VIII programs.<sup>2</sup> In a draft bill that did not receive full committee action, the House Appropriations committee, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (L-HHS-ED) included FY2009 funding of about \$244 million for Title VII programs, and more than \$174 million for Title VIII programs. It is expected that sometime in 2009 not only will Congress deliberate budget matters, but it will also consider the reauthorization of these

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<sup>1</sup> The Health Professions Educational Assistance Act of 1963 (P.L. 88-129) was amended in 1965 (P.L. 89-290), 1968 (P.L. 90-490), 1971 (P.L. 92-157), 1976 (P.L. 94-484), 1981 (P.L. 97-35), 1985 (P.L. 99-129), 1988 (P.L. 100-607), 1992 (P.L. 102-408), and 1998 (P.L. 105-392).

<sup>2</sup> S.Rept. 110-410, accompanying S. 3230.

programs. This report summarizes funding for the Title VII and VIII programs for FY2001 through FY2008, and the President's FY2009 budget request (see **Table 1**, **Table 2**, and **Table 3**).

## **Title VII, Health Professions Education Appropriations**

During the period from FY2001 through FY2008, the overall appropriation for Title VII programs declined by about one-third, from \$295 million to \$194 million. Throughout much of this period, the Bush Administration sought to eliminate funding for most Title VII programs, only to have Congress restore funding. At least three programs have remained unfunded since FY2006: Health Education and Training, Quentin Burdick Program for Rural Interdisciplinary Training, and Health Administration Traineeships and Special Projects. President Bush's FY2009 budget proposed to eliminate funding for all Title VII programs. **Table 1** provides Title VII appropriations for the period from FY2001 through FY2008, and includes President Bush's FY2009 budget request, and recommendations from the House and Senate for FY2009.

## **Title VIII, Nursing Workforce Development Appropriations**

During the period from FY2001 through FY2008, the overall appropriation for Title VIII programs increased by 86%, from \$93 million to \$156 million. President Bush's FY2009 budget request proposed a 30% decrease in title VIII programs. **Table 2** provides Title VIII appropriations for the period from FY2001 through FY2008, and includes President Bush's FY2009 budget request and recommendations from the House and Senate for FY2009. Some congressional committees typically show a single table that combines appropriations for Title VII and Title VIII. **Table 3** combines total appropriations for Title VII and Title VIII programs for those same fiscal years.

**Table 1. Appropriations for Title VII, Health Professions Education Programs, FY2001 through FY2009 (Est.)**  
(in thousands of dollars)

<b>Program (PHS Act Section)</b>	<b>FY01 Actual</b>	<b>FY02 Actual</b>	<b>FY03 Actual</b>	<b>FY04 Actual</b>	<b>FY05 Actual</b>	<b>FY06 Actual</b>	<b>FY07 Actual</b>	<b>FY08 Enact.</b>	<b>FY09 Req.</b>	<b>FY09 Senate Comm.</b>	<b>FY09 House Sub.</b>
<b>Training for Diversity</b>											
Centers of Excellence (736)	30,388	32,788	34,088	33,657	33,609	11,872	11,880	12,773	0	12,773	28,431
Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students (737)	44,473	46,216	47,795	47,510	47,129	46,625	46,657	45,842	0	45,842	45,842
Faculty Loan Repayment and Minority Faculty Fellowship (738)	1,330	1,330	1,321	1,313	1,302	1,288	1,289	1,266	0	1,266	1,266
Health Careers Opportunity Program (739)	33,044	34,611	36,153	36,160	35,646	3,957	3,960	9,825	0	9,825	28,440
<b>Subtotal, Training for Diversity</b>	<b>109,235</b>	<b>114,945</b>	<b>119,357</b>	<b>118,640</b>	<b>117,686</b>	<b>63,742</b>	<b>63,786</b>	<b>69,706</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>69,706</b>	<b>103,979</b>
<b>Training/Primary Care Med/Dentistry (747, 748)</b>	<b>91,048</b>	<b>93,002</b>	<b>92,432</b>	<b>81,917</b>	<b>88,816</b>	<b>40,823</b>	<b>48,851</b>	<b>47,998</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>48,851</b>	<b>47,998</b>
<b>Interdisciplinary Community-based Linkages</b>											
Area Health Education Centers (751, 757)	33,125	33,346	32,946	29,206	28,971	28,661	28,681	28,180	0	28,180	36,900
Health Education and Training Centers (752, 757)	4,640	4,400	4,371	3,851	3,820	0	0	0	0	0	0
Geriatric Programs (753, 757)	12,410	20,400	27,818	31,805	31,548	0	31,548	30,997	0	30,997	30,997
Quentin N. Burdick Program/Rural Training (754, 757)	5,988	6,996	6,954	6,125	6,076	0	0	0	0	0	0

Program (PHS Act Section)	FY01 Actual	FY02 Actual	FY03 Actual	FY04 Actual	FY05 Actual	FY06 Actual	FY07 Actual	FY08 Enact.	FY09 Req.	FY09 Senate Comm.	FY09 House Sub.
Allied Health and Other Disciplines (755, 757)	8,422	9,495	11,922	11,849	11,753	3,957	3,960	8,803	0	8,803	16,000
<b>Subtotal, Interdisciplinary Community Linkages</b>	<b>64,585</b>	<b>74,637</b>	<b>84,011</b>	<b>82,836</b>	<b>82,168</b>	<b>32,618</b>	<b>64,189</b>	<b>67,980</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>67,980</b>	<b>83,897</b>
<b>Workforce Information and Analysis (761)</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>824</b>	<b>819</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>716</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Public Health Workforce Development</b>											
Public Health/Dental/Medicine (766-768, 770)	9,478	10,473	10,600	9,170	9,097	7,915	7,920	8,273	0	9,000	8,273
Health Admin/Trainees and Special Projects (769)	1,231	1,230	1,222	1,078	1,070	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Subtotal, Public Health Workforce Development</b>	<b>10,709</b>	<b>11,703</b>	<b>11,822</b>	<b>10,248</b>	<b>10,167</b>	<b>7,915</b>	<b>7,920</b>	<b>8,273</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>8,273</b>
<b>TOTAL, TITLE VII HEALTH PROFESSIONS</b>	<b>276,401</b>	<b>295,111</b>	<b>308,441</b>	<b>294,363</b>	<b>299,553</b>	<b>145,098</b>	<b>184,746</b>	<b>193,957</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>195,537</b>	<b>244,147</b>

**Sources:** HHS, HRSA Budget Justification documents, FY2003 through FY2007. Amounts for FY2008, the FY2009 request, and FY2009 Senate Appropriations recommendations are based on the table in S.Rept. 110-410, accompanying S. 3232 (July 8, 2008). Amounts recommended by the House L-HHS-ED Appropriations Subcommittee are based on its table dated June 23, 2008.

**Table 2. Appropriations for Title VIII, Nursing Workforce Development Programs, FY2001 through FY2009 (Est.)**

(in thousands of dollars)

<b>Program (PHS Act Section)</b>	<b>FY01 Actual</b>	<b>FY02 Actual</b>	<b>FY03 Actual</b>	<b>FY04 Actual</b>	<b>FY05 Actual</b>	<b>FY06 Actual</b>	<b>FY07 Actual</b>	<b>FY08 Enact.</b>	<b>FY09 Req.</b>	<b>FY09 Senate Comm.</b>	<b>FY09 House Subc.</b>
Advanced Education Nursing (811) <sup>a</sup>	59,045	60,018	50,174	58,636	58,160	57,021	57,061	61,875	0	67,000	61,875
Nursing Workforce Diversity (821) <sup>a</sup>	4,573	6,172	9,935	16,402	16,270	16,096	16,107	15,826	16,107	16,107	16,107
Nurse Education/Practice/Retention (831) <sup>b</sup>	12,790	16,283	26,825	31,769	36,468	37,266	37,291	36,640	37,291	37,291	37,291
Loan Repayments/ Scholarships (846) <sup>b</sup>	7,279	10,235	19,870	26,736	31,482	31,034	31,055	30,512	43,744	30,512	43,744
Nursing Faculty Loan (846A) <sup>b</sup>	NA	NA	2,980	4,870	4,831	4,770	4,773	7,860	9,319	11,000	12,000
Comprehensive Geriatric Education (855) <sup>b</sup>	NA	NA	2,980	3,478	3,450	3,389	3,392	3,333	3,392	5,742	3,392
<b>TOTAL, TITLE VIII NURSING</b>	<b>83,787</b>	<b>92,708</b>	<b>112,764</b>	<b>141,891</b>	<b>150,661</b>	<b>149,576</b>	<b>149,679</b>	<b>156,046</b>	<b>109,853</b>	<b>167,652</b>	<b>174,409</b>

**Sources:** HHS, HRSA Budget Justification documents, FY2003 through FY2007. Amounts for FY2008, the FY2009 request, and FY2009 Senate Appropriations recommendations are based on the table in S.Rept. 110-410, accompanying S. 3232 (July 8, 2008). Amounts recommended by the House L-HHS-ED Appropriations Subcommittee are based on its table dated June 23, 2008.

- a. These programs were authorized in the Health Education Partnerships Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-392); authorizations expired at the end of FY2002. Section 807, Grants for Health Professions Education, is an unfunded program.
- b. These programs were authorized in the Nurse Reinvestment Act (P.L. 107-205); authorizations expired at the end of FY2007 for Sections 831, 846, 846A, and 855. Additional programs authorized in P.L. 107-205 that remain unfunded are: Section 851, Public Service Announcements; and Section 852, State and Local Public Service Announcements.



**Table 3. Total Appropriations for Title VII and Title VIII Programs,  
FY2001 through FY2009 (Est.)**

(in thousands of dollars)

<b>Programs</b>	<b>FY01 Actual</b>	<b>FY02 Actual</b>	<b>FY03 Actual</b>	<b>FY04 Actual</b>	<b>FY05 Actual</b>	<b>FY06 Actual</b>	<b>FY07 Actual</b>	<b>FY08 Enact.</b>	<b>FY09 Req.</b>	<b>FY09 Senate Comm.</b>	<b>FY09 House Subc.</b>
Title VII, Health Professions Education	276,401	295,111	308,441	294,363	299,553	145,098	184,746	193,957	0	195,537	244,147
Title VIII, Nursing Workforce Development	83,787	92,708	112,764	141,891	150,661	149,576	149,679	156,046	109,853	167,652	174,409
<b>TOTAL, TITLE VII AND TITLE VIII</b>	<b>360,188</b>	<b>387,819</b>	<b>421,205</b>	<b>436,254</b>	<b>450,214</b>	<b>294,674</b>	<b>334,425</b>	<b>350,003</b>	<b>109,853</b>	<b>363,189</b>	<b>418,556</b>

**Sources:** HHS, HRSA Budget Justification documents, FY2003 through FY2007. Amounts for FY2008, the FY2009 request, and FY2009 Senate Appropriations recommendations are based on the table in S.Rept. 110-410, accompanying S. 3232 (July 8, 2008). Amounts recommended by the House L-HHS-ED Appropriations Subcommittee are based on its table dated June 23, 2008.

## **Author Contact Information**

Bernice Reyes-Akinbileje  
Analyst in Health Resources and Services  
breyes@crs.loc.gov, 7-2260

Mary Vennetta Wright  
Information Research Specialist  
mwright@crs.loc.gov, 7-7541