



AAPD 2013 LEGISLATIVE FACT SHEET

HRSA MCHB CENTERS IN PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY APPROPRIATIONS

REQUEST: Provide FY 2014 continuation of funding for MCHB Centers in Pediatric Dentistry, to reverse HRSA's planned discontinuation of funding.

BACKGROUND: Under Maternal and Child Health block grant appropriations, the HRSA Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) has used a portion of such funds to support a variety of health professional training initiatives related to maternal and child health. Since the 1980s MCHB has supported leadership training in Pediatric Dentistry. Currently, three centers in Pediatric Dentistry provide postdoctoral training for pediatric dentists designed to foster leadership in administration, education, public health, and oral health services. Attention is devoted to children with special health care needs, including children with behavioral problems.

JUSTIFICATION: There is a clear need to develop academic leaders in pediatric dentistry to accommodate the growing number of training positions, as described in the *Title VII Pediatric Dentistry Fact Sheet*. The pediatric dental academic workforce must be sufficient to train the needed practice workforce. This is critical to improving access to care and reaching children obtaining dental insurance for first time under the Affordable Care Act. Continued funding will support these current projects:

Columbia University (NY)

Their Leadership Training in Pediatric Dentistry center has the following goals:

1. Establishing and managing an innovative Pediatric Dentistry Residency and Fellowship training program that promotes alternative/academic careers in pediatric dentistry.
2. Promoting and facilitating Columbia and Region II trainees' entrance into alternative/academic careers in pediatric dentistry, reaching out to approximately 150 Region II pediatric dentistry trainees in the greater New York region.

University of California, Los Angeles

Their Leadership Training in Pediatric Dentistry center has the following goals:

1. Preparing pediatric dentists for leadership roles for the purpose of improving the oral health of MCH populations, including children with special health care needs.
2. Developing and disseminating curricula, teaching models and educational resources to enhance interdisciplinary education in MCH oral health programs.
3. Providing professional education, consultation and technical assistance in pediatric oral health which address the needs of the MCH community, including local Head Start programs.

University of Washington

Their Leadership Education in Pediatric Dentistry center has the following goals:

1. Providing training in pediatric dentistry for leadership roles in education, research, public health administration, advocacy and public service related to the oral health of MCH populations.
2. Improving oral health for pregnant women, new mothers and infants through workforce development, delivery of services and development and dissemination of new approaches to care.
3. Improving access to care for children with special health care needs and vulnerable populations through service learning and collaboration with local and national MCH resource centers.
4. Improving the oral health of economically disadvantaged infants, toddlers and children through innovative strategies to increase the number of dental providers willing to see these children.
5. Providing regional/national resources for MCH health infrastructure; developing and disseminating curricula, teaching models and other resources to advance oral health care and services for the MCH community.