

## Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship (NAT) Frequently Asked Questions

### **Application Submission Due Dates and Requirements**

1. [What is the application process for the NAT Program?](#)
2. [When is the application due?](#)
3. [What are the application requirements?](#)
4. [Are applicants required to submit an application annually?](#)

### **Eligibility, Use of Funds**

5. [Who is eligible to receive traineeship funds?](#)
6. [How can NAT funds be used; is there a maximum traineeship award amount per student?](#)
7. [Can a program request support for both first and second year students?](#)
8. [What is the maximum number of months a trainee can receive NAT support?](#)
9. [Will the trainee receive the award for the cumulative maximum months of support or do we have to apply for the NAT Program each year?](#)

### **Report Requirements**

10. [What are the reporting requirements for the NAT Program?](#)
11. [What information is required for the Performance Report?](#)
12. [What information is required for the Final Report? When is the Final Report due?](#)

### **Application (HRSA-16-067)**

13. [I am entering data in Grants.gov on the NAT Program Specific Data Forms and noticed that the dates on the electronic NAT Program Specific Data Forms are different from those listed in the NAT HRSA-16-067 Funding Opportunity Announcement. Is there an error?](#)
14. [If we received funding under this grant program last year, when completing this application do we select "Continuation, Renewal, or New"?](#)
15. [Are Doctor of Nursing Practice programs that do not yet have accreditation eligible to apply?](#)

### **Application Submission Due Dates and Requirements**

#### **1. What is the application process for the NAT Program?**

Applicants for the Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship (NAT) [funding opportunity announcement](#) are required to apply electronically through [Grants.gov](#). NAT applicants will use the [HRSA's SF-424 R&R Application Guide](#). The SF-424 R&R is also accessible in the funding opportunity announcement. Follow the directions provided at [Grants.gov](#).

#### **2. When is the application due?**

The due date for the NAT funding opportunity is Friday, November 20, 2015 at 11:59 pm Eastern Time. You are strongly encouraged to submit your application ahead of the application due date.

#### **3. What are the application requirements?**

All requirements and instructions are listed in [section 4 of the SF-424 R&R Application Guide](#) including the assurances, certifications, project abstract and project narrative. The application can be [downloaded here](#). **Please note the NAT Program Specific Data Forms are essential in determining the award calculation.** The NAT Program Specific Data Forms are part of the online application package.

**4. Are applicants required to submit an application annually?**

Yes, FY2016 NAT applicants must apply annually for funding.

**Eligibility, Use of Funds**

**5. Who is eligible to receive traineeship funds?**

Eligible applicants are collegiate schools of nursing, nursing centers, academic health centers, state or local governments and other public or private nonprofit entities that are accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs.

NAT funds are awarded to institutions, not to individuals.

**6. How can NAT funds be used; is there a maximum traineeship award amount per student?**

Institutional award amounts for FY2016 are awarded to each educational institution; schools then disburse traineeship awards that are no greater than \$22,000 to each of its eligible NAT students. Traineeships will pay all or part of the costs of tuition, books (including e-Books), and fees, and the reasonable living expenses of the individual during the period for which the traineeship is provided.

**7. Can a program request support for both first and second year students?**

Yes. Students enrolled in a full-time accredited nurse anesthesia program are eligible to receive funding at the beginning of any academic period, including a summer session, which falls within the budget period specified by the current Notice of Award.

**8. What is the maximum number of months a trainee can receive NAT support?**

The maximum length of support per student is increased effective FY16 from a cumulative total of 30 months to a cumulative total of 36 months.

**9. Will the trainee receive the award for the cumulative maximum months of support or do we have to apply for the NAT Program each year?**

No, eligible institutions must apply each year for the NAT Program. If the application is approved for funding, the award recipient may select eligible students for renewal NAT support not to exceed a cumulative total of 36 months.

**Report Requirements**

**10. What are the reporting requirements for the NAT Program?**

All NAT recipients must meet three reporting requirements:

1. *Performance Reports* are now due on an annual performance reporting cycle with the next report due to HRSA on July 31, 2016, as this should significantly reduce the reporting burden while maintaining the quality and timeliness of information.
2. *Final Reports* are due within 90 days after the project period ends.
3. The annual *Federal Financial Report (FFR) SF-425* is no longer required for NAT recipients. In lieu of the *Federal Financial Report*, the *Federal Cash Transaction Report*, submitted to the Payment Management System, will be used to fulfill the financial reporting requirement.

**11. What information is required for the Performance Report?**

“Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW) grantee organizations are required to complete Performance Reports every year on the Health Resources and Services Administration’s (HRSA) past and projected performance in carrying out its mission to improve health and achieve health equity through access to quality services, a skilled health workforce and innovative programs. For each major program activity, tables are provided that show key program performance measures, targets and results. Performance Reports will inform HRSA BHW as to how the NAT grant recipient performed thorough out the year. All required performance measures are linked to the following legislative purpose of the NAT grant program: To provide traineeships to eligible individuals enrolled in an accredited graduate-level nurse anesthesia degree program.”

**12. What information is required for the Final Report? When is the Final Report due?**

The Final Report is designed to provide HRSA’s Bureau of Health Workforce with information required to close out a grant after completion of project activities. The Final Report includes project objectives and accomplishments, any identified barriers and resolutions, and a description of the overall impact of the project. The first newly implemented Final Report for the NAT Program is for FY15 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016). The Final Report is due 90 days after the Project/Budget period ends. An email notification will be sent as a reminder that a Final Report is due, including instructions on how to access the report through the EHB system.

**Application**

**13. I am entering data in Grants.gov on the NAT Program Specific Data Forms and noticed that the dates on the electronic NAT Program Specific Data Forms are different from those listed in the NAT HRSA-16-067 Funding Opportunity Announcement. Is there an error?**

No, there is not an error. You must select the correct current Fiscal Year (2016) as the dates will be dynamically displayed based on the fiscal year selection.

**14. If we received funding under this grant program last year, when completing this application do we select "Continuation", "Renewal", or "New"? All applicants must submit a “new” application for each grant cycle.**

**15. Are Doctor of Nursing Practice programs that do not yet have accreditation eligible to apply?** Reference pages 11-12 of the HRSA-16-067 Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for guidance on the Accreditation Documentation and Approvals for both new and existing programs. New graduate programs of nursing that are just beginning the accreditation process must follow the steps identified in the FOA to establish eligibility. Accreditation for new programs must be effective prior to the start of the budget/project period during which support will be received. All Nursing programs, eligible entities and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist degree-conferring institutions must be accredited for the purpose of nursing education. Also, Nurse Anesthesia programs must be accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs. Applicants must submit documentation of program accreditation and all approvals for new programs (i.e. new tracks or specialties or substantive program change) with the application.