4. Study duration, overall study design, and analysis of clinical trials needed to demonstrate a treatment effect on disease modification for peripheral neuropathy.

FDÅ will post the agenda and additional workshop background material approximately 5 days before the workshop at http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/NewsEvents/ucm310416.htm.

II. Transcripts

Please be advised that as soon as a transcript is available, it will be accessible at http://www.regulations.gov.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

Single Source Program Expansion Supplement Award to Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) Program Grantee—Exception to Competition

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), HHS.

ACTION: Notice of Exception to Competition—Single Source Program Expansion Supplement Award to Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) Program Grantee—University of Guam School of Nursing.

SUMMARY: The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)'s Bureau of Health Professions is issuing a non-competitive single source program expansion supplement award to the University of Guam School of Nursing, an Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Program grantee, to coordinate the U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands (USAPI) Nursing Program Capacity Strengthening and Quality Improvement Initiative. In fiscal year (FY) 2012, $203,703 will be available to fund this award. The Guam/Micronesia AHEC is uniquely qualified and has the capacity, capability, expertise, experience, and infrastructure to expeditiously, effectively, and efficiently implement the project within their existing educational programming.

The University of Guam School of Nursing is the only nationally accredited baccalaureate nursing education program in the Pacific. Its focus is on health careers training and development, as well as improving the health careers pipeline in the region.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Intended Recipient of the Award:

The Guam/Micronesia AHEC—University of Guam School of Nursing.

Amount of Award: $203,703.

Authority: Section 751 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 294a), as amended by Sec. 5403 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111–148.

CFDA Number: 93.824.


Justification: The Guam/Micronesia AHEC—University of Guam School of Nursing is uniquely qualified to carry out the USAPI Nursing Program Capacity Strengthening and Quality Improvement Initiative Project because of their significant role in improving the public health capacity and infrastructure in the region.

The University of Guam School of Nursing is the only nationally accredited baccalaureate nursing education program in the Pacific. The Guam/Micronesia AHEC grantee is the University of Guam School of Nursing, whose focus is health careers training and development, as well as improving the health careers pipeline in the region. The activities that will be carried out through this initiative will serve as building blocks in a more comprehensive strategic effort to strengthen nursing education, and, thus the nursing workforce in the USAPI jurisdictions. Funding this supplemental award in FY 2012 will enable the grantee to implement the activities identified in this initiative, targeted on nursing program director development, student assessment and preparation, program resource purchases, and faculty development.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Meseret Bezuneh, Project Officer, Health Resources and Services Administration, Division of Public Health and Interdisciplinary Education, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 9C–05, Rockville, Maryland 20857, Phone: (301) 594–4149, Email: mbezuneh@hrsa.gov.


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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

Single Source Program Expansion Supplement Award to Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention (NEPQR) Program Grantee—Exception to Competition

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice of Exception to Competition—Single Source Program Expansion Supplement Award to Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention (NEPQR) Program Grantee—Texas A&M University Corpus Christi (TAMUCC), College of Nursing and Health Science (CONHS).

SUMMARY: The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)'s Bureau of Health Professions is issuing a non-competitive single source program expansion supplement award to the NEPQR Program grantee TAMUCC–CONHS to build upon their feasibility study, Transitioning Enlisted Health Care Training into Academic Credit for Nursing Education Programs, and undertake a dissemination program to advance the goal of aligning enlisted health care training with civilian nursing program requirements. In fiscal year (FY) 2012, $178,374 will be available to fund this award. TAMUCC–CONHS is uniquely qualified and has the capacity, capability, expertise, experience, and infrastructure to expeditiously, effectively, and efficiently implement the project within their existing educational programming. During the previous year, TAMUCC–CONHS has gained in-depth insight into the full range academic, financial, and socio-economic barriers that interfere with successful transition from military to civilian careers, and how these barriers are compounded by the burden of navigating the military-academic labyrinth. Thus they are well-positioned to bridge the gap between health care training command programs and academic programs in schools of nursing work.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Intended Recipient of the Award:

Texas A&M University Corpus Christi
(TAMUCC), College of Nursing and Health Science (CONHS).

Amount of Award: $178,374.

Authority: Section 831 and 831a under Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 296p and 42 U.S.C. 296 p–1), as amended by Sec.5309 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111–148.

CFDA Number: 93.359.


Justification: In FY 2010, HRSA competitively funded the eLine Military (ELM) program at TAMUCC-CONHS, an online nursing education program offered to residents of Texas who are members of the military or veterans with previous medical experience. One of the critical challenges the ELM program faced concerned granting college credit for health care training and experiences provided in training command programs. This training lacked the structure and rigor foundational to academic courses, creating a significant impediment to granting academic credit for these experiences. In FY 2011, TAMUCC-CONHS received a supplemental award to develop strategies to surmount the barriers to gaining nursing academic credit for military training and to develop recommendations for their implementation. This supplement will build upon the feasibility study and undertake a dissemination program to advance the goal of aligning enlisted health care training with civilian nursing program requirements. This supplement directly supports the scope of the ELM program/parent grant and has significant implications for returning veterans seeking academic credit for enlisted health care training at CONHS and nursing schools across the country. Identifying the barriers to efficient enrollment and pursuit of nursing education by veterans and developing a plan for surmounting these barriers will provide schools of nursing with the tools needed to develop effective academic pathways for veterans, bring nursing education opportunities to a new and largely untapped cohort of persons with interest in and training in health care occupations, open up campuses to veterans in engaging and supporting ways, spur interest in and enrollment in nursing programs by veterans, and increase diversity in the nursing workforce. A stakeholders meeting and dissemination plan will be designed to bring the study findings to the broadest possible audience.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie Sochalski, Health Resources and Services Administration, Division of Nursing, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 9–61, Rockville, Maryland 20857, or email at jsochalski@hrsa.gov.


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Administrator.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

Single Source Award; Exception to Competition

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), HHS.

ACTION: Notice of Exception to Competition—Single Source Award to Texas Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) East—University of Texas Medical Branch.

SUMMARY: The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA’s Bureau of Health Professions is issuing a non-competitive single source award to the Texas AHEC East—University of Texas Medical Branch, an AHEC program grantee, to add a Behavioral Health component to a Community Health Worker (CHW) curriculum, pilot and evaluate it in primary care settings, and disseminate the curriculum. This project shall be titled: Community Health Worker (CHW) Behavioral Health Primary Care Integration Project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Meseret Beznueh, Project Officer, Health Resources and Services Administration, Division of Public Health and Interdisciplinary Education, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 9C–05, Rockville, Maryland 20857; Phone: (301) 594–4149, Email: mbeznueh@hrsa.gov.


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