

Project Narrative

I. PURPOSE AND NEED

a. Introduction

The overall goal of the project is to expand the breadth and depth of Physician Assistant (PA) training in primary care, to improve patient access to care, and to address the Healthy People 2020 goal of reducing health disparities by ensuring that graduate health care providers and clinical training sites have the skills to care for multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, and multi-linguistic populations.

II. RESPONSE TO PROGRAM PURPOSE

Objective 1:

Increased recruitment of Physician Assistant applicants from the veteran community and development of a Veteran Physician Assistant Bridge Program to support this objective

Activities would include:

1. Focused visits with active duty service members and veterans at Fort Example;
2. Job fairs targeting veterans, and
3. Connections with Educational Services Officers (ESO) both on and off post.

The following metrics will be used to determine success in achieving Objective 1.

1. The overall number of veterans who express interest in the PA program as a result of our recruitment efforts.
2. The number of veterans who inquire about the program, seek review of their academic record, or seek advisement regarding the bridge program.
3. The number of veteran applicants who are successful in the application process itself, and who enter any PA program (at Main Street College or elsewhere, recognizing that the veteran may chose an alternate graduate training program due to geographic preference or economics) since the objective is to increase the number of veterans in the healthcare workforce.
4. The number of veterans who enroll in other healthcare professions such as OT, nursing opportunities on our campus.
5. The number of veterans who graduate from the Main Street College PA program.

Objective 2:

Development of academic training and financial incentives to expand/retain the number of successful training sites in medically underserved, rural, and primary care venues

Activities would include:

1. Develop and test creative incentives to encourage primary care physicians and PAs across our state to consider serving as a clinical preceptor for Main Street College PA students. Across all

disciplines, the top incentives provided to develop and retain clinical training sites were non-monetary, including :

- faculty positions,
 - library access,
 - public recognition,
 - faculty development opportunities and CME/CNE credits
2. Create other incentives, including
- Mentoring stipends, and
 - A voucher for a three-credit course is issued when an agency or individual has precepted a total of (3) six-week clinical rotations.

The following metrics will be used to determine success in achieving Objective 2.

1. The number of new sites established in rural, or medically underserved communities (in New York State and nationally) as determined by tracking the number of new sites, the federal designation of the site, and the population of the surrounding community;
2. The number of primary care sites that choose to access one or more of the incentives outlined above; and
3. The number of new preceptors exchanged in existing sites.

Objective 3:

Develop and implement student incentives and ancillary communication services to support training in underserved communities

Activities would include:

1. Creating incentives for students training in underserved communities;
2. Creating linkages to housing for students training in underserved areas; and
3. Creating additional support for students training in underserved areas, including
 - Housing and transportation stipends.

The following metrics will be used to determine success in achieving Objective 3.

1. The number of students who apply for a competitive stipends;
2. The number of students who receive a stipends;
3. The total number of dollars awarded annually for student stipends;
4. Types of stipends awarded; and
5. The number of PA graduates working in primary care and/or in underserved areas as measured by employment data surveys in years 1, 3 and 5.