



Minnesota State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)

Brenda Flattum | Primary Care Programs Coordinator

- The purpose of the Minnesota State Loan Repayment Program is to improve access to primary care by helping underserved communities recruit and retain primary care medical, mental health and dental providers.
- It is intended to augment the NHSC Loan Repayment Program, to help underserved areas that may not be likely to attain an NHSC provider.

Eligible Providers

For Years 2022 to 2024, Minnesota's program focuses on Nurses and Mental Health Providers Practicing in rural and urban Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs).

- CPs Clinical or Counseling Psychologists (Ph.D. or equivalent)
- LICSWs Licensed Independent Clinical Social Workers (master's or doctoral degree in social work)
- NPs Nurse Practitioner, **Psychiatric ONLY**
- PNSs Psychiatric Nurse Specialists
- LPCCs Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (master's or doctoral degree with a major study in counseling, licensed to practice independently and unsupervised)
- LMFTs Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (master's or doctoral degree with a major study in marriage and family therapy, LAMFT not eligible)
- RNs Registered Nurse

Eligibility Requirements

- Licensed to practice in the state of Minnesota
- Employed or contracted for employment by an eligible site
- Working full-time by November 1 (contract start)
- Exceptions – license and/or employment may be pending at time of application but must be confirmed at time of award
- Meet all other Federal SLRP requirements
 - US Citizenship or US National
 - No other service obligation
 - No default on loans
 - No breach of contract/service obligation
 - No federal lien
 - Participate or be eligible to participate as a provider in Medicare, Medicaid and MinnesotaCare, as appropriate

Support – Full Time

- Up to \$40,000 (not to exceed debt) awarded for the initial two-year contract for all eligible provider types.
- Up to \$20,000 per year for each year of extension (1 year available).
- \$20,000 disbursed annually, at the beginning of the contract year, direct to participant.

Support – Part Time

- Up to \$20,000 (not to exceed debt) awarded for the initial two-year contract for all eligible provider types.
- Up to \$10,000 per year for each year of extension (1 year available).
- \$10,000 disbursed annually, at the beginning of the contract year, direct to participant.

Service Requirements

- 2 years minimum, full-time or part-time, outpatient
- 1 year extension contract available, priority given to new applicants
- Further extensions not offered after 3 years

Default Penalties

- Per federal program guidelines, the default penalties match the NHSC federal program.
- Repayment of award funds, penalties and any accrued interest must be paid back to the state within one year.

Application and Award Cycle

- Application cycle opens September 1 and closes near end of October each year
- Review of eligible applications completed in 1-2 months
- Awards offered in December
- Obligations start February 1

- Candidates and Sites **must submit applications** by the closing date in the [MDH Grants Portal](#) to be considered for review.
- Candidate applications include resume, Minnesota license, letters of reference and an essay. (Naturalization certificate if applicable).
- Sites must submit a copy of their non-discrimination policy, sliding fee scale, and policy indicating services are provided regardless of ability to pay.

Review Criteria

- HPSA score, lower score = higher priority
- Percent of public program patients and uninsured/sliding fee patients
- Essay question regarding clinician's knowledge of underservice in patient population
- Letters of reference included, quality
- Application complete

- Application review score is just one part of the award consideration.
- Multiple candidate applications may be submitted from the same site, however only one award per site per year will be considered.
- Preference will be given to nurses working in a designated rural area and a county where the RN nurse rate (provider count per 10,000 population) is below 100.
- Preference will be given to Mental Health Professional applicants that are Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC).

Thank You!

Brenda Flattum

health.loanforgiveness@state.mn.us

651-201-3870