

Ryan White CARE Act Part F: AIDS Education and Training Centers (AETCs)

The Ryan White CARE Act

The Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act was first enacted in 1990 and has been reauthorized twice—first in 1996 and again in 2000; its authorization expired on September 30, 2005. The Ryan White CARE Act is divided into four titles with several additional specialized programs. Each title or program is designed to address a specific component or aspect of the HIV/AIDS epidemic.



AETC Basics

The AETCs—a network of 11 regional centers with more than 130 local performance sites and four national centers—offer specialized clinical education and consultation on HIV/AIDS transmission, treatment, and prevention to front-line healthcare providers, including physicians, nurses, physician assistants, dentists and pharmacists. The clinical management of HIV/AIDS, particularly the use of highly-active antiretroviral therapy (HAART), is the central focus of training. The AETC Program has trained more than 1,000,000 HIV/AIDS providers, including more than 74,000 trained between July 1, 2003, and June 30, 2004.

The AETCs target training to providers who serve minority populations, the homeless, rural communities, incarcerated persons, community and migrant health centers, and Ryan White CARE Act-funded sites. AETC-trained providers are more competent with regard to HIV issues and more willing to treat persons living with HIV than other primary care providers.

Training Techniques

The AETCs provide education in a variety of formats including skills building workshops, hands-on preceptorships and mini-residencies, on-site training and technical assistance. Clinical faculty also provides timely clinical consultation in person, or via the telephone or internet. Based in leading academic centers across the country, the AETCs use nationally recognized faculty and HIV researchers in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the education and training offered.

Educating Providers in Communities of Color

Approximately 20 percent of regional AETC funding comes from Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative funds to build capacity for HIV care and treatment in communities of color. AETC programs that fall within this initiative include:

- expanding ability for HIV care and training for minority clinics including urban, rural areas and the US-Mexico border
- offering targeted training for minority providers and those who serve minorities
- developing training programs in concert with community-based programs to build capacity within medically underserved areas.

AETC Services Nationwide

Regional Centers

Delta Region AETC (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi), Louisiana State University, Health Services Center, New Orleans

Florida/Caribbean AETC (Florida, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands), University of South Florida, Tampa

Midwest AETC (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin), University of Illinois at Chicago

Mountain-Plains AETC (North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Nebraska, Kansas, Wyoming), University of Colorado, Denver

New England AETC (Connecticut, Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island), University of Massachusetts, Boston

New York/New Jersey AETC (New York, New Jersey), Columbia University, New York

Northwest AETC (Washington, Alaska, Montana, Idaho, Oregon), University of Washington, Seattle

Pacific AETC (California, Arizona, Nevada, Hawaii, 6 US Affiliated Pacific Jurisdictions), University of California, San Francisco

Pennsylvania/Mid-Atlantic AETC (Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia), University of Pittsburgh

Southeast AETC (Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee) Emory University, Atlanta

Texas/Oklahoma AETC (Texas, Oklahoma) Parkland Health and Hospital System, Dallas

National Centers

National Clinician Consultation Center, University of California, San Francisco

National Evaluation Center, University of California, San Francisco

National Minority AETC, Howard University, Washington, DC

National Resource Center, University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey, Newark

International Training & Education Center on HIV (I-TECH), University of Washington, Seattle