

2008 TOP TEN TRAVEL NURSING COMPANIES

By Highway Hypodermics

TOP TEN Travel Nursing Companies



Look for this seal of excellence when you are looking for your next travel nursing company!

How The Top Ten Were Chosen

Once again the companies in the top ten have changed. New names were added while Cirrus Medical Staffing, Abetta Care, and Premier Healthcare hung on there for a fifth year in a row!

The companies were ranked first by the benefits they provided. After that, the Highway Hypodermics eZine subscribers voted at www.highwayhypodermics.com

Benefits that these companies provide include health insurance that is free for the nurse with a minimal fee for the family, first day medical coverage, professional insurance, reimbursement for nurse licensing, private housing, corporate housing option, basic utilities, salaries over \$30, full CEU reimbursement for required continuing education, 401K with 50% vested, com-

pletion bonus' on of service to traveling nurses. Once all the interviews for the year are scheduled for the year, the top ten company list is compiled. In no way does advertising or any other monetary gain received from any company promote their ranking. The rankings are strictly by the benefits and the Top Ten Poll.

Some assignments, JCAHO certification, weekly direct deposit, sick days without penalty, one month off between assignments without penalty, pre-employment screening, standard mileage reimbursement and rental car or stipend. These companies have also shown great professionalism through integrity, honesty, and commitment by providing the best

Number 9/10 (tie) — Abetta Care

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. Then, they communicate all of this info to the housing department and ask them to find A-Rated housing in a safe neighborhood that meets the healthcare traveler's parameters.

Abetta-Care provides a flexible 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. This would include extension bonuses as well. At Abetta-Care, their travelers are treated number one. They spend time up front and they also do weekly follow up calls while they are on assignment. They like to work with people through the full life cycle of their healthcare career from Per Diem, to Travel to Direct Placement and be there for the person whenever and wherever they need it. In essence, they strive for the traveler to view them as their Career Coach.

Some of the reasons Abetta Care is a top company is their great benefits which include: weekly follow-up by a recruiter during the assignment, guaranteed, personalized service defined by what the traveler tells them they need with a return phone call or email to questions back to the nurse in same day... Guaranteed. Completely flexible and competitive compensation package Including Tax Advantage Program, Free Private Housing and Benefits, Career Coach Services to Meet Your Needs (i.e. Per Diem, Travel, or Direct Placement), Primary Point of

Contact with a Secondary Backup Contact.

No runaround to different departments and phone numbers for answers to common questions on payroll, benefits, housing, etc.

For more information contact: Abetta Care, 4760 West Commercial Blvd, Ft Lauderdale, FL 33319, (866) 943-5884 or visit their website at: www.abettacare.com

Number 9/10 Tie – Travel Max



Travel Max is the travel nurse division of Maxim Healthcare. Maxim offers the full spectrum of staffing and placement options to a nurse. You can work local per diem, local contract, travel to other locations or even find a perm position. We have divisions that specialize in each area.

Travel Max is a medium sized provider. They have grown over the last few years with strong relationships with their staff. They are always thinking of ways to keep the small office feel and service. Examples on how they

accomplish this is a direct 800 number for nurses to their team. No need to call through a bunch of other people. They not only have on-call but the internal staff take rotate taking on-call. You will always speak to someone who knows the business.

Their focus is on providing the best service to the nurse. They have continuous meetings on how to make assignments the best experience. They work hard every day to maximize compensation and the service they provide.

They offer excellent pay along with Day One insurance, 401K, completion bo-

nuses, travel expenses and free CEU for all active nurses who have completed on assignment.

Travel nursing can be confusing and complex and a great adventure at the same time. make sure you find a company that is straightforward and has integrity. If a package you are being offered sounds to good, it may be to good and could cause issues for you down the road.

For more information contact them at: 3550 Buschwood Park Drive, Suite 230, Tampa, FL 33618, 888-800-1855, or visit them at: www.travmax.com



"We are all travelers in the wilderness of this world, and the best we can find in our travels is an honest friend."

Robert Louis Stephenson

Number 8— RN / RT Temps

RN and RT Temps provide interim staffing and permanent placement for all nursing and allied health professionals. You will always have a live person to speak with and will not be stuck with a voice prompter or messaging system.

They cover the entire United States, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and some international assignments through the Federal Government. Assuming the nurse complies with JCHAO guidelines in terms of supplying them with the proper documentation for the

employee file; they would be able to place the nurse in 24 hours. They are a medium size company where their recruiters will always remember you by name, and they have a recruiter on-call 24 hours per day.

RN & RT Temps also offer medical, dental, vision, prescription, long term and short term disability, paid housing and travel, 401k, and much more. The nurse will be fully covered through their malpractice, workman's comp, and general liability coverage.

The company was founded by a healthcare professional in 1987 who happens to be very involved with the

day to day operations and has a wealth of industry knowledge. "Staffing with you in mind" is their motto and mission.

For more information, they can be found at 9 West Front Street, Media, PA 19063, or you may call them at: 800-677-8233. Their websites can be found at: www.rntemps.com.





Number 7 — IPI Travel

IPI has unlimited career opportunities in 48 states, including HI and Alaska, they are JCAHO certified and very competitive benefits. IPI Allied is a division of Innovative Placements offering allied health travel assignments. This division gives them the opportunity to expand their markets.

Each travel assignment is customized to fit the travelers need, single housing, 2 bedroom, cats dogs, kids. They would like each of their employees to be treated like the director would want to be treated. This is a golden rule taught while growing up. Personal service, high standards, and above and beyond expectations are items they strive for on a daily basis. You name it, they do it!

IPI Travel is a mid-size company, you will always talk with

your recruiter, and not an assistant. Returning phone calls is a big issue! If a nurse goes through our system feeling like a number the director needs to know and she will call the nurse herself.

Their company provides all the standard benefits, Day one insurance to include medical, dental, vision Partner plans for medical 401-K, 3% match up to 3% of compensation, free private housing, family and pets AAA memberships firts during assignments Furniture packages with flexible options Per diem options with permanent address Car rentals Airfare Liability, CEUs, License reimbursement 1000.00 referral bonuses.

The heart and soul their staff puts into the company on a daily basis makes IPI Travel not just another "travel nurse" com-

pany. IPI Travel offers all the standard benefits and more. The difference, my recruiters are passionate, they live travel nursing on a daily basis, with its highs and lows. Customization, Innovative Placements believes your assignment should be not just good, but GREAT! They hope you will have a "WOW" factor with ever aspect of your assignment.

On a daily basis the director interacts with many different individuals, from the check out lady at Wal-Mart to the CEO of a major hospital corporation. With each person she speaks with, the one thing that remains in my mind is how each person affected her. Did the service received or given go above and beyond expectations? IPI achieves the "Wow" factor with each placement by on-time delivery of completely detailed

contracts, special thanks before and during the assignment, detailed housing packages, free CE's and a knowledgeable staff to help with all traveling details! In addition to all the services IPI offers they also continue to develop client relationships throughout the United States, giving their travelers a huge network of resources and the flexibility for unlimited travel assignment choices. Each assignment is custom-designed around the traveler. IPI Travel understands healthcare professionals are in great demand; this is why we are committed to making your travel assignment rewarding and hassle-free. The director will personally guarantee your assignment will be everything they promised. For questions regarding IPI Travel or comments please feel free to call. Happy Traveling

Number 6 — Freedom Healthcare

Freedom Healthcare Staffing offers temporary travel assignments, 4 to 13 weeks in duration all over the United States.

Typically, they get a response within two to three business days from hospitals. The important thing, for us, is to advise the Healthcare Traveler on their experience on working with a particular Hospital and to set realistic expectations for the turnaround time on an interview and ultimately an offer of a position.

One of their core values is to treat their Healthcare Travelers with Respect. Although they are a small company, Free-

dom Healthcare Staffing was established by executives from the hospital and staffing industry. Many of their nurses know them from the larger companies that they were formally with. It is very important to their President, as well as every member of Freedom Healthcare Staffing, that their Healthcare Travelers have a rewarding experience, both intrinsically and monetarily, while working with their Company.

All of their staff is on call, 24 hours a day, including their President! You can be assured that if you do have a problem, you will not be routed to a call center; but to an individual

within FreedomHCS that is empowered to handle your particular situation.

They offer comprehensive benefit insurance thru United Healthcare, life insurance, Simple IRA with Company match, CEU reimbursement, licensing assistance, professional liability insurance, direct deposit, weekly pay, online portal, company-provided housing and travel, along with a lucrative referral rewards program.

Freedom Healthcare Staffing stands behind their Healthcare Travelers! Many companies pay "lip service" to this value, but this is also at the heart of their interaction with



their nurses. In fact, there are hospital clients they will no longer do business with due to their perceived treatment of their Healthcare Travelers.

It is their goal to make every experience with Freedom Healthcare Staffing rewarding. They also specialize in the "hand holding" sometimes needed for first-time travelers, and for that matter, any one else that needs some extra emotional support while on the road. Thank you for reading their interview and please visit them at www.freedomhcs.com.

Number 5 – Cirrus Medical Staffing



You can expect a professionally fulfilling adventure chocked with lifetime experiences! They have contracts throughout all 50 states and work with hospitals of all sizes and flavors. They won't stand for our travelers being limited, so they encourage their travelers to try them all. The adventure of exerting flexibility in a small hospital to crises driven adventures of Level I trauma

centers allow our travelers to become a more seasoned professional. Cirrus travelers develop into the type of professional who has worked with various management 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 himself/herself.

Cirrus Medical Staffing is extremely flexible and accommodating to their travelers. Enough to average over 80% retention rate consistently.

Cirrus Medical Staffing is

different in the fact that they give their travelers the individual attention that they need to perform their job successfully. We've been by their side to celebrate their joy and to support them through tragedy. They go the extra mile to ensure their travelers are safe, housed properly, supported with their issues, and treated with the respect that's deserved. Their travelers are treated as family members and served as their most important asset (because they are).

They have travelers who have been with them since our

company formed. These are experienced travelers who can attest to how well they treat them and how quickly they respond to their issues/concerns. Even those who have been disgruntled have returned because of how they treat their travelers. They do what they say they'll do and they're honest.

For more information contact: Cirrus Medical Staffing, 2725 Water Ridge Parkway, Suite 160, Charlotte, NC 28217, 800-299-8132 or visit their website at:

www.cirrusmedicalstaffing.com

Number 4 – 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 and branch managers. Several of the office staff members are healthcare providers themselves!

Trinity is a national company offering travel assignments all across the country while per diem staffing is available where ever they have set up a branch office. Assuming the nurse is already licensed in that state and they have a completed profile on that individual, Trinity can have them placed within one week.

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 where this is concerned. Not only is your personal recruiter available to you 24 / 7, but they also have a back up person on call after hours.

Trinity offers the following benefits to their travel nurses: Major medical, dental, vision, prescription drug coverage along with life insurance of \$25,000, workman's compensation, general liability insurance, professional liability insurance, 401K, completion bonuses for quite a few assignments, and an unlimited general referral bonus. You receive all of this in addition to one of the highest pay packages

in the industry. While their employees are covered by Trinity, they are rather conservative and of the belief that one can never have too much professional liability insurance.

The relationship that Trinity has with its travelers, but its clients as well makes a big difference. 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. They were also recognized by the Elliot Davis



ADJUST YOUR EXPECTATIONS

awards in 2003 and 2004 for being one of the fastest growing companies overall in the state of South Carolina. Trinity accomplished all of this with out advertising in any magazine or publication. Although they have started an advertising campaign through a few select sources, their roots were grown and continues to grow at an extraordinary rate by referrals or by word of mouth. Recently they have received the golden seal of approval from JCAHO. Give them a call or visit their website and find out why. 877-417-9507, www.TrinityHSG.com.

Number 3 — Premiere Healthcare Professionals

Premier Healthcare Professionals Inc (PHP) 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 coverage for each nurse at any of their client facilities. The coverage 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 PHP representative 24 hours of the day. PHP prides itself on the level of service that it provides its nurses and is more than happy to deal with any issues that may arise, day or night.

The PHP group has been placing nurses in the US 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



Premier Healthcare Professionals

with the PHP Group for more than 8 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 enquiries 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 and 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: Premier Healthcare Professionals, 2450 Atlanta Hwy, Suite 601 Cumming, GA 30040, Phone: (866) 296 3247, Fax: (866) 666 2622, or visit their website at: www.travelphp.com.

Number 2 — Nurses In Partnership

Nurses in Partnership not only covers 43 states, but they also have international offices in London England, Dublin Ireland and Sydney, Australia.

They are a medium sized company for the travel nursing Industry. They currently employ many Nurse Rn's who have worked with them for over 2 years. They receive many recommendations, especially for their understanding of clinical competencies and how they relate to the travel nurse industry.

Some of their benefits in-

clude: Travel Allowance, Medical and Dental coverage from Day 1, 401K, License reimbursement, Education Reimbursement. Bonus Structure, increasing per assignment. Free Private Accommodation with Furniture, and pet friendly apartments.

Their knowledge of the industry makes them more than just another company. The top executives have been in the Industry for twenty plus years. Retention is therefore the key and in order to retain and therefore grow you have to offer a "Service" and you have to be

accountable for that Service. The Nurse needs to feel that you have their best interests at heart, that only happens if they are treated as a valued member of Staff, not just another Number. They care about their nurses!

For more information contact: Nurses In Partnership 28118 Agoura Road Agoura Hills, CA 91301, 800-978-8555, or visit their website at: www.nipinc.com



Number 1 — Talemed

At TaleMed, they offer a wealth of traveling nurse employment opportunities all across the country. From friendly towns to exciting facilities in bustling metropolitan centers, they can place you in the locations, and nursing jobs that you have always dreamed of. And from the community facility to the prestigious teaching hospital, they can find the professional environment that's just right for you. TaleMed reaches to all fifty states, offering a wealth of traveling nurse job opportunities, and can have you ready to go in between 24 hours and 4 days for a nurses that is ready to work, and has completed all the necessary details prior to submitting to a hospital.

They are a small company. You are absolutely 100% treated as a name... and they will be

on a first name basis! Personal and exceptional Service is what they strive for. As a nurse, and as their employee, you are their number one Priority. You have access to their personal cell phone numbers. They also have a "hotline" of somebody on call each night as well. It is critical to them that you know that they are available at all times for you.

They offer paid benefits that start day one. This includes medical, dental, AD&D, life and prescription coverage. We also have made available short & long term disability. 401K is also available. 100% of your malpractice is covered by TaleMed.

At TaleMed, they understand that traveling to the leading hospitals and exciting locations is a big attraction

to the job. The new challenges and new opportunities to grow in your profession is just as important. Or perhaps you want to focus on your work and your life, leaving the hassles and headaches behind. They have listened, and they've built a company that works hard for you and your dreams.

At TaleMed, you don't work for them. They work for you. TaleMed is built on experience and knowledge in the medical field. With over 75 years of experience supporting their goal and service they make you their number one priority.

For more information, you can contact them at 403 Loveland Madeira Road, Loveland, Oh 45140, or talk to them at: 800-494-0087. They can be found online at: www.talemed.com.



"Along the fairways of life, you must stop and smell the roses, because you only get to play one round."

Ben Hogan

BY HIGHWAY
HYPODERMICS

*Travel Nurses Make A Difference,
One Hospital At A Time*



775 Yellowstone Ave
PMB 175
Pocatello, Idaho 83201

Email: highwayhypo@yahoo.com

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.HIGHWAYHYPODERMICS.COM

HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS



Everyone is invited to sign up for the Highway Hypodermics yahoo group found here: <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/highwayhypodermics/>. The purpose of this group is to notify travel nurses and those who are interested in travel nursing with quality information about the field of travel nursing in form of a bi-monthly eZine. This eZine is published every month. By subscribing to this yahoo group, you will receive a notice when the newsletter is published.

Travel Nursing Highway Blog

If you are looking for a discussion area about travel nursing, try the Highway Hypodermics blog at: <http://travelnursinghighway.blogspot.com/> More valuable information can be found there along with more updated travel nursing information.

SUBMIT YOUR STORY!!!

HIGHWAY HYPODERMICS

On The Road Again

(coming in January 2009)

What inspires you to continue your travel nursing career?
Do you have a patient that has affected how you practice nursing?
Have you met another nurse along the road that helped you catapult your career into the next dimension?

For something new in 2009, I want to inspire other nurses to try out the world of travel nursing from the lives of those who are already in the field.
(Stories should be approximately 1000 words in length.)

Email Epstein Your Story: highwayhypo@yahoo.com