

TOP TEN TRAVEL COMPANIES

FOR THE YEAR 2015

01/02/2015



Travel Nurse Approved!

A NEW YEAR... A NEW TOP TEN LIST!

Back in 2004, Epstein decided to rate travel nursing companies according to the benefits that they provided nurses. This year, travel companies are not only evaluated by what benefits they provide, but how nurses evaluated them.

Last year companies had to have at least 5 evaluations, this year the minimal required was 10 evaluations. The only other

requirement is that the company has to have a profile that is no more than three years old.

Related to the renewal of profiles (interviews) and the minimum of 10 evaluations... there are some new faces on the top ten!

Unfortunately, related to these new rules, PRCS and Health Providers Choice have dropped off of the Top Ten for not having 10 evaluations, but

TaleMed has come back strong! This year we also welcome for the first time, Core Medical Group.

Although this list includes companies that we, Highway Hypodermics, feel are some of the best, there are plenty other great companies out there!

Don't forget our Honorable Mentions!!!

NUMBER 10 - VALLEY HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS



Valley Healthcare Systems is a medium sized company that provides RNs to all 50 states. They survey all of their travelers throughout their assignment (week 2 and week 9) so that they know what they are doing well and where they need to improve to better support the nurse on their assignment. We also provide a concierge, available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. A clinical nurse liaison is available 24 hours a day. They are Joint Commission certified and are members of NATHO.

They provide medical in-

surance through Essential Staff-Care (Division of Blue Shield). Coverage for the nurse is free, and vision and dental can be added for \$7 per week. Valley offers a Simple IRA. Matching depends on company year-end profitability. Other benefits include free continuing education units.

Valley Healthcare System's mission is to provide an easy and pleasant experience for the traveler. Every traveler receives a welcome kit complete with "hoodie" and scrubs, and a welcome letter that includes the CEO's mobile phone num-

ber that they can use for any issue - and it will be addressed immediately. They are all wholly committed to the traveler in providing quality clinical care and also do everything in our power to remove any of the burdensome tasks that would otherwise make their assignment unpleasant.

Valley will do whatever it takes to make the travel assignment easy and enjoyable. They do not want a traveler to work one assignment - they want a relationship that leads to years of assignments.

www.vhcsystems.com

NUMBER 9 - PPR TRAVEL NURSING

PPR is a medium sized company that places RNs nationwide. They top priority is customer service. Their recruiters are trained to answer many questions regarding other departments and keeps their recruiter to nurse ration manageable. This enables their recruiters to give 100% service to each nurse. They are Joint Commission certified and belong to NATHO.

They are very fortunate to have Dr. Ruth Stiehl, Vice President, Clinical Quality on our staff. Dr. Stiehl is available during business hours. Recruiters and nurses typically

know right away if it will be a good match for the two of them. If a nurse ever feels that she would prefer another recruiter in the company, she is able to reach out to the Recruitment Manager to discuss working with another recruiter.

PPR offers three plans through Aetna for their health insurance, dental is through Guardian, and Comp Benefits provides vision coverage. Their 401k is with Nationwide, the nurse is eligible at 6 months of employment and she/he is immediately vested at that time. PPR matches fifty

cent on the dollar up to 6%. Other benefits include: life insurance, short and long term disability, professional insurance, online shopping store, \$1000 referral bonuses for any specialty.

PPR always does the right thing for the nurses. Their motto has never changed, "We Put You First." Their recruiters have a long tenure with PPR and their knowledge in the business ensures that they are strong nurse advocates.

www.pprtravelnursing.com



NUMBER 8 - CORE MEDICAL GROUP

Core Medical Group places Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Physical Therapists, Physical Therapist Assistants, Occupational Therapists, Occupational Therapist Assistants, Speech Language Pathologists, Surgical Technicians and Pharmacy Technicians nationwide.

They are a medium-sized company that has both time and resources to give travelers full, personalized attention and assist them with everything involved in the traveling process. This includes assisting the traveler with his/her application, housing, licensure assistance, and more. They are privately owned.

CoreMedical Group treats its nurses and allied health professionals like family members. Their

recruiters consider it a common courtesy to give travelers their personal cell phone and home phone numbers, so nurses, etc., can reach their recruiters 24/7. They understand that their professionals work odd hours all across the country and they want them to know they can contact them any time for any reason. CoreMedical recruiters are focused on and dedicated to the best interests of the traveler. They also cherish the relationships they build with their travelers and enjoy being part of their lives. They also have a clinical nurse liaison who is available 24/7.

They don't lose contact with their travelers once they're on assignment. They are with them through every step of the process before, during, and after an assign-

ment. Travelers can contact their recruiter 24/7 and also have a direct line to our Recruit-

ing Manager 24/7. Core also offers industry-leading benefits, including an annual trip to the Caribbean for travelers who work with them. No other travel company offers this benefit. The trip is also an opportunity for their travelers and recruiters to meet and greet on an all-inclusive trip to the Caribbean. Lastly, they don't just place nurses and other traveling healthcare professionals, they build relationships and long-lasting friendships that they value and cherish.

www.coremedicalgroup.com



NUMBER 7 - TOTALMED STAFFING

TotalMed
STAFFING

TotalMed Staffing Travel Division specializes in 4 to 26 week travel assignments for Registered Nurses, Dialysis Technicians, Surgical Technologists and Surgical Assistants all over the United States. On average, the typical travel assignment for a healthcare professional is 13 weeks in length. TotalMed feels there is no substitute for honest, caring relationships. Patients know it. You know it. That is why TotalMed Staffing strives to engage in genuine relationships. Your professional goals in healthcare drive them to find the right healthcare staffing solution for you. Their dedicated experts in your specific field take time to get to know you, your experience, your aspirations and your personality. They take pride in providing an individually personal-

ized service and finding the right solution that meets your requirements for pay, benefits, employer support, or whatever else you may need. No matter what the employment opportunity, from local staffing to travel staffing, they match the right people with the nation's top healthcare organizations.

TotalMed Staffing is a medium-sized, minority-owned and privately owned healthcare staffing agency that offers flexible staffing solutions such as: per diem, local contract, travel nursing, contract-to-hire, and direct placement. In addition, they have recruitment experts in allied health, scientific, insurance, and healthcare financial services. Being that TotalMed Staffing is a medium sized company it allows their recruiters to spend quality time get-

ting to know their nurses they work with and also allows the one on one interaction between the nurse and their recruiter.

TotalMed prides themselves on genuine relationships and currently walks in their travelers to each assignment if it is at a new client or local to Wisconsin, Illinois or Minnesota which not only helps them get acclimated to the facility and unit but also helps us educate the traveler of the environment they are going to be working at. They understand a relationship starts with listening. Contact TotalMed Staffing today. A professional healthcare staffing recruiter is ready to talk about your employment needs.

www.totalmedstaffing.com

NUMBER 6 - PREMIER HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS



Premier Healthcare
Professionals

PHP has numerous openings for RN's LPN's, OT's, ST's and PT's throughout the 50 States. They offer Nationwide assignments through PHP and its subsidiary Bridge Staffing. They can also offer International assignments (when available) through their company owned offices in England, Australia and South Africa.

The level of care and support provided to their healthcare professionals is their major focus. Most of PHP's staff have worked for the company for over 12 years and they believe that they have built up a vast experience on how their healthcare professionals should expect to be treated. They understand that their healthcare professionals are human and each have personal targets and personalities.

Their healthcare professionals are each assigned to a personal recruiter who is trained to both recognize and adapt to each of their clinical colleagues being different and having varying requirements. The management of PHP review and discuss all communication with their professionals that is stored on their company's database. Management also makes itself readily available to all healthcare professionals should any issues arise. They truly believe that are business is special and so do all of the professionals that continue to trust in us through multiple assignments over several years. The facts are that they know what they are doing.....they have been doing the same thing for 25 years. Their staff are some of the most experienced in the industry. On average

each of them has been employed by PHP for over 10 years. They place in all 50 States in the USA and internationally. On top of all of this they have won numerous awards within the industry for their pay and service standards. Not many staffing companies can boast all of this.

Apart from all of the outstanding service standards that you can expect, PHP will never be beaten on a genuine pay or benefits package. They recognize that healthcare professionals have a choice when it comes to staffing companies. They simply have to offer the best packages in order to grow and flourish.

www.travelphp.com

NUMBER 5— ONE STAFF MEDICAL

OneStaff Medical is a medium sized company that places RNs as well as Allied Health modalities. They staff nurses and allied workers nationwide.

To assure personal service, they hire only experienced recruiters that focus on customer services instead of just sales. Their clinical nurse liaison is only available during normal business hours. They are Joint Commission certi-

fied, and do regular evaluations with RN's to ensure the fit is still good for all parties.

OneStaff's medical insurance is through Blue Cross / Blue Shield with dental and vision provided through Met Life. At this time they have a 4% dollar for dollar match in our 401K. Company match is after 1 year of service. Another great benefit is the paid private apartments.

They make a difference related to their experience. They consist of experienced recruiters that started with other firms. Their average recruiter has been in the industry at least 5 years.

www.onestaffmedical.com



NUMBER 4 - IPI TRAVEL

IPI specializes in RN's and Rehab, Nurse Practitioners and Pharmacist. They have nationwide assignments, and they are available in most cities.

IPI is a privately owned and operated mid-western company, they are medium in size but huge in heart and customer service. They are a direct reflection of many years of hard work and dedication. IPI treats each traveler as a unique individual.

IPI has a phone number that their nurses can call in the middle of the night and weekends. They realize that they are your lifeline and once they receive your page they try to contact the nurses as soon as possible. A clinical nurse liaison is also available as needed.

Personalities are key and

not everyone clicks. They have an open door teamwork policy. If the traveler isn't clicking with the staffing specialist, they are more than welcome to give the president a call, and she will take care of it promptly. If you found the right recruiter, give IPI a call and they will find the right fit!

From the president: On many occasions I have been asked the question "Why should I choose IPI Travel?" I don't have to think twice when I answer this question; IPI is a direct reflection of many years of hard work and dedication. We treat each traveler as a unique individual. Customizing each travel assignment, asking the question "what are you looking for in an assignment" These are the principles IPI

Travel has maintained since 1999. To this day we demand continued excellence from all of IPI's internal staff as well as our travelers. Our goal is for each of our customers to have a feeling of "Wow" when interacting with the IPI team, great demand; this is why we are committed to making your travel assignment rewarding and hassle-free. I will personally guarantee your assignment will be everything we promised. For questions regarding IPI Travel or comments please feel free to call.

IPI's values our travelers, and work every day to improve our processes and service. Just doing isn't good enough, being the best is what we strive for.

www.ipitravel.com



NUMBER 3 - AYA HEALTHCARE



At Aya Healthcare, they offer numerous opportunities for healthcare professionals. They are experts in travel nursing and local contract placements. Aya Healthcare staffs nationwide and have territory managers who diligently work to help secure you a job in an ideal location. They also have strong client relationships and often gets jobs not seen by their competitors.

Aya Healthcare is a large company broken down into several specialized teams allowing them to focus on each individual healthcare provider throughout the cycle of their assignment. They are a privately held company that holds itself accountable to its nurses.

Aya Healthcare understands that each healthcare provider makes a difference to their patients and they want to make that same positive difference in the lives of their employees. They have specialized recruiters and customer service representatives to ensure that healthcare providers working with Aya have a positive experience doing that they love. They understand that the way they care for you makes a difference in your life and they strive to go above and beyond to provide a remarkable employment experience. They have customer service representatives who specialize in each step of the travel experience. From onboarding to certifications & li-

censing, to benefits and payroll, you can always be confident that you will have a knowledgeable representative available to answer any of your questions or concerns. In addition, to ensure timeliness and personal service, each healthcare provider is assigned a dedicated Customer Service Representative. They want to get to know you and they feel the best way to do so, is making sure that you always have access to a friendly, familiar representative, who knows your unique travel history which allows them to serve you in the best way possible.

www.ayatravelnursingjobs.com

NUMBER 2 - FLEXCARE MEDICAL STAFFING



FlexCare Medical Staffing specializes in contracting Registered Nurses, who have at least one year of current RN experience, in acute care facilities throughout the nation. Typical contract lengths vary from 4-26 weeks. On most occasions their travelers extend for multiple assignments at the same hospital and many eventually turn their travel assignment into a fulltime position. They feel, if the nurse likes his/her assignment so much that they decide to extend and/or go on fulltime, that is further proof that they are matching RN's up to the right jobs and right facilities.

FlexCare Medical Staffing places RN's nationwide, including Hawaii and Alaska, and currently holds contracts with some

of the largest hospital chains throughout the nation including HCA, Kaiser Permanente, Dignity Health (formerly Catholic Healthcare West), Tenet Healthcare, Texas Health, and Florida Hospitals.

FlexCare has the job availability of a large company with the service of a small company. Having never advertised, FlexCare has built a company primarily off of referrals from other current working FlexCare travel RNs. You will be treated as not just a name, but also as a colleague and a friend.

One of the key differences between FlexCare and most other travel nursing companies is the fact that your recruiter at FlexCare is your sole point of contact. Your recruiter is re-

sponsible for handling every detail of your assignment, whether that is payroll, insurance, travel, housing, etc. Your recruiter has a very intimate knowledge of every piece of your assignment and always has a vested interest making your travel assignment all it can possibly be. If there is ever an issue while on assignment, your recruiter will be there to provide you with the most efficient solution as quick as possible. There is never the need to get transferred between multiple departments within FlexCare, because your recruiter is your sole point of contact for all of these things.

www.flexcarestaff.com

NUMBER ONE - TALEMED

TaleMed offers a wealth of traveling nurse employment opportunities all across the country. From friendly towns to exciting facilities to 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 into all 50 states, offering a wealth of traveling nurse job opportunities, and they can have you ready to go between 24 hours and 4 days for a nurse 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 with you. 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. It is critical to them that you know that they are available at all times for you.

They offer paid benefits that start from day one. This includes medical, dental, AD&D, life and prescription coverage. They also have made available short and 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 are just as important. 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, they can be found online at www.talemed.com



HIGHWAY HYPODERMICS - TRAVEL NURSING 2015

Since 2003 Epstein and the Highway Hypodermics series has brought the most up to date information to traveling nurses, staffing recruiters, and travel nursing company executives. Time for a new rewrite! Yes, that's true! The new edition of Highway Hypodermics: Travel Nursing 2015 will be all new!

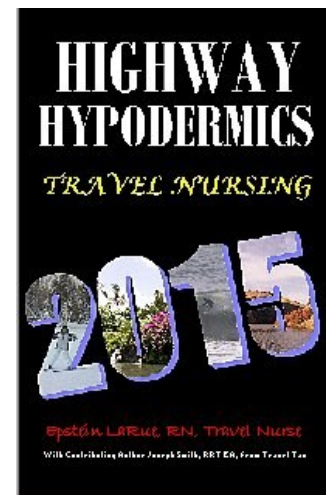
The last edition not only took you down the path of finding a great travel company and an awesome assignment, but delves into the finer things of travel nursing

including: steps to being a travel nursing for foreign trained nurses, traveling in an RV, traveling as an OT, PT, SLP, or LPN, homeschooling while traveling, independent contracting, and what the nursing license company really means. New topics in this edition includes new testing (PBDS & BKAT), standards groups (JCAHO & NATHO), and traveling with a pet.

The writing world calls her Epstein, but reality calls her "Kay." She has been a nurse since 1992 and was first published in 2001. "Highway

Hypodermics: Travel Nursing 2015" is the fifth book in her travel nursing series.

Not only was she chosen as one of the traveling nurses of the year in 2005, but her travel nursing books have received top awards. The 2007 & 2012 versions reached number one on Amazon's best seller list in Nursing Trends, Issues, and Roles. The 2005 version was a finalist in the USABooksNews' annual awards, with the 2009 version winning the medical reference category in 2010.





HIGHWAY HYPODERMICS

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www.highwayhypodermics.com

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ONE HOSPITAL AT A TIME.

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EMERALD HEALTH SERVICES
www.emeraldhs.com

	Company	TTL Evals	Eval Score	Benefits	Eval + Bene
1	TaleMed	18.1 (x66evals)	18.1	21	39.1
2	Flexcare Medical Staffing	17.8 (x61evals)	17.8	21	38.8
3	Aya Healthcare	17.5(x34eval)	17.5	21	38.5
4	IPI Travel	18.3(x42evals)	18.3	20	38.3
5	One Staff Medical	18.3 (x29eval)	18.3	20	38.3
6	Premier Healthcare Professionals	18.8 (x46 evals)	18	20	38.0
7	Total Med Staffing	17.9 (x37 evals)	17.9	20	37.9
8	Core Medical Group	18.6(x15evals)	18.6	19	37.6
9	PPR Healthcare Staffing	17.4 (x14 eval)	17.4	18	35.4
10	Valley Healthcare Systems	16.6 (x17eval)	16.6	18	34.6
11	Cirrus Medical Staffing	17.3 (x52eval)	17.3	17	34.3
12	Randstad Healthcare	16.3 (x16eval)	16.3	18	34.3
13	RTG Medical	17 (x10eval)	17	17	34.0
14	Atlas MedStaff	18.9 (x16evals)	18.9	15	33.9
15	Medical Solutions	16.6(x39eval)	16.6	17	33.6
16	Rn Network	15.3(x31eval)	15.3	18	33.3
17	Trinity HSG	17.3 (x23eval)	17.3	16	33.3
18	The Right Solutions	17.3(x11evals)	17.3	14	31.3
19	Fastaff	17.2 (x33eval)	17.2	14	31.2
20	Emerald Healthcare	14.5 (x11eval)	14.8	16	30.8