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**June 15, 2017****BULLETIN**

## **Career Start Program Available for 2017 Ontario Physician Assistant Graduates**

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) is pleased to announce that applications for Physician Assistant (PA) Career Start grants to employ Ontario's 2017 PA graduates are now available. Financial support of up to \$46,000 per year for one or two years, depending on geographic location, will be available to help approved employers provide employment opportunities for PA graduates. An additional \$10,000 is being offered as an incentive for PAs who complete one year of service with employers who qualify for two years of funding.

This time-limited financial support is intended to facilitate the transition of Ontario PA graduates into the health care system to help address patient care needs. The program aims to encourage the sustainability of the PA profession by matching graduates with employers committed to the long-term integration and financial support of the PA role in their organization.

Opportunities for 2017 Ontario PA graduates will be supported in priority settings including Emergency Medicine, Primary Care, General Internal Medicine (inpatient), and other clinical settings, to help address patient care needs.

**Prospective employers must provide a plan for integrating the PA into the organization and must demonstrate how they will sustain the PA position after Career Start funding ends.**

**Application packages and additional information about available supports are posted at [www.healthforceontario.ca/pacsp](http://www.healthforceontario.ca/pacsp).**

**Prospective employers must apply for supports by  
July 24, 2017.**

PAs support physicians in a range of health care settings and work alongside physicians, nurses and other members of interprofessional health care teams to provide patient care. More than 250 PAs are currently employed in Ontario and up to 54 PA students are expected to graduate annually from Ontario's PA education programs.

HealthForceOntario Marketing and Recruitment Agency is available to support the needs of prospective PA employers and may be helpful in addressing any questions you may have.

**HealthForceOntario Marketing and Recruitment Agency:** Contact the Physician Assistant Project Lead at [pa@healthforceontario.ca](mailto:pa@healthforceontario.ca) or 416-862-4758.