



## Training in Abortion Care Fellowship Program Overview and FAQs

Nurses for Sexual and Reproductive Health's Training in Abortion Care (TAC) Program aims to address the need for more full-spectrum clinical training opportunities for registered nurses within the scope of practice in their given region. TAC pairs highly motivated registered nurses with clinical partners that provide full-spectrum sexual and reproductive healthcare for hands-on learning of procedures, particularly abortion care. In addition to clinical training, learners will also receive interprofessional programming to support their development as advocates for reproductive rights and justice.

TAC's first cohort will be established in honor of Helen Pearl Lay Watson, a registered nurse and pro-choice supporter who practiced for 54 years mainly in the states of Kentucky and Tennessee. For this first TAC cycle, only RNs licensed to practice in the states of Kentucky and/or Tennessee are eligible.

The hands-on clinical scope of the trainee is determined by the nursing scope of practice as defined by state law where the training takes place. Clinical training topics may include:

- Access and referral;
- Patient assessment;
- Options counseling;
- Preparation and intraprocedural care;
- Post-abortion care; and
- Maintenance of patient confidentiality.

NSRH encourages a minimum of 80 hours of hands-on clinical time, however we do not guarantee the time available at any given clinical site. Trainees will be responsible for scheduling clinical hours with their host sites, understanding that all clinical hours must be completed within 6 months. Host sites will provide medical malpractice and liability coverage for trainees that are approved and placed in their clinics by NSRH.

Some training sites may have specific requirements for trainees. These specific requirements will be communicated to applicants during the application process by NSRH. This is not an employment program and participants will not be paid any compensation by the training sites. **NSRH is not a health center or clinical site and does not provide any direct patient care.** NSRH works with providers to coordinate and provide training opportunities to trainees.

In order to provide the most accessible training experience, NSRH will provide trainees with a modest one-time stipend to offset any costs associated with participating in the training program.



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### **How long is the clinical training component?**

The program calls for 80 hours of clinical training, which must be completed over the course of 6 months. Program participants will coordinate their clinical schedules with the clinics directly after they are accepted.

### **What non-clinical benefits are included?**

In addition to clinical training, the program will also provide participants with a one-year membership with NSRH; a one-year membership to [Clinicians in Abortion Care \(CIAC\)](#), a program of the National Abortion Federation (NAF); advocacy skills building opportunities with local community partners, and exclusive access to various tailored online content.

### **In which states is the training offered?**

During the first cycle of this program, clinic training sites are located in the states of Kentucky and Tennessee.

### **Who is eligible to apply?**

To be eligible to participate, applicants must be RNs who are licensed to practice in the states of Tennessee and/or Kentucky. This can be via direct licensure or through participating licensure compacts.

### **How many trainees will you accept?**

For the first cohort, we will accept 5 registered nurses to participate.

### **How much does it cost to participate in the program?**

There is no cost to apply for the program. However, program participants may incur some expenses related to travel or clinic specific onboarding requirements. NSRH provides program participants with a modest stipend to offset these possible costs.

### **I am not licensed to practice in the states of Tennessee or Kentucky. Can I still apply?**

For this cycle of the program, we will only accept RNs who are licensed to practice in Tennessee and/or Kentucky. Our goal is to build a stronger network of skilled abortion care providers within those communities.

### **When does the application period begin?**

Applications open on October 14, 2020. The application deadline is November 13, 2020.