



**HEALTH PROFESSIONS
EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

Giving Golden Opportunities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 19, 2007

CONTACT: Patrick Sullivan

916 654-1606

OSHPD ANNOUNCES THE AVAILABILITY OF HEALTHCARE SCHOLARSHIP AND LOAN REPAYMENT GRANTS

Sacramento – The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) today announced the Health Professions Education Foundation’s (HPEF) availability of approximately \$1.5 million in scholarships and loan repayment grants to healthcare professionals and students who agree to practice in medically underserved areas of California.

“The scholarship and loan repayment programs offered by the Health Professions Education Foundation are part of a successful strategy in encouraging a diverse and highly qualified pool of healthcare professionals to practice in medically underserved areas” said OSHPD Director Dr. David Carlisle.

Scholarships and loan repayments are available to students and recent graduates in nursing, dentistry, dental hygiene, physician assistant and allied health programs. Scholarships range from \$3,000 - \$10,000 a year, and loan repayment grants range from \$10,000 to \$20,000 over a two-year period. Application forms and program brochures can be downloaded from HPEF’s Web site at www.healthprofessions.ca.gov. The application postmark deadline is March 24, 2007.

HPEF, with a mission to improve healthcare access in underserved areas of California, is a nonprofit public benefit corporation which receives administrative support from OSHPD. It was established for the purpose of soliciting funds from the private sector and providing scholarships and loan repayment to demographically underrepresented and economically disadvantaged students.

Since 1990, HPEF has awarded scholarships and loan repayments totaling more than \$14 million. These awards have assisted over 2,000 students and graduates to fulfill their dream of pursuing a career in the health professions and caring for underserved populations.

For further information about the HPEF, please contact the Foundation at (916) 324-6500 or (800) 773-1669.

###