



Healthcare Workforce

Clearinghouse

FACT SHEET

Background

Healthcare reform is a top priority of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, including providing insurance coverage for over 6.5 million Californians. Successful healthcare reform will be contingent on California's ability to address health professional shortages, including nearly 200 allied health professions, and increase the diversity of the health workforce overall.

California's population is growing rapidly, aging and becoming increasingly diverse. These issues are creating increased demand for California to develop and implement health workforce policies and solutions.

California's healthcare workforce is integral to ensuring access to quality healthcare for all California consumers. California's healthcare workforce must be highly skilled, specialized and flexible enough to provide services for the state's diverse population.

Legislation

To support health workforce policy and development efforts, the Governor signed Senate Bill 139 (Chapter 522, Statutes of 2007). It established the California Healthcare Workforce Clearinghouse Program (Clearinghouse) within the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) to:

- ❖ Serve as the state's central source of healthcare workforce and educational data
- ❖ Create a database to monitor the state's healthcare workforce
- ❖ Assess the state's healthcare workforce supply and demand to shape policy

Partners in Data Collection

OSHPD will work with the Employment Development Department's Labor Market Information Division, state licensing boards, and state higher education entities to collect healthcare workforce and educational data by specialty, to the extent available, as follows:

- ❖ Current supply and demand
- ❖ Geographical distribution
- ❖ Diversity, including, but not necessarily limited to, data on race, ethnicity, and languages spoken
- ❖ Forecasted demand
- ❖ Educational capacity

Benefits

Establishment of the Clearinghouse will enhance California's ability to understand and manage its complex healthcare delivery infrastructure and growing and aging population.

Specifically, the Clearinghouse will provide:

- ❖ Access to comprehensive and centralized data
- ❖ Trend analysis and reporting information
- ❖ Identified gaps, strategies and potential solutions for the employment and educational arenas
- ❖ Improved and standardized data collection tools and methods
- ❖ Awareness of health professions to improve workforce recruitment and retention efforts
- ❖ Distribution of health data, best practices, educational pipeline intervention activities and other resources
- ❖ Policy recommendations to address causes of health workforce shortages and distribution

For more information on the California Healthcare Workforce Clearinghouse Program, please contact:

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"Equitable Healthcare Accessibility for California"