Loan Repayment Programs

(State-AZ & Federal)

Edith Di Santo | Primary Care Office Chief

Arizona State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)

- Goals:
 - Award incentives to recruit and retain providers
 - Increase providers in rural and underserved areas
 - Increase access to primary care, dental, and mental health services
- Modeled after the Federal National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Loan Repayment program

Provider Retention-SLRP

How many more years clinicians anticipate they will remain in	AZ SLRP (n=110) Average [Median]
their current practice	9.8 years [7 yrs.]
their current community	14.9 years [10 yrs.]
rural practice*	14.1 years [10 yrs.]
a medically underserved area, whether urban or rural	14.2 years [10 yrs.]
their current state	21.1 years [20 yrs.]

^{*}Excluded non-rural providers



Eligible Disciplines

- Physicians
 - Family Medicine, OB/GYN, Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, Geriatrics, Psychiatry
- Dentists
- Pharmacists
- Advanced Care Providers
 - Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners, Certified Nurse Midwives
- Behavioral Health Providers
 - LCSW, LFMT, Psych D, LPC

Award Amounts*

Physicians and Dentists

Contract Year of Service	HPSA Score of 18-26	HPSA Score of 14-17	HPSA Score of 0-13
Initial Two Years	\$65,000	\$58,500	\$52,000
Third year	\$35,000	\$31,500	\$28,000
Fourth year	\$25,000	\$22,500	\$20,000
Fifth year and continuing	\$15,000	\$13,500	\$12,000

Advance Practice Providers, Behavioral Health Providers and Pharmacists

Contract Year of Service	HPSA Score of 18-26	HPSA Score of 14-17	HPSA Score of 0-13
Initial two years	\$50,000	\$45,000	\$40,000
Third year	\$25,000	\$22,500	\$20,000
Fourth year	\$20,000	\$18,000	\$16,000
Fifth year and continuing	\$10,000	\$9,000	\$8,000



*Based on maximum, full-time commitment.

Award amounts are tax-exempt.

Applicant Health Service Priority Score

- 1. Geographic location (Rural vs. Urban)
- 2. HPSA score specific to the applicant's discipline
- 3. Percentage of underserved populations served by Service Site
- 4. Access to the next nearest Sliding Fee Scale clinic of similar type service
- 5. Newly employed at the service site or by the employer
- 6. On-site or in-person service delivery versus telemedicine
- 7. Arizona resident
- 8. Graduate of an Arizona graduate educational institution
- 9. Experience in serving the medically underserved
- 10. Service Hours (Full-time /Half-time)

AZ SLRP Annual Cycle

- January-March: sites must register to be active eligible sites for SLRP for the year
- April 1st: Renewal Applications cycle closes for participants who will be completing their initial 2-year award/obligation
- Mid April June 1st: Initial 2-year Application cycle closes for new participants
- October: Awards & Contracts are given to awarded applicants.

Accomplishments

- Arizona was recognized for two items nationally:
 - State Match Diversification: AZ & RI have been champions of securing increased and varied sources of match funds within their respective states.
 - Program Growth: AZ, AR, IL and CA are states that have grown their program budgets and health workforce as a direct result of SLRP participation.

Outreach Efforts

 Presentations to medical, dental, health services schools in Arizona

Conferences & professional organizations

Support SLRP

Entities can donate directly to the program.

 Private donations can be earmarked for a specific discipline and/or county.

 For details, please contact Edith Di Santo at edith.disanto@azdhs.gov or call 602-542-1066

For more information:

Arizona State Loan Repayment Programs

https://www.azdhs.gov/prevention/health-systemsdevelopment/workforce-programs/loanrepayment/index.php

National Health Service Corps Scholarship Loan Repayment Program (NHSC LRP)

National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Loan Repayment

- Currently has an open cycle
- November 8 December 16, 2021
- Increase funding, funding lower HPSAs than prior years



WHICH ONE IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

PROGRAM TYPE

NHSC Loan Repayment Program

NHSC SUD Workforce **Loan Repayment Program**

NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program

DISCIPLINES **ELIGIBLE** FOR ALL **PROGRAMS**

Physicians (DO/MD) • Nurse Practitioners (NP) • Physician Assistants (PA) • Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM) Health Service Psychologists (HSP) • Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW) • Psychiatric Nurse Specialists (PNS) Marriage and Family Therapists (MFT) . Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC)

DISCIPLINES ELIGIBLE FOR SPECIFIC **PROGRAMS**

Dentists (DDS/DMD) Dental Hygienists (RDH)



Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Counselors Pharmacists (PHARM) Registered Nurses (RN)



Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Counselors Pharmacists (PHARM) Registered Nurses (RN) Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA)

AWARD **AMOUNT**





SERVICE COMMITMENT **YEARS**

ZYEARS

NHSC HEALTH CARE SITE ✓ Any NHSC-approved site



✓ Any NHSC-approved SUD site



All programs use one application, but you can only apply to one program.

NHSC.HRSA.GOV/LOAN-REPAYMENT



National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Loan Repayment Provider Eligibility

ELIGIBLE DISCIPLINES

Must be licensed in one of the following:

- Physician (MD or DO)
- Nurse practitioner (primary care)
- Certified nurse-midwife
- Physician assistant
- Dentist (general or pediatric)
- Dental hygienist
- Psychiatrist
- Psychologist
- Licensed clinical social worker
- Psychiatric nurse specialist
- Marriage and family therapist
- Licensed professional counselor

Must meet the following requirements:

- US Citizen or National
- Licensed in the state where employer site is located
- Have unpaid government or commercial loans for school tuition, reasonable educational and living expenses, segregated from all other debts (that is, not consolidated with non-educational loans)
- Currently working or have accepted an employment with an NHSC-approved facility located in a Health Professional Shortage Area



National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Loan Repayment

How do providers benefit from NHSC LRP?

Receive a <u>lump-sum</u> loan repayment upfront for an initial two year commitment.

Program options:

Full time: 40 hours per week for a minimum of 45 weeks per year

Part time: 20 hours per for a minimum of 45 weeks per year

Initial Award Amounts	2 Years Full-time	2 Years Half-time
Loan Repayment Award (HPSA 14 and above)	\$50,000	\$25,000
Loan Repayment Award (HPSA 13 and below)	\$30,000	\$15,000

Additional Loan Repayment Awards:

Continue loan repayment beyond the initial contract, one year at a time, and pay off all qualifying educational loans



National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Loan Repayment Service Site Eligibility

Eligible Sites

- Federally Qualified Health Center or Look-Alike (FQHC or FQHC-LA)
- Certified Rural Health Clinic (RHC)
- Indian Health Service Site (Federal or Tribal)
- Solo or Group Partnership or Practice
- Hospital-Affiliated Primary Care Practice
- Critical Access Hospital
- Managed Care Network
- State or Federal Prison
- U.S. Immigration, Customs and Enforcement Site
- Public Health Department
- Other Health Clinics

Must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Located in a designated HPSA
- · Accept Medicare and Medicaid
- Use Sliding Fee Scale (IHS sites are exempt from this requirement)
- Non-discriminatory policy in the provision of health services
- Has capacity to maintain a competitive salary, benefits, and malpractice coverage package for clinicians
- Must receive NHSC certification.





Learn more at

http://www.nhsc.hrsa.gov/loanrepayment/index.html



Loan Repayment Program

Cycle Open NOW- January 13, 2022



Basic Eligibility

- Be a U.S. Citizen (either U.S. born or naturalized), U.S. National, or Lawful Permanent Resident
- Have a diploma (associate's, bachelor's, master's, doctoral degree in nursing.
- Have a current, full, permanent, unencumbered, unrestricted RN license
 valid in the state in which they are employed
- Have outstanding, qualified nursing education loans
- Be employed full time (at least 32 hours per week) at a public or private nonprofit Critical Shortage Facility OR be employed full time at an eligible, public or private nonprofit school or nursing.







Types of Awards

- <u>Initial 2-year Award</u>: NURSE Corps participants receive a payment equal to **60%** (30% each year) of their current, outstanding, qualifying educational loan balances incurred while pursuing education in nursing; in return for a **2-year** service commitment at a Critical Shortage Facility (CSF), or Nurse Faculty serving at an accredited eligible school of nursing.
- <u>Continuation Award</u>: After the completion of the initial 2-years of service, qualifying NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Program participants may receive an *additional 25% of their original loan balance for a third year of service*. Subject to available funds. Cannot add new loans.
- All awards are subject to Federal Taxes

Critical Shortage Facility (CSF)

 A health care facility located in, designated as, or serving in a primary care or mental health, Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA).



- All facilities must have a Primary or Mental Health HPSA designation to be considered an eligible CSF.
- A CSF must be a non-profit facility located in the 50 states or U.S. territories.

Loan Repayment Eligible Facilities:

CSF Types for RNs and Advanced RNs

- Critical Access Hospital (CAH)
- Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH)
- Federally Qualified Health Center
- Indian Health Service Health Center
- Native Hawaiian Health Center
- Public or Private Hospital
- Rural Health Clinic
- Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic

- State/Local Public Health and/or Human Services Department
- Home Health Agency
- Hospice Program
- Residential Nursing Home
- Ambulatory Surgical Center
- Nurse Managed Health Clinic/Center
- Urgent Care Center
- End State Renal Disease Dialysis

Accredited School of Nursing for Nurse Faculty

 Accredited public or private non-profit school of nursing that provides training to become an RN or advanced practice RN

Service Requirements

- Registered Nurses at a CSF:
 - Must provide full-time service, defined as working at least 32 hours per week for a minimum of 45 weeks per year
- Nurse Faculty:
 - Working full-time for a minimum of 9 months per service year.
- No more than 7 weeks (35 workdays) per service year may be spent away from facility for vacation, holidays, continuing education, illness, maternity/paternity/adoption, or any other reason.

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Health and Wellness for all Arizonans

CONTACT INFORMATION

Patricia Tarango, Bureau Chief, Women's & Children's Health, ADHS

Email: Patricia.Tarango@azdhs.gov

Phone: (602) 542-1436

Julia Wacloff, Chief, Office of Oral Health, Bureau of Women's & Children's Health, ADHS

Email: Julia. Wacloff@azdhs.gov

Phone: (602) 542-1866

Edith Di Santo, Primary Care Office Chief, Bureau of Women's & Children's Health, ADHS

Email: edith.disanto@azdhs.gov

Phone: (602) 542-1066

Tracy Lenartz, Designations Specialist/Health Planning Consultant

Email: <u>Tracy.Lenartz@azdhs.gov</u>



THANK YOU

Edith Di Santo | Primary Care Office Chief
Edith.DiSanto@azdhs.gov | 602-542-1066

azhealth.gov

@azdhs

facebook.com/azdhs

