

**ABSTRACT**

**Nurse Anesthesia Traineeship**  
**University of Minnesota School of Nursing**  
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The purpose of this project is to increase access to anesthesia and pain management services for persons living in rural and underserved areas. This project will address that purpose by recruiting, enrolling and retaining University of Minnesota (UMN) School of Nursing (SoN) nurse anesthesia students with an intent to practice in rural communities and/or with underserved populations. The outcomes we intend to achieve through the NAT funding are as follows:

- **Recruitment/Enrollment:** Three (20%) students are admitted for each of the two academic years (2021-22 and 2022-23) meeting the criteria for the nurse anesthesia traineeship (NAT).
- **Selection:** Nine (20%) students enrolled in the DNP nurse anesthesia specialty in each academic year (2020-21, 2021-22, and 2022-23) (first, second and third year students) meeting criteria for the NAT are awarded NAT funds.
- **Retention:** 100% of students receiving NAT funds graduate, pass the NCE and are eligible to practice as a CRNA.
- **Meeting needs of underserved populations and rural communities:** 100% of students receiving NAT funds are employed in organizations located in rural communities and/or serve underserved populations after graduation.
- **Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and Substance use Disorder (SUD):** The nurse anesthesia curriculum will effectively provide nurse anesthesia students with evidence-based education related to opioid and substance use disorder.
- **Telehealth:** The nurse anesthesia curriculum will effectively provide nurse anesthesia students with experience in providing anesthesia related care to patients using telehealth.

The HRSA clinical priorities this three year funding period will address include *combatting the opioid crisis* and *telehealth*. The objectives of this project will be addressed by awarding traineeship funds to students meeting the criteria (intent to work in rural communities and/or with underserved populations), providing students with substantial exposure to rural communities and underserved populations in their practicum rotations, and creating intentional learning experiences in the curriculum related to opioid and substance use disorder and developing telehealth competencies.