

**PSYCHIATRIC  
MENTAL HEALTH  
NURSE  
PRACTITIONER  
(PMHNP)  
FELLOWSHIP**

**Cohort 3  
Kickoff**

**August 26, 2024**

**12:00pm**

**Via ZOOM**



Tan Chingfen  
Graduate School  
of Nursing



# WELCOME

The **Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) Fellowship Program** is a statewide fellowship program based in community health centers (CHC) designed to prepare and transition PMHNP graduates into an integrated CHC practice setting.

This program is sponsored by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS). The PMHNP fellowship program is managed by UMass Chan Tan Chingfen Graduate School of Nursing (UMass Chan GSN) in partnership with the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers (MLCHC).

The PMHNP Fellowship is supported by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with funds received from the U.S. Department of the Treasury from the Fiscal Recovery Fund, established under Section 602 of the SSA, as added by Section 9901 ARPA.



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# INTRODUCTIONS

## UMass Chan Tan Chingfen Graduate School of Nursing

- Mechelle Plasse, PhD, RN, PMHNP-BC. PMHCNS-BC,
- Leanne Winchester, MS, RN  
Sr. Project Manager
- Anne Reardon, Project Manager

## Massachusetts League for Community Health Centers

- Tinamarie Fioroni, LMHC Director |  
Workforce Pipeline Strategies
- Emily Price, MSW, LICSW  
Program Manager PMHNP  
Fellowship

The Massachusetts Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) Fellowship Program is offered to **both PMHNP graduates** and **PMHNP students** at Community Health Centers (CHCs) across Massachusetts.

A Graduate Fellow is defined by at least one of the following descriptions:

- Completed a PMHNP program within 18 months of the release of the RFP
- Completed a PMHNP program within 18 months of the release of the RFP and hired by an approved community health center (CHC) between the release date of this RFP and 6/30/25 with an employment start date no later than 7/1/25

All Graduate Level Fellows must complete exams & licensing requirements, be onboarded by the CHC and be ready to start as a PMHNP no later than July 1, 2025 to fulfill the 12 month service commitment by June 30, 2026.

PMHNP graduates will fulfill a 12-month service commitment. PMHNP students will have a semester-long obligation.

# Kickoff Agenda

- Project Aim and Core Components
- Eligibility
  - CHC Eligibility
  - Graduate Fellow Eligibility
  - Student Fellow Eligibility
- Fellowship Process
  - Prescribing Preceptors and non-prescribing Preceptors
  - Weekly Didactics
- Visualizing Success
- Timeline
- What's Next

# Project Aim

The PMHNP Fellowship Program aims to recruit, educate, and retain well-qualified and diverse graduate and student-level PMHNPs to serve the behavioral health needs of Massachusetts' CHCs patient populations.

**Core Components** of the PMHNP Fellowship Program include robust recruitment, training, engagement, and retention strategies to ensure fellows complete the program and are interested in continuing employment in the CHC setting.

# CHC Eligibility

All MA CHCs that meet the criteria to qualify as a Federally Health Center (FQHC)<sup>[1]</sup>, a hospital-licensed health center or an FQHC look-alike are eligible to apply for funding through this RFP.

<sup>[1]</sup> <https://www.healthcare.gov/glossary/federally-qualified-health-center-fqhc>

CHCs, that serve diverse communities, rural communities<sup>[2]</sup>, or are in a federally designated Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) or a Mental Health Professional Shortage Area<sup>[3]</sup> are strongly encouraged to apply.

<sup>[2]</sup> <https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/about-us/what-is-rural>

<sup>[3]</sup> [What Is Shortage Designation? | Bureau of Health Workforce \(hrsa.gov\)](#)

**Priority will be given to CHCs located in [EOHHS's Advancing Health Equity in MA \(AHM\) Areas](#) and rural areas ([State Office of Rural Health Rural Definition | Mass.gov](#))**



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# Graduate Fellow Eligibility

- Registered nurses licensed in Massachusetts in good standing.
- Board certified as a PMHNP and hold an APRN license in Massachusetts OR who are eligible and will soon sit for board certification as a PMHNP and receive an APRN license in Massachusetts once they have passed the PMHNP national certification exam.

A Graduate Fellow is defined by at least one of the following descriptions:

- Completed a PMHNP program within 18 months of the release of the RFP
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- All Graduate Level Fellows must complete exams & licensing requirements, be onboarded by the CHC and be ready to start as a PMHNP no later than July 1, 2025 to fulfill the 12 month service commitment by June 30, 2026.

*Candidates who are multilingual and/or reflect the population served will receive priority.*



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# Student Fellow Eligibility

- Registered nurses, licensed in Massachusetts and in good standing.
- Currently enrolled in a full-time or part-time PMHNP academic program.\*
- To participate, students must provide written approval from their school's program director or coordinator.
- RNs who meet the above criteria and are currently working at a CHC are eligible to apply to be placed at their CHC as a student Fellow, provided the CHC also applies and is approved.

\*Qualifying PMHNP programs may provide a master in science (MS) with PMHNP specialization; a Doctor of Nursing (DNP) with PMHNP specialization; or a post-graduate certificate (PGC) with PMHNP specialization for board-certified NPs in a specialty other than psychiatry and mental health (e.g., family nurse practitioners).



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# Preceptor Requirements

## Non-Prescribing Preceptor

Non-prescribing Preceptors will assist the Fellows in meeting their learning needs by providing consultation for each new patient; consultation when appropriate to ensure patient care quality; and provide bi-monthly performance evaluations. Preceptors must be licensed mental health providers (e.g., PMHNP, psychiatrist, psychologist, LICSW, LMHC, etc.).

## Prescribing Preceptor

A clinical supervisor is a Qualified Healthcare Professional (QHP) (e.g., independent practice PMHNP, PMHCNS, or licensed MD or DO board certified in psychiatry) who is eligible to provide clinical supervision of prescriptive practice for the graduate fellow, a state regulation, for the first 2 years post-certification.

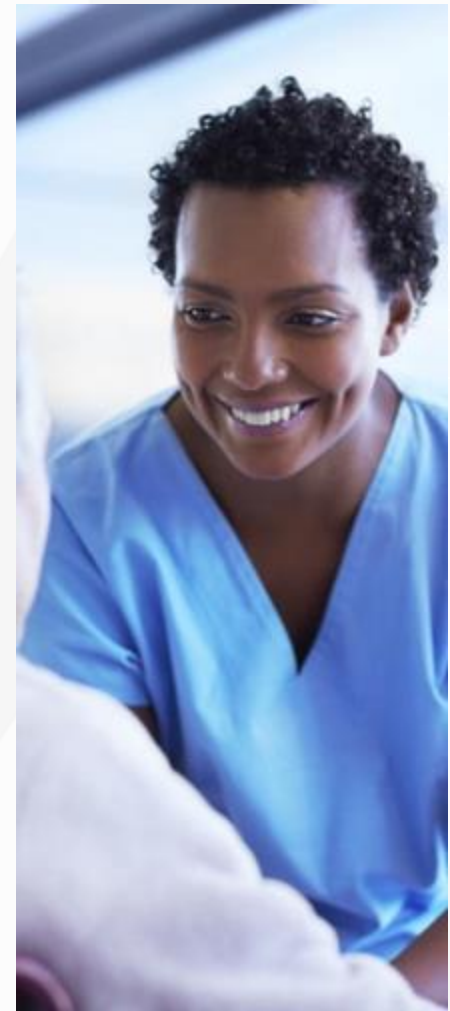
- If a CHC is unable to provide prescribing Preceptor support, the CHC may request remote supervision to be provided through UMass Chan GSN.

*\* Some providers such as individually licensed PMHNP providers may fulfill both the prescribing preceptor and the non-prescribing preceptor roles*

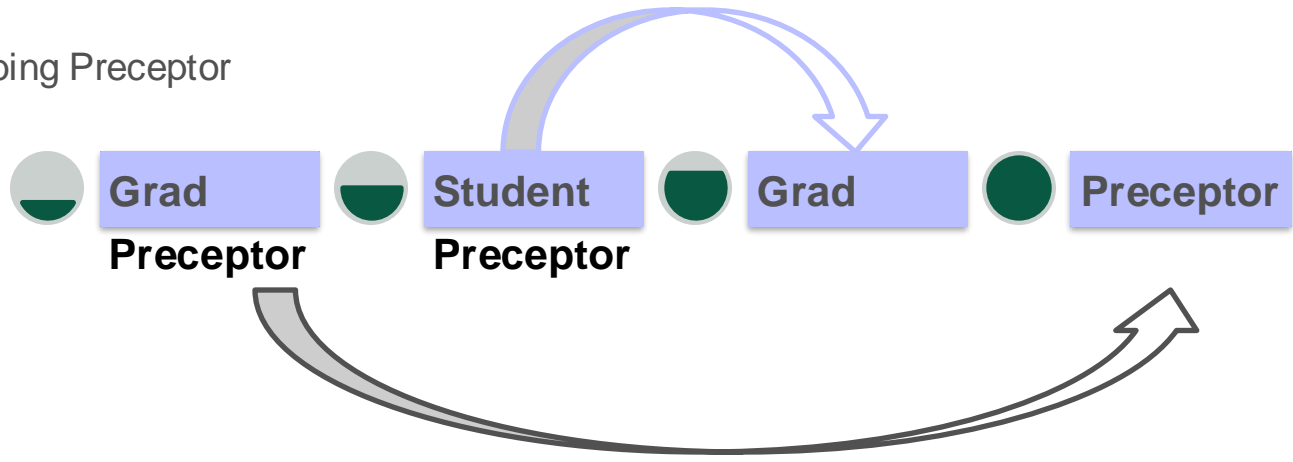
# Weekly Didactics

UMass Chan Tan Chingfen Graduate School of Nursing will provide **weekly educational experiences on topics related to practice in community health settings**. Additional professional development, clinical support, and mentoring opportunities include:

- Psychiatry Grand Rounds
- Virtual Simulation Opioid Safe prescribing training.
- Online self-directed courses for integrated primary care
- Group supervision/case presentations
- *And more*



Prescribing Preceptor



**Visualizing Success!**

# Timeline **\*\*All dates are subject to change so please check our websites**

Event	Date
Kick off Informational Session	August 26, 2024 12:00 PM
Request for Proposals Released	August 28, 2024
Request for Proposals Informational Webinar	September 5, 2024
Deadline for Submission of Questions related to RFP/CHC application	September 13, 2024
Posting of Answers to Questions. <i>No questions related to RFP/CHC application will be accepted beyond this date</i>	September 20, 2024
Applications Due	September 30, 2024
Notice of Acceptance (with conditions)	Anticipated January 2025
Fellowship Year Starts	Anticipated Start no later than July 2025

# Fellow Application Process

CHCs will submit their requests by September 30th

CHCs will be notified of their award status by the anticipated notification date of January 2025

After CHCs are notified the portal for graduate and student Fellow applications will be opened.

All interested graduate and student Fellowship candidates including those who are newly hired as a PMHNP at a CHC or currently working at a CHC as an RN **must** complete an application through [UMass Chan GSN](#), acceptance is not guaranteed.

# What's next....



## RFP Released

August 28th, 2024

Posted on Mass League PMHNP website

[Mass League PMHNP](#)

## RFP Informational Webinar

September 5, 2024

Zoom link posted in Higher Logic Communities

## Websites

helpful documents, recordings of webinar, and updated timelines will be available on:

[Mass League PMHNP](#)

[UMass Chan GSN PMHNP](#)

# Any questions about what we have covered so far?

Questions can be emailed to:  
[pmhnpfellows@massleague.org](mailto:pmhnpfellows@massleague.org)

Please see the FAQs section on the Mass League website:  
[FAQs](#)



# Thank You!

Thank you all for joining us!

We look forward to reviewing your proposals.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any other questions.

