

Top Ten Travel Nursing Companies For 2005

Highway Hypodermics

TOP TEN Travel Nursing Companies



The following companies provide travel nurses individual services and the best benefits in the industry.



Across America Med Staffing offers travel assignments for Nurses, Techs and Allied Health professionals throughout the USA, including Hawaii and Alaska. When you work with AAMS you are not just part of the team, you are part of the family.

How The Top Ten Where Chosen

What a year 2005 has been! Twelve more companies have had been added to the company spotlight and provided detailed information about their services.

The requirements for this list is very simple. A company has to fill out the benefits questionnaire and the travel company interview.

In effort to provide quality information to travel nurses, Epstein spoke to several travel nurses to find out exactly what they are looking for in a travel companies. From that information the "Ultimate List Of Travel Companies" was formed, which is the list of benefits mentioned above. In 2004 Highway Hypodermics started out with ten benefits that travel nurses were

looking for the most; however this last has grown to the top twenty-one benefits that travel nurses are looking for.

The interview included questions about career opportunities, personal service, region of assignments, availability after hours, and what the company believes makes their company better than the other 200+ out there.

Companies were then ranked according to the benefits that they provide to nurses, and in case of a tie, the interviews are reviewed for the quality of interview and the information offered to travel nurses.

The most frequently asked question that I have gotten since forming this list is, "Does Highway Hypodermics receive

any advertising money related to these companies?" And the answer is NO! This list is totally based on what information has been provided to Epstein.

Another question frequently asked is "Why are the big companies such as Intelistaf, AMN Healthcare, FastStaff, and Cross Country TraveCorp not included in the list even though they advertise they are the largest and best? Well, that's because it's hard to recommend a company who refuses to answer the benefits questionnaire and interview. Would you recommend someone who ignores your inquiry for information?"

The following companies provide travel nurses individual services and the best benefits in the industry.

Number 10 – Across America Med Staffing

Your Travel Placement Specialist is available to provide personalized one-to-one service, 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.

AAMS listens to you, the healthcare professional, when it comes to benefits and compensation. Their package is completely flexible and customizable to your needs. Want the most in your hourly wage, or maybe in your tax advantaged housing or stipend? It's all possible. There is no rigid faceless bureaucracy here. Through your Travel Placement Specialist, you have immediate access to the decision

makers regarding housing, payroll, clinical support and more.

At AAMS, deluxe housing is always free, private, safe, pet friendly and close to the facility, with utilities included nationwide. Other benefits include: tip top payrates, 401k with 25% match, Blue Cross/Blue Shield insurance for you, and available for your dependents/domestic partner, professional liability/workers comp, dental, discount vision, life insurance, AFLAC, free CEU's, license reimbursement and generous referral bonus's.

Lots of companies say they provide excellent service. At Across America Med Staffing, it's not just what they say, it's what they do. The vast majority of their employees come from word of mouth referrals. That kind of advertising can't be purchased.

For more information please contact: Kim Lawrence, Director of Travel Placements, Across America Med Staffing, 201 S. Lake Ave., Suite 409, Pasadena, CA 91101. Phone: 800 887-4045. Visit their website at: www.AcrossAmer.com

Number 9 – Travel Nurse Across America

Travel Nurse Across America is focused on delivering on our slogan... "Exceeding Expectations". They take pride in the work that they do, to accommodate each nurse's needs and career plans. The coverage always meets or exceeds the required coverage as specified by the hospital or governing authority.

Travel Nurse Across America has a loyalty points system that accumulates from day one. Points can be used for paid time off, extra housing amenities, cash bonus, etc. Their Health Insurance is fully paid, and coverage starts on day one of the as-

signment. They assist in the acquisition of any required state license or credential and will pay for licensing expenses up to \$100 per assignment. They pay all fees for CEUs and any required competency testing. Per Diem (daily expense) benefits are paid to every traveler on a tax free basis if they qualify according to IRS guidelines, and free private housing including utilities is provided or a generous housing subsidy if preferred.

Travel Nurse Across America is fully aware that a healthcare professional that wants to travel can choose from numerous agencies.

They also know that a traveler going to new places and working with new people needs to feel that they can rely on the friendship and support of their agency as they venture forth into the unknown. They understand that the traveling experience can be exciting but also scary at times, so they want to make that time as fulfilling and trouble free as possible.

For more information, please contact Gwen Darling, Director of Marketing, Travel Nurse Across America, 11300 Cantrell Rd, Suite 102, Little Rock, AR 72223, Phone: 800-240-2526, or visit them at: www.nurse.tv



They understand that the traveling experience can be exciting but also scary at times, so they want to make that time as fulfilling and trouble free as possible.

Number 8 – Medical Solutions

Medical Solutions provides travel nursing opportunities with personal service that excels. They are a smaller company that provides assignments in all fifty states that treats each traveler as their own. Medical Solutions is a place where a nurse is definitely a name and never just a number.

Their benefits includes health insurance, paid and private housing that includes basic cable, phone, utilities, dishes,

linens, and furniture. From time of application, Medical Solutions can have you in the hospital about two weeks.

The biggest difference between Medical Solutions and their competition is their customer service. They treat each of their RN's with respect, trust, honesty and give 100% to make sure each of their assignments is the best that it can be! They have numerous years of experience in our recruit-

ing and management with the travel industry. We will give you the best service and travel experiences you will ever have.

For more information contact: Pat Barry at 909 North 96th Street, Omaha, Nebraska, 68114. Give him a call at 866-633-3548 or send him an email at. Of course, you are always invited to visit Medical Solutions at www.medelite.com



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Number 7 – Trinity Healthcare Staffing Group

Trinity Healthcare Staffing Group offers travel, per diem, and temp to perm placement for nurses, therapists, techs, practitioners, and physicians across the country. Additionally, at their current rate of growth, they are always looking for quality Recruiters or Branch Managers.

Trinity was started by a RN who had a negative experience as a travel nurse. Needless to say, Trinity was built to be a company that stands out from the rest in regards to personal service. With one of the lowest recruiter to nurse ratios in the industry and the recruiters who are available 24 / 7, Trinity far exceeds any expectations.

Though they are one of the largest privately owned agencies in the industry, they still recognize nurses for what they are - people. As previously mentioned they keep a very low recruiter to nurse ratio and their recruiters often not only know all of their travelers names, but their spouses, kids and or pets names as well!

Trinity offers the following to our travel nurses: Major Medical, Dental, Vision, Prescription Drug Coverage, Life Insurance, Workers Comp, General Liability, Professional Liability, 401k, Completion Bonuses for most assignments, and Unlimited Referral Bonuses. You receive all of this in addition to

one of the highest pay packages in the industry.

This would definitely be the relationships that they as a company form with not only our travelers, but with our clients as well. They have one of the best reputations in the industry because of one phrase that they operate by... *Do what you say you are going to do*. Operating this way has earned the trust of several healthcare professionals and has allowed us to be the fastest growing privately owned healthcare staffing agency in the country.

In 2004 Trinity was named on the Inc. 500 list for being one of the fastest

growing privately owned companies in the country. We were also recognized by the Elliot Davis awards in 2003 and 2004 for being one of the fastest growing companies overall in the state of SC. Trinity accomplished all of this with out advertising in any magazine or publication. We have grown at this rate by referrals or by word of mouth only. Give us a call or visit their website and find out why.

For more information contact, *Derek Kurdupski, 1834 Sally Hill Farms Blvd., Florence, SC 29501, give him a call at 877-417-9507, or visit Trinity's website at www.TrinityHSG.com*

Number 6 – Cirrus Medical Staffing

Cirrus Medical Staffing offers free insurance for its travel staff through Blue Cross/Blue Shield insurance with no lifetime cap on major medical. It also contains vision coverage, dental coverage, a life insurance policy, and a prescription discount program. Cirrus Medical Staffing pays thirty cents a mile up to a total cap of \$500 for travel; and once you get there, you will have private housing.

Through Cirrus Medical, you can expect a professionally fulfilling adventure chocked with lifetime experiences! The adventure of exerting flexibility in a small hospital to crises driven adventures of Level I trauma centers allow their travelers to become a more seasoned professional. Cirrus travelers develop into the type of professional who has worked with various manage-

ment styles and has the acquired talent to share with other facilities. The Cirrus adventure allows their travelers to remain true to their "calling" without losing touch with themselves.

If the traveler looks at their available list of job opportunities and doesn't find where they would like to be, then Cirrus will first market the traveler to individual hospitals in areas that are close to the preferred location.

They have a unique success in their attempts to provide "location service" for their travelers desiring preferred locations. In the event they can't situate their travelers in preferred locations, they offer top dollar to accept another suitable location until they have accomplished your location preference. They offer a Preferred Traveler Plan

where, for a six-month commitment, you go where they need you to go; and in return, they accelerate your pay AND offer either a) upgraded housing, or b) upgraded furniture packages, or c) will pay dependent insurance coverage. Cirrus goes the extra mile to ensure their travelers are safe, housed properly, supported with their issues, and treated with the respect that's deserved. Cirrus travelers are treated as family members and served as the company's most important asset (because they are).

For more information, contact Greg Allen, President, at 1-800-299-8132. Cirrus Medical's website is located at <http://www.cirrusmedicalstaffing.com/>.



"...unique success in attempts to provide location service for travelers."

Number 5 – Professional Respiratory Care Services

Professional Respiratory Care Services, (PRCS) Inc. offers travel assignments to Registered Nurses and Respiratory Therapists nationwide, with our focus on the great southwest: Phoenix, Las Vegas, San Diego, Hawaii.

PRCS is locally owned and managed by a healthcare clinician. Their Travel Manager is also a healthcare clinician. Their corporate office is located in Phoenix. We also have a satellite office in Las Vegas.

PRCS offers travel assignments nationwide, but their focus remains on the southwest region. They do not offer international assignments

but do employ international nurses.

PRCS is a small organization. Their owner and travel manager are both healthcare clinicians. They pride themselves in getting to know our nurses and therapists on an individual basis.

PRCS telephones are answered 24 hrs/day, 365 days per year. Their travelers and hospital clients can reach them at anytime.

PRCS offer top pay, guaranteed hours, uncapped travel reimbursement, licensure reimbursement, free private furnished housing, completion bonuses, benefit package first day of assignment.

Depending on the travel-

ers availability and timeframe, PRCS typically starts our travelers within 30 days of interest.

PRCS is unique in that they are owned and managed by healthcare clinicians and that we are local. Their travelers will personally know us and receive the personal attention they deserve.

For Canadian educated nurses PRCS will reimburse the cost of your NCLEX exam.

For more information contact Michelle Williams at 3801 24th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85016, 602-508-1000, or visit their website at: www.prcshealthcare.com



PRCS is unique in that they are owned and managed by healthcare clinicians and that we are local.

Number 4 – Bridge Staffing

Bridge Staffing Inc. (BSI) offers travel contracts Nationwide to travel professionals. RN's, LPN's, Tech's. Most of the contract openings they receive are for 13 weeks, but occasionally they do have shorter assignments.

All of the BSI recruiters are home based. This allows each of them to be more flexible in their working hours. When you are on the road, it is very important to be able to reach your recruiter when you need to. All of the recruiters at BSI take the time to get to know their travelers. They want you to be comfortable with them.

It is important that a company provides professional liability insurance to its employees. The coverage amounts will vary from one agency to another. The agency HR department should be able to provide you with coverage information.

BSI ranks in the medium range. Our agency is based on "relationships". They take the time to get to know all of their travelers.

All BSI recruiters are based in our home offices. Each of their travelers have the numbers and email addresses to reach them. They have a 24 hour, toll free on-call. They have a secondary RN on-call for clinical issues.

Bridge Staffing is nurse owned and operated. Their benefits include a 1 bedroom, furnished, private apartment or stipend; BCBS health and dental insurance with day 1 coverage; Family coverage is available at great rates! \$25,000.00 term life insurance; professional liability insurance; 401K; tax-free per diem; license and travel reimbursement; 24 hour Emergency clinical assistance. AFLAC group rates are now available. They also provide loyalty incen-

tives for long term travelers.

Their recruiters really care is what makes them different than other companies. They work with you individually to get as much as possible for you from each assignment. They provide honest answers to questions; they answer our phone and/or return calls.

Always ask questions. There are many recruiters out there that are very good at "sales". Make sure the "deal" is as good as it sounds. If you didn't understand something, ask again. Keep a notebook and write everything down.

For more information contact, Janet Newburn, Nurse Recruiter, C/O Bridge Staffing Inc., 3765B Government Blvd, Mobile, AL 36693, 866-661-7070, www.bridgestaffing.com



Their recruiters really care is what makes Bridges Staffing different than other companies.

Number 3 – RN Travel Connection

At RN Connection, they have positions across the entire United States for RNs with at least 2 years of experience. They belong to every state association that is contracting. Most assignments are 8 to 13 week travel assignments for RNs across the united states. \$1000 vacation bonus after completion of 3-13 week assignments. \$500 minimum completion bonus per 13 week assignment. Allied Health was also started in Sept 2005

Personal service is always of highest quality at RN connection, they can even email mapquest directions for our nurses from the destination they are leaving to where

they are staying, and to the hospital. Your recruiter will contact you weekly to see how things are going.

RN Connection is a medium sized companies that will know you as a name from Recruiting to Payroll to Housing to Quality Assurance to the Staffing and Marketing departments who will be submitting your information to the hospitals when you are ready to interview. Payroll is weekly, if we don't get your timeslip, we will call you. If you want to talk to one of our current travelers for a reference, we can set that up.

Many different bonuses including referral, completion, extra hours completion,

\$1000 vacation bonus after 3 assignments, a great 401K plan with \$1/\$1 match up to 6%, Free first day United Healthcare PPO with drug card and dental, Your own furnished apartment with electric paid up to \$100/month, No deposit fees unless you have a pet and we prorate that over the 13 week contract,

RN Connection is nurse owned and operated along with a commitment to "make things right" for our nurses. Most of our nurses continue to work for us because we can find them the locations that they like and they know we will take care of them.



Never start an assignment with a company without a signed contract. Our standard contract is on-line if you want to review it. RN Travel Connection will take care of you. Celebrate and promote Nursing!

For more information contact Lorrie Dohrman, RN, CEO, at 8255 E. Raintree, Suite 100, Scottsdale, AZ 84260, 800-243-5939 or visit their website at: www.rntravelconnection.com

Number 2 – Abetta Care

Abetta-Care provides the nurse with one bedroom housing that includes pots, pans, and linens. Other benefits include travel reimbursement up to \$600 per assignment, salaries over \$30 per hour mainly in California and upstate New York. When Abetta-Care approaches housing for its travelers, it starts with a series of questions to find out specifically what things are important to the traveler when it comes to selecting housing. Things such as the number of bedrooms needed, type of furniture, house wares required, television, washer & dryer in unit or on premises, do they have pets, anyone traveling with them, floor preference, etc. are all asked of the healthcare traveler so that they can get them exactly what they need.

Abetta-Care provides a flexi-

ble compensation package that can be structured in any way that makes sense to the healthcare traveler. In some locations, they offer year round bonuses; and, in others, they offer it if it's important to the healthcare traveler. Other travelers may ask for an extra travel allowance to go home in between assignments if they are extending their contract in the same facility. At Abetta-Care, their travelers are treated number one.

The reasons that a travel nurse would pick Abetta-Care over some of the other companies are many and include a personalized service that is defined to what the traveler tells them that they need, a weekly follow up by the recruiter during the assignment, a guaranteed phone call or email to question within twenty-four hours, guar-

anteed completely flexible and competitive compensation package including a tax advantage program, free private housing and benefits, career coach services to meet your needs whether it is per diem, travel, or direct placement.

The travel nurse is guaranteed a primary point of contact with a secondary backup contact with no runaround to different departments and phone number for answers to common questions on payroll, benefits, housing, and other concerns.

For more information, contact Monte Kasten at mkasten@abettacare.com or visit their website at <http://www.abettacare.com/>. Your phone calls are always welcome at 1-866-943-5884.



"...personalized service that is defined to what the traveler needs."

Number 1 – Premier Healthcare Professionals

Premier Healthcare Professionals Inc. is part of a large group of companies specializing in the placement of nurses and other healthcare professionals around the world. The group has company owned offices in London, Sydney and Johannesburg, and it is from these offices that it places nurses throughout the UK, Australia and South Africa.

They arrange professional liability insurance for each of their nurses at no cost to the individual. The insurance is for the sole benefit of their nurses and they have cover for each nurse at any of their client facilities. The cover is automatically included within the comprehensive benefits package that they provide to their nurses.

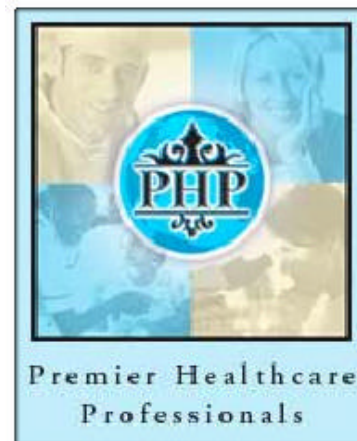
All of their nurses are provided with a toll free number that can be used to contact a Premier Healthcare Professionals representative 24 hours of the day. They pride themselves on the level of service that they provide their nurses and are

more than happy to deal with any issues that may arise, day or night.

The Premier Healthcare Professionals group has been placing nurses in the United States for nearly two decades. They understand the professional and personal requirements of each of their nurses; and, furthermore, they fully respect each and every one of those requirements. Most members of their recruitment and placement staff have worked with the Premier Healthcare Professionals Group for more than eight years and are fully aware of the importance of their nurses' personal satisfaction. They are very proud of the fact that over 85% of their new inquiries originate from referrals from past or present working nurses. The business simply would not have grown to the force it is today, through the many market changes, without its dedicated and experienced team of staff.

In addition to providing unparalleled service standards to their nurses, they also boast the most flexible benefits package available in the market today. They will allow all of their nurses to choose from a menu of benefits and pay rates to match their own personal requirements. They guarantee to at least match any legitimate pay and benefits package available in the marketplace today. Their nurses appreciate the personal service, pay, and benefits that they offer to them and this is evidenced by the fact that some of their nurses have been contracted with their group companies for almost a decade.

For more information, contact Michelle Eales at Premier Healthcare Professionals, 2450 Atlanta Hwy, Suite 601 Cumming, GA 30040, or phone Michelle at 866-296-3247. Their website is located at: <http://www.travelphp.com/>.



“Over 85% of new inquires originate from referrals from past or present working nurses.”

Highway Hypodermics

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Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403
Email: highwayhypo@yahoo.com

Travel nurses make a difference, one hospital at a time.

Visit Us Online:

www.highwayhypodermics.com

Highway Hypodermics, the eZine was created in coordination with the book, “Highway Hypodermics: Your Road Map To Travel Nursing,” as a way to continue bringing quality information about travel nursing to those involved in the travel nursing field. Features of this eZine include travel nursing articles, destination spotlights, travel company spotlights, location spotlights and a little humor. This eZine will be published in the third week of the month, and is FREE to all who subscribe through the yahoo group, Highway Hypodermics, or by special request to highwayhypo@yahoo.com.



Highway Hypodermics The Book Is Released!

Epstein LaRue and [Star Publish](http://www.starpublish.com/) are very happy to announce that the paperback, "Highway Hypodermics: Your Road Map To Travel Nursing" has been released!

Her previous novels were both published in January of odd years; therefore, to keep the tradition going, this exciting new novel was published in January of 2005.

Star Publish has worked hard with Epstein to produce

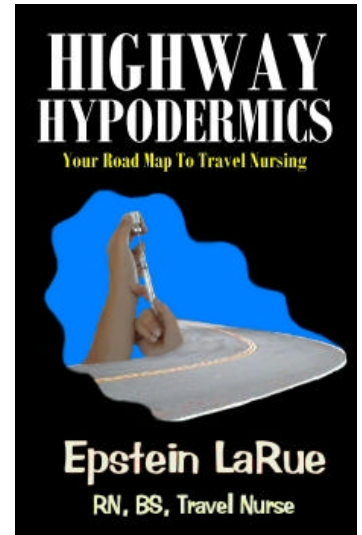
this quality book. Epstein would especially like to thank [Kristie Leigh Maguire](http://www.kristieleighmaguire.com/) for all the long hard hours she put in editing this book and helping with the cover.

~*~

Star Publishing is a premiere publisher which prints using the print-on-demand technology with an all exclusive author package in which the author receives 100% of the royalties. Check out their website at:

<http://www.starpublish.com/>

Highway Hypodermics is a travel nursing website that is dedicated to bringing the latest information, news, and articles to enhance the field of travel nursing. For more information on this exciting online resource check out their website at: <http://www.highwayhypodermics.com/>



Written by Epstein LaRue, RN, BS, Travel Nurse... author of two other paperbacks, several eBooks, and published in the November Travel Nursing Supplement of Nursing2004.



Special
Offer

Save \$5.00 With This Coupon!
This coupon is valid for those who join, or are current members of the eZine Highway Hypodermics yahoo group.

For more information please visit:

<http://www.highwayhypodermics.com/>

[SpecialOffer.htm](http://www.highwayhypodermics.com/SpecialOffer.htm)



"...obviously written by a travel nurse who has been out there in many ways." Lynn Sanderson, travel nurse

"Highway Hypodermics is chock full of very useful info." author Kristie Leigh Maguire, <http://www.kristieleighmaguire.com/>

Highway Hypodermics

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