



# Advancing Practice

## ERIE FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS POST-GRADUATE APRN FELLOWSHIP

## Join Us...

We are seeking APRN Postgraduate training fellows for the 2023 - 2024 cohort who are:

- Recent graduates (March 2022 - May 2023) from an accredited NP or CNM program with a minimum GPA of 3.0.
- Planning a career in community health working with diverse and under-resourced populations.
- Licensed and certified or certification-license pending upon admission to fellowship.
- Highly motivated to learn and speak Spanish through group provided training and independent study.
- Able to start the program on September 11, 2023.
- Ability to travel to all Erie Family Health Center sites including all Chicago locations, Evanston and Waukegan.
- Interest in maternal and behavioral healthcare.

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## Advancing Practice

Cultivating Quality Care and Nursing Leadership  
to Improve the Health of Communities



## Advancing Practice

is a one-year PAID Fellowship that builds on nurse practitioner (NP) and nurse midwife (CNM) academic programs to prepare recently-graduated NPs and CNMs to become expert clinicians as well as nursing leaders.

Erie Family Health Centers (Erie), a federally qualified health center in Chicago with 87,000+ patients, and the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing (UIC Nursing) have partnered to create this program with the goal of expanding access to affordable, quality healthcare in underserved communities.

## Health Equity: A Cornerstone of the Advancing Practice Mission

Nurses have historically stood up to oppression, racism, and classism by treating the most vulnerable populations in need of care. Achieving health equity and respecting human dignity are at the core of the nursing profession. *Advancing Practice* will prepare you to be the next generation of APRN advocates and leaders. At Erie Family Health Centers, you will be mentored in an organization that values diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Erie's vision is that that all people can live their healthiest lives. At Erie, we acknowledge the deep history of systemic oppression, racism, and discrimination that plagues our communities. The current COVID-19 pandemic has further highlighted the longstanding inequities in our social structure and how these factors result in disproportionate morbidity and mortality rates in communities of color.

## Interested?

The application period for the 2023-2024 cohort is open starting January 13, 2023. **Applications are due by March 12, 2023, 5 PM CST. Applications can be found on our website under the "How to Apply" section.**

Visit [erie.health/aprn](http://erie.health/aprn) for information about our next scheduled Open House.

If you have questions, please contact [AdvancingPractice@eriefamilyhealth.org](mailto:AdvancingPractice@eriefamilyhealth.org). Visit [eriefamilyhealth.org/advancingpractice](http://eriefamilyhealth.org/advancingpractice) for more information on the program.



# Why Choose *Advancing Practice*?

AT ERIE FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS



## you will...

### Join a Talented and Robust Team

Erie employs a growing and talented group of APRNs. Join an organization that supports full scope APRN practice and collaborative relationships amongst other healthcare providers.

### Receive a Paid Fellowship with Great Benefits!

Not only is this a paid fellowship, Erie provides excellent benefits, including:

- Medical/dental insurance
- 401k program
- Pre-tax transit program
- 20 days of PTO
- Special deals on movie tickets and concerts
- Discounts with several wireless carriers

### Set the Standard for *Advancing Practice*

You will be making history by being a part of a growing movement. You will have the unique opportunity to help model and grow the fellowship! Feedback throughout the year will be welcomed and frequently requested from you. Help us make this the highest quality fellowship for future APRNs and CNMs.

### Work at An Organization that Is Integrating Care

Erie serves over 85,000 patients across 13 sites including 7 primary health care centers, 1 adolescent only health center and 5 school-based health centers along with comprehensive coordinated services such as women's health, HIV/AIDS care, and psychiatry.

### Make a Difference in Health Equity

Erie makes a difference in the community by caring for all patients regardless of age, insurance or immigration status

- >90% of patients are considered low-income
- 23% of patients are uninsured
- 44% of patients are Non-English speaking

### Contribute During the COVID-19 Pandemic as Well as Responding to Structural Racism

Be an integral part of the response to COVID-19, and work for an organization that is committed to confronting inequities. As an *Advancing Practice* Fellow, you will be advocating for health justice by joining a team of APRNs that proudly stand together to fight injustice and address the disproportionate COVID-19 mortality rates of Black and Hispanic/Latino populations.

### Be a Part of a Leading Health Center with an Uncompromising Commitment to Quality.

Erie is in the top 10% of health centers nationwide on key patient quality metrics. Our level of high-quality care outperforms community health centers across Illinois and the US on a range of clinical quality measures, ranking it among the top providers in the nation.

Erie is one of 1% of CHCs nationally to receive the new HRSA Maternal and Child Health Quality Leader Award, and Erie is one of 1/3 of CHCs nationally to receive the Health Disparities Reducer Award.



### Learn from and Collaborate with the University of Illinois in Chicago

We have several UIC faculty members on our team who all believe in the importance of a post graduate training, one of whom has extensive experience with NP program evaluation and co-authored the National NP Residency and Training Consortium accreditation standards. UIC nursing is among the top ten APRN programs nationwide and is instrumental in ensuring the program is an exceptional experience for fellows.

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## WHAT DO OUR FELLOWS SAY WHEN ASKED...

# Would you do it again?



Yes! 100% it has been a great experience.

Absolutely!

Yes. It was such a supportive environment...

Yes, Erie is a great place to work.

## Would you like to work Erie after the Fellowship?

**I am continuously amazed** by the enthusiasm and warmth among providers and staff members at Erie and the attention each team member places on their patients. Erie takes time to find ways to constantly improve their practice. I would love to seek employment within (Erie).

**I like how the organization fosters learning and growth for all employees.** I want to work at an organization that believes quality healthcare is a right, and I want to help make the communities Erie serves healthier.

**I would. I think working in a FQHC is a great experience** and gives any provider a great foundation. I also love the population we serve.

**Yes, I do believe in Erie's mission.** I love my patients that I have been seeing. Erie does care about the patients and providers.

**Absolutely! I love Erie's mission and its patients.** Being able to give to my community is something that is very important to me! The staff at Erie is also wonderful.

**Yes! Again 100% yes.** I have really enjoyed working with all the patients, the staff has been incredible and think the learning opportunity has and will be incredible. I have learned so much and I can't imagine how much more I can still learn. I think Erie is a very special place and to be apart of the staff would be amazing. I would be so thrilled to work with and at Erie!

**Yes, as challenging as this has been so far,** I can't imagine working anywhere else.

# FAQs

## Is this a paid fellowship?

Yes. Fellow will be paid 70% of market rate for APRNs in Chicago. If a fellow decides to stay at Erie after the fellowship, we will pay them as if they have 2 years' experience to help make up the difference.

## Do we get benefits and time off?

Yes. Fellows will be treated as Erie employees and will receive full benefits including medical insurance, a 401k, and 4 weeks of PTO.

## Are the Spanish Language courses required?

Yes, every fellow, regardless of Spanish knowledge, will be required to attend Medical Spanish courses either in person at a local institution, or online. The majority of Erie Family Health Centers' patient population is Spanish speaking. These classes will be paid for by the Fellowship and will take place during orientation and throughout the year.

## How does the clinic schedule look?\*

### Will the schedule vary?\*

For NPs, you will have four days of clinic a week. For CNMs, you will have 2-3 days of clinic, plus one 24 hour call, with the following day off. For all fellows, one day will be reserved for administrative work and didactics. Everyone is required to work an evening once a week (until 7:30) and work one Saturday per month. The week before or after that Saturday, you will have a day off.

## At what sites will we see patients?\*

Erie has 13 sites, 11 of which are located in the Chicago area. There is one location in Waukegan and one location in Evanston. All locations will be utilized during the Fellowship year and will be determined before the start of the program. Continuity clinics will be held at the same site for each fellow in order to have consistent patients. Mentored clinics and specialty clinics will change throughout the year. You must have reliable transportation and be willing to travel to Evanston and Waukegan.

## Are we an accredited program?

We are currently in the accreditation process with the National Nurse Practitioner Residency and Fellowship Training Consortium. We hope to be an accredited program by the start of the 2023 cohort.

## How will the specialty rotations work?\*

Every month you will work a different specialty within primary care. A few specialties we provide are Infectious Disease, Psychiatry, Behavioral Health, Procedure Clinic and Women's Healthcare.

## How many fellows are you accepting?

The number of Fellows we hire will be dependent on the organizations needs and will not be determined until spring 2023.

## How will precepting work?

Our preceptors go through an extensive training and orientation process. Just as the Fellows are evaluated on a trimester basis, the preceptors are also evaluated to ensure we are meeting the fellows needs. Every fellow will be assigned core preceptors that are consistent throughout the year, however fellows will work with multiple preceptors throughout the year.

## Are there specific requirements after the fellowship year?

You do not have to stay with Erie after the fellowship year. However, we encourage you to apply for available positions at the end of the fellowship year. If you do not want to stay with Erie, we will support and help you find a new place of employment.

## Will CNMs be provided a full scope of practice?

Yes, this is a full scope CNM position. The position will include one 24hr inpatient hospital call per week and about 20 hours of outpatient care. In the outpatient setting, we average 60% OB and 40% GYN (annuals, family planning and method inserts, problem GYN).

## Is there relocation reimbursement?

No, but we can offer assistance in choosing a neighborhood to reside in and commuting options.

## By when do you have to graduate to be eligible to apply?

Applicants must graduate from their academic program between March 2022 and May 2023. You must schedule your board exams no later than June 30, 2023.

## If accepted into the Fellowship, am I able to still apply for a HRSA Loan Repayment Program?

If you are able to apply for the HRSA National Health Service Corp or Nurse Loan repayment program, you must serve at least two years of service at an NHSC-approved Health Profession Shortage Area site. It is the applicant's responsibility to assess the criteria for application and contact HRSA with eligibility questions. This Fellowship does not prevent participation. It is important to point out that **this fellowship is a one-year program** and we cannot guarantee that you would be hired after the Fellowship year. If you were not hired after the Fellowship year, you would have to find employment at another Health Profession Shortage site. If you are unable to make arrangements directly with the HRSA program you may be liable to pay back funds.

## Any other questions?

Contact [advancingpractice@eriefamilyhealth.org](mailto:advancingpractice@eriefamilyhealth.org) or call 312-432-2056.

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\* Component subject to change.