Providing Advanced Practice Nurse Services in NFs – Nominations Open

Information posted February 15, 2019

The Providing Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Services in Nursing Facilities program is opening nominations on February 15. Nominations will close March 1. HHSC is contracting with The University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing Center for Excellence in Aging Services and Long-Term Care (Center) to administer the program. The goal of the program is to determine if employment of full-time, salaried APRNs, as part of an NF care team, reduces the rates of adverse events and improves the quality of care for NF residents.

Nominations are limited to facilities in Travis County and surrounding Region 7 and northern areas of Region 8. Nominated NFs will participate in a progressive screening process with HHSC including interviews with facility leadership. There will be three rounds of selection. With each round of selection, the pool of nominated facilities will be reduced until the final five NFs are selected. APRNs will not be part of the facility’s daily staffing count, and will not be used to satisfy the federal requirements for RN coverage in the facility.

To qualify, NFs must be willing to do the following:

- Sign a contract with the Center.
- Allow two APRNs to be onsite for 1 year, 7 days a week, 8-12 hours a day during traditional business hours, and sustain the program with the APRNs for a second year.
- Develop billing systems to support and sustain the APRN program after the first 12 months.
- Follow the policies of the program.
- Include your medical director in the program to delegate prescriptive authority and supervise.
- Provide HHSC and the Center with any requested data during the program.
- Participate in an orientation regarding the use of APRNs in the NF.
- Participate in a face-to-face interview onsite at the facility or at HHS in Austin.
- Commit to continuing the program in the event of turnover at the administrative level.

To nominate your facility, fill out the survey at Providing APRN Services in NFs.

Email questions to QMP@hhsc.state.tx.us.