# National Health Service Corps Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program

**Program Description**

The National Health Service Corps Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program (NHSC SUD Workforce LRP) expands access to evidence-based substance use disorder treatment in underserved, high-need communities across the country. The NHSC SUD Workforce LRP offers health care clinicians the opportunity to have their qualifying student loans repaid in exchange for serving at an NHSC-approved SUD treatment facility.

**Award Amounts and Service Commitments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Commitment</th>
<th>Award Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Three years of full-time service (minimum 40 hours/week, 45 weeks/year)</td>
<td>Up to $75,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three years of half-time service (minimum 20 hours/week, 45 weeks/year)*</td>
<td>Up to $37,500</td>
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*Half-time practice is not available to those serving under the Private Practice Option (PPO). Learn more in the NHSC SUD Workforce LRP Application Program and Guidance (APG).

**Tax Liability**

Not taxable

**Maternity Care Target Areas (MCTAs)**

To support HRSA-designated Maternity Care Target Areas (MCTAs) where there is a significant shortage of maternity care providers, the NHSC will review and approve applications from maternity care health professionals by descending Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) or MCTA score, whichever is higher, and based on the funding priorities. Scores can be found on the selected NHSC-approved SUD treatment facility’s Health Workforce Connector (HWC) profile.

Maternity care health professionals include:
- Physicians (MD/DO) Obstetrics/Gynecology
- Family medicine physicians (MD/DO) who practice obstetrics on a regular basis
- Certified nurse midwives (CNM)

Maternity care professionals serving exclusively in a mental HPSA are not eligible to apply to the NHSC SUD Workforce LRP.

**Eligible Disciplines**

- Physicians
- Nurse practitioners
- Certified nurse midwives
- Physician assistants
- Behavioral health professionals
- Substance use disorder counselors
- Registered nurses
- Pharmacists

**Application Requirements**

Applicants must be a U.S. citizen (U.S.-born or naturalized) or a U.S. national.
Funding Priorities

The NHSC SUD Workforce LRP gives first priority funding to:

- Current (or former) NHSC participants with remaining eligible loans who are seeking to extend their service obligation.
- Applicants likely to remain practicing in a HPSA, such as:
  - Applicants who have completed a HRSA-funded Primary Care Training and Enhancement Training (PCTE): Primary Care Champions Program, the Addiction Medicine Fellowship (AMF), the HRSA-funded Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education (THCGME) Program, the HRSA-funded Advanced Nursing Education Nurse Practitioner Residency (ANE-NPR) Program or the ANE-NPR Integration Program (ANE-NPRIP).
  - Applicants with a disadvantaged background.

The NHSC uses the funding priority factors above to rank applicants in three tiers. Tier 1 NHSC SUD Workforce LRP applicants include:

- All SUD professionals with SUD licensure/certification or specialized training to provide SUD treatment; and
- Who are currently employed at a SAMHSA-certified opioid treatment program (OTP) or office-based opioid treatment (OBOT) facility.

Learn more about funding priorities on the NHSC SUD Workforce LRP web page.

Where Members Serve

- NHSC SUD Workforce LRP applicants must work at an NHSC-approved SUD treatment facility located in a HPSA.
- An NHSC-approved SUD treatment facility must meet the requirements in the NHSC Site Agreement and NHSC Site Reference Guide.

Eligible NHSC-approved SUD treatment facilities can include:

- SAMHSA-certified outpatient treatment programs (OTPs)
- Office-based opioid treatment facilities (OBOTs)
- Non-opioid substance use disorder treatment facilities (SUD treatment facilities)
- Federally Qualified Health Care Centers (FQHCs)
- FQHC Look-Alikes
- Rural Health Clinics (RHCs)
- Indian Health Service, Tribal, and Urban Indian Health Clinics (ITUs); and some Indian Health Service (IHS) hospitals with an affiliated outpatient clinic
- State or federal correctional facilities
- Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs)
- Community Health Centers (CHCs) with an affiliated outpatient clinic
- State or local health departments or health clinics
- Community outpatient facilities
- Private practices (solo/group)
- School-based clinics
- Mobile units and free clinics

- Clinicians may qualify:
  - Even if they work at an NHSC-approved SUD treatment facility with a HPSA score that would ordinarily be too low to qualify for NHSC funding.
  - Using either the mental health or primary care HPSA score of their NHSC-approved SUD treatment facility.

Web Site

NHSC SUD Workforce LRP

NHSC’s mission is to build healthy communities by supporting qualified medical, dental, mental, and behavioral health care clinicians working in areas of the United States with limited access to care.