NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER WORKFORCE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM



| Program |
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| Description |

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

Award Amounts and Service Commitments

| SERVICE COMMITMENT | AWARD AMOUNT |
|--|----------------|
| Three years of full-time service (minimum 40 hours/week, 45 weeks/year) | Up to \$75,000 |
| Three years of half-time service (minimum 20 hours/week, 45 weeks/year)* | Up to \$37,500 |

*Half-time practice is not available to those serving under the Private Practice Option. Read the program's <u>Application and Program Guidance</u> for more information.

Tax Liability

Not taxable

Maternity Care Target Areas (MCTAs)

To support HRSA-designated <u>Maternity Care Target Areas</u> (MCTAs), communities experiencing a significant shortage of maternity care providers, the NHSC will review and approve applications from maternity care health professionals by descending <u>Health Professional Shortage Area</u> (HPSA) or MCTA score, whichever is higher, and based on NHSC funding priorities. Scores are available on each NHSC-approved SUD treatment facility's profile in the <u>Health Workforce Connector</u>.

Maternity care health professionals include:

- Physicians (MD/DO) in obstetrics/gynecology
- Family medicine physicians (MD/DO) who practice obstetrics on a regular basis
- · Certified nurse midwives

Maternity care professionals serving exclusively in a mental HPSA are not eligible to apply to the NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program.

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 Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program gives first priority funding to:

- Current (or former) NHSC participants with remaining eligible loans who are seeking to extend their service obligation.
- Providers serving at sites with the highest HPSA or MCTA score.
- Clinicians likely to remain practicing in a HPSA, such as:
 - Applicants who have completed these HRSA-funded Health Workforce Programs:
 - > Primary Care Training and Enhancement: Training Primary Care Champions Program
 - > Addiction Medicine Fellowship
 - > Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Program
 - > Advanced Nursing Education-Nurse Practitioner Residency Program
 - > ANE-NPR Integration Program
 - > Graduate Psychology Education Program
 - Applicants with a disadvantaged background.

The NHSC uses the funding priority factors above to rank applicants in three tiers. Tier 1 NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program 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 or office-based opioid treatment facility.

Learn more about funding priorities on the <u>NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan</u>

<u>Repayment Program</u> web page.

Where Members Serve

- NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program applicants must work at an NHSC-approved SUD treatment facility located in a primary care or mental HPSA. Behavioral health providers must be working in a mental HPSA.
- An NHSC-approved SUD treatment facility must meet the requirements in the <u>NHSC</u> <u>Site Agreement</u> and <u>NHSC Site Reference</u> <u>Guide</u>.
- Eligible NHSC-approved SUD treatment facilities can include:
 - SAMHSA-certified outpatient treatment programs
 - Office-based opioid treatment facilities
 - Non-opioid substance use disorder treatment facilities
 - Federally Qualified Health Care Centers (FQHCs)
 - -FQHC look-alikes
 - Rural health clinics

- 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
- Community health centers 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 NHSCapproved SUD treatment facility.

Website

NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program