

# Title VII General Pediatrics Training Grants

## Recommendations for FY 2010

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### ACTION NEEDED FOR PEDIATRICIANS

Please ask your Senators to sign the attached Dear Colleague sign-on letter in support of increased funding for the Title VII health professions programs. The letter urges appropriators to provide \$330 million in FY 2010 for the Title VII programs. The deadline for this letter is **WEDNESDAY, MAY 6<sup>TH</sup>**. Senate offices that wish to sign the letter should contact Kate Mevis with Sen. Reed at [Kate.Mevis@reed.senate.gov](mailto:Kate.Mevis@reed.senate.gov) or Alison Anway with Sen. Roberts at [Alison.Anway@roberts.senate.gov](mailto:Alison.Anway@roberts.senate.gov). You can call your Senators at 202-224-3121.

### FY 2010 Funding Recommendation

The pediatric and adolescent health community, as members of the *Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition* (HPNEC), calls for **\$550 million** in FY 2010 for Titles VII and VIII (nursing) to effectively fulfill the mission of training and educating a health care workforce that meets the public's health care needs.

The pediatric community, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, Academic Pediatric Association, American Pediatric Society, Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs, Society for Pediatric Research, and Society for Adolescent Medicine also supports innovative training for generalist pediatricians through appropriate funding for the **General Internal Medicine/General Pediatrics program of at least \$40 million in FY 2009**. This figure represents the first step in a multi-year effort to achieve a funding level of at least \$69 million for the General Internal Medicine/General Pediatrics programs, as recommended by the congressionally-established Advisory Committee on Training in Primary Care Medicine and Dentistry.

### Economic Stimulus Funding

The economic stimulus bill, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, provided \$500 million to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for health professions workforce development through scholarships, loan repayment, and grant to training programs for equipment. \$300 million of this funding was allotted for the National Health Service Corps. The remaining \$200 million was allocated "all the disciplines trained through the primary care medicine program, the scholarship and loan repayment programs authorized in Title VII (Health Professions) and Title VIII (Nurse Training) of the Public Health Service Act."

### Challenges Facing Tomorrow's Generalist Pediatrician

Today, over 9 million children and adolescents – many of whom live in federally designated Health Professional Shortage Areas – do not have health insurance. Nationwide, the racial and ethnic diversity of the pediatric population continues to increase in record numbers. Estimates predict that by the year 2020, approximately 40% of school-aged children will be of non-white racial or ethnic backgrounds. Given these changes, in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, America's children will need, more than ever, culturally competent primary care pediatricians who are educated in a variety of settings and who are trained to meet the health care needs of their diverse communities.

### Title VII of the Public Health Service Act

While a relatively small program, the grants offered through the Title VII program address an enormous need. The grants help to support individuals and institutions, improve the racial and ethnic diversity of the health care workforce, foster high quality training for more health professionals in fields of primary medical and dental care, nursing, public health and allied health, and improve the geographic distribution of the healthcare workforce.

### Pediatric Education and Training

Included as part of the Title VII program, is federal support to innovative pediatric residency training and faculty development programs throughout the country, providing the only federal support available for education beyond the hospital-based model. Grants frequently support training in a wide-variety of ambulatory and community-focus sites including juvenile detention centers, homeless shelters, child nutrition programs, pediatricians' offices, child care centers and community health centers.

**For more information, please contact Becky Fowler ([bfowler@aap.org](mailto:bfowler@aap.org)), 800/336-5475.**