GREATER NEW YORK HEALTH CARE FACILITIES ASSOCIATION
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Memo 26-63

To: Administrator, DNS, Medical Director, Infection Preventionists, Inservice Coordinator, HR Coordinator QA Committee

From: Mary Gracey-White RN, BSN, DNS-CT, QCP, RAC-CTA, Director of Regulatory Compliance

Date: October 26. 2026

Re: CMS Announcement "Nurses for Nursing Home" Program

For awareness, CMS has opened applications for its **Nurses for Nursing Homes** program, a workforce initiative designed to recruit nurses to nursing homes experiencing staffing shortages, **particularly in rural and high-need areas.**

Key Points

- Eligible nurses and nursing students may receive up to **$40,000 in student loan repayment** and/or a **$10,000 stipend** in exchange for a **three-year commitment** at a qualifying nursing home.
- Approximately **4,000 nurses** are expected to benefit from the program.
- About **9,300 nursing homes (63% nationwide)** have been identified as eligible participants. **The majority of these are in rural areas.**
- The initiative is funded through **$275 million**, including **$100 million from CMS** and at least **$175 million in state CMP funds**.

GNYHCFA recommends Facilities verify whether they are included on the eligible nursing home list and consider promoting this opportunity as part of recruitment and retention efforts. We will keep members informed with any updates and/or expansions to the program.

List of qualified Facilities here: https://www.cms.gov/files/document/list-qualifying-nursing-homes.pdf#xd_co_f=MGRmM2Q4NzAtZWZiNy00OTZmLWJlMzctZDY1NGVmMWIyODhm~