

RHODE ISLAND HEALTH PROFESSIONAL LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

For more information about eligibility and which sites in Rhode Island are designated as Health Professional Shortage Areas by the federal government, visit:

health.ri.gov/programs/healthprofessionalloanrepayment



www.health.ri.gov



Daniel J. McKee Governor

Womazetta Jones Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Utpala Bandy MD, MPH Interim Director of Health YOUR MEDICAL SKILLS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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IF YOU PROVIDE SERVICES TO RHODE ISLANDERS WHO LACK ACCESS TO PRIMARY HEALTH CARE, YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR ASSISTANCE REPAYING YOUR STUDENT LOANS.

As a primary care provider, you are often the first point of contact for a patient in need. You serve as a guide to improve health through prevention and treatment. Yet many Rhode Islanders don't have access to primary care.

## IF YOU ENJOY PROVIDING DIRECT PATIENT CARE, THE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM MAY BE AN OPTION FOR YOU.

Award recipients must make a two-year commitment to provide direct patient care in an ambulatory outpatient setting. Award amounts up to \$50,000 vary based on income and student loan balances for an initial two year-initial term.

The Rhode Island Health Professionals Loan Repayment Program is available to a wide variety of medical, dental, and mental health professionals who work where there is a shortage of healthcare providers or other barriers to care.

## BENEFITS

- Enrich your experience and knowledge by working with Rhode Island's most diverse populations and healthcare workforce
- Improve the lives of those Rhode Islanders who need the most help
- Ensure equitable access to healthcare and help eliminate health disparities in our state
- Receive help in repaying your student loans
- Once you complete the initial two-year service contract, you may be eligible to apply for additional loan repayment through continuation service contracts

## CHECK YOUR ELIGIBILITY

• Confirm that you are working at an eligible site. You must be working at a site located in a federally-designated health provider shortage area that matches your profession. You can search by address at https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/shortage-area

All Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) are eligible practice sites.

- **Confirm that you have an approved and active license.** Individuals with a pending license status as of the submission deadline are encouraged to apply.
- **Talk with your employer.** Your employer will need to describe the facility's need for your services, must verify your working hours, and confirm that 80% of that time is for providing direct patient care.

## • Apply Online:

www.health.ri.gov/programs/healthprofessionalloanrepayment The application is posted in December each year.

For more information on which health professions qualify, please visit: www.health.ri.gov/programs/healthprofessionalloanrepayment