



Washington State Health Professional Loan Repayment Program

2015



About the Program

The Health Professional Loan Repayment Program helps the state attract and retain licensed health professionals to serve in critical shortage areas in Washington State by providing educational loan repayment assistance.

In return for financial assistance, program participants agree to provide primary health care services in rural or underserved urban areas that are designated as health professional shortage areas.

The State Loan Repayment Program provides up to \$35,000 per year for a minimum of two years (\$70,000).

Additional funds for each additional year are based on fund availability and the individual's remaining eligible educational debt.

Eligible providers must:

- Be employed (seeing patients) at an eligible site no later than July 1 of the year they apply.
- Submit documentation of eligible outstanding educational debt.
- Be a United States citizen.
- Provide primary care and not specialty care.
- Be a permanent employee of the site.
- Sign a contract to serve for a minimum of two years or pay funds back with penalty.

Eligible professions include:

- Physician (MD, DO, Psychiatrist)
- Nurse Practitioner
- Physician Assistant
- Midwife (Certified Nurse)
- Registered Nurse
- Pharmacist
- Dentist
- Registered Dental Hygienist

Important application dates:

The **Site** application cycle is open each year between July and September. The site must apply and be approved before the provider can apply.

The **Provider** application cycle is open between January and April.

Eligible Sites

Eligible sites include public and non-profit private entities located in and providing health care services in federal Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs).

- "Non-profit private entity means an entity which may not lawfully hold or use any part of its net earnings to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual and which does not hold or use its net earnings for that purpose" (42 C.F.R. 62.52).
- For-profit health facilities operated by non-profit organizations must follow the same guidelines as all other State Loan Repayment Program sites.

Types of sites may include the following:

- Federally Qualified Health Center
- Rural Health Clinic
- Hospital-based/owned Clinic
- Tribal Health Clinic
- State/Federal Correctional Facility
- Community Health Center
- Community Mental Health
- Critical Access Hospital
- Free Clinic
- Mobile Unit
- County Health Clinic
- Long-term Care Facility
- Mental Health Facility
- Urgent Care Center attached to a qualified clinic.