

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is a “Service Obligation?”

“Service Obligation” means a scholarship/loan repayment service commitment in which the recipient has a contractual obligation to practice their profession in a qualified Facility/Agency in California for a specified period of time.

2. Can I still apply for the scholarship/loan repayment program if I currently owe an existing service obligation?

Yes. You may apply if you have an existing service obligation to HPEF or another organization, only if your current service obligation ends before the new service obligation begins.

3. Do all applicants of the scholarship/loan repayment program receive an award?

Awards for the scholarship/loan repayment program are made on a competitive basis. Applicants are not guaranteed to receive a scholarship/loan repayment award.

4. What is the maximum award amount for the scholarship/loan repayment program and am I guaranteed to receive this full amount?

Below is a list of the maximum award amounts for the scholarship/loan repayment program. Recipients may receive up to the maximum amount per award cycle. However, based on the availability of funding and amount of educational debt, recipients may not receive the maximum award amount.

Scholarship Programs

- Allied Healthcare Scholarship Program (AHSP) - \$8,000
- Vocational Nurse Scholarship Program (VNSP) - \$4,000
- Licensed Vocational Nurse to Associate Degree Nursing Scholarship Program (LVN to ADN) - \$8,000
- Associate Degree Nursing Scholarship Program (ADNSP) - \$8,000
- Bachelor of Science Nursing Scholarship Program (BSNSP) - \$10,000
- Advanced Practice Healthcare Scholarship Program (APHSP) - \$25,000

Loan Repayment Programs

- Allied Healthcare Loan Repayment Program (AHLRP) - \$16,000
- Licensed Vocational Nurse Loan Repayment Program (LVNLRP) - \$6,000
- Bachelor of Science Nursing Loan Repayment Program (BSNLRP) - \$10,000
- Advanced Practice Healthcare Loan Repayment Program (APHLRP) - \$25,000
- Licensed Mental Health Services Provider Education Program (LMHSPEP) - \$15,000
- Steven M. Thompson Physician Corps Loan Repayment Program (STLRP) - \$105,000

5. How many applicants are awarded each cycle for the scholarship/loan repayment program?

The number of applicants awarded each cycle depends on the number of eligible scholarship/loan repayment program applications received as well as the availability of funding.

6. Can I submit my application prior to the deadlines?

You are encouraged to submit your scholarship/loan repayment program application prior to the deadline for HPEF to verify your application is complete. Any documents submitted beyond the deadline will not be accepted. Applications are not available until the cycle opens.

7. What questions are asked in the applications?

Specific application questions are not available until the application cycles open and an applicant applies. In general, questions relate to an applicant's personal narrative, commitment to providing direct patient care in a medically underserved area, and degree of cultural and linguistic competency.

8. May I request an extension to file my application if I cannot obtain all required documents by the deadline?

No. All documents must be submitted by the application due date. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

9. Is the scholarship/loan repayment automatically renewable from year to year?

No. You must reapply for the scholarship/loan repayment program during the program's annual open application cycle.

10. Do I have to be bilingual to apply for the scholarship/loan repayment program?

No. You do not have to be bilingual to apply for the scholarship/loan repayment program.

11. What happens if I need to change jobs during my service obligation?

You have the option to change jobs during the term of your service obligation. However, to comply with the terms of your agreement, you must remain employed with an eligible practice setting. If there is a change in the employment site, you must notify HPEF in writing within

30 days of the change in employment. You will need to complete and submit an employment verification form. HPEF Staff will verify if the new employment site is an eligible site under your contract.

12. What happens if I am unable to fulfill the terms of my contractual obligation and cannot complete my service obligation?

If a recipient is unable to fulfill their contractual obligation, they will be required to repay the scholarship/loan repayment funds received, plus ten (10) percent interest over a period of seven (7) years. Once the contractual obligation is breached, the recipient is ineligible to apply for other programs.

EXCEPTION: If an **STLRP recipient** is unable to complete their 36-month service obligation, they will be required to repay, within 365 calendar days, an amount equal to the total amount of loan repayment paid to them by the program. Failure to repay the amount within 365 days will result in the accrual of interests, at prime, on the outstanding balance.

13. How many hours are considered “full-time” for the scholarship/loan repayment program?

A minimum of 32 hours per week is considered full-time for the scholarship/loan repayment programs.

EXCEPTION: STLRP requires a minimum of 40 hours per week for a minimum of 45 weeks per year. The 40-hours per week may be compressed into no less than four days per week, with no more than 12 hours of work in any 24-hour period. This does not include hours spent on call. At least 32 hours per week must be spent providing clinical services during normal office hours. For physicians in obstetrics, at least 21 hours must be spent providing clinical services in addition to deliveries and other outpatient coverage.

14. If I receive a scholarship/loan repayment, is it likely I will receive a subsequent scholarship/loan repayment?

Being a current recipient does not increase or decrease your likelihood of receiving a subsequent scholarship/loan repayment. Recipients must resubmit a complete application each time they apply.

15. If I am selected to be a scholarship/loan repayment recipient, does the money come directly to me or will it be sent to my school/lender?

A check will be sent directly to the recipient and the recipient is required to make the payment to the school or lender.

16. If am NOT selected to be a scholarship/loan repayment recipient and I reapply, do I need to resubmit my entire application, or can you reuse the materials I have already submitted?

Applicants must resubmit a complete application packet each time they apply. HPEF will not reuse or return any documentation previously submitted.

17. If I am selected to be a scholarship/loan repayment recipient, how many times can I reapply?

There is no limit as to the number of times someone can apply.

18. How many times can an applicant be awarded for each program?

Applicants can be awarded more than once. The maximum number of awards available to an applicant varies by program. Please refer to the individual program pages at www.healthprofessions.ca.gov.

19. If I am selected to be a scholarship/loan repayment recipient, what the terms of my contractual obligation?

Program	Document Submission Requirements	Length of Service Obligation	Where Service Can Be Fulfilled
Allied Healthcare Scholarship Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduation Date Verification Form • Employment Verification Form • Copy of Cost of Attendance • Semi and Annual Reports 	1-year service obligation providing direct patient care in your field of study	Qualified Facility/Agency
Vocational Nurse Scholarship Program		1-year service obligation providing direct patient care on a full-time basis as a Licensed Vocational Nurse	
Licensed Vocational Nurse to Associate Degree Nursing Scholarship Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduation Date Verification Form • Employment Verification Form • Copy of Cost of Attendance • Copy of RN License • Semi and Annual Reports 	1-year service obligation providing direct patient care on a full-time basis as a Registered Nurse	
Associate Degree Nursing Scholarship Program			
Bachelor of Science Nursing Scholarship Program			
Advanced Practice Healthcare Scholarship Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduation Date Verification Form • Employment Verification Form • Copy of Cost of Attendance • Semi and Annual Reports 	1-year service obligation providing direct patient care in your field of study	
Allied Healthcare Loan Repayment Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lender Statements • Employment Verification • Copy of License, Registration or Certification (If Applicable to Health Profession) • Progress Reports 	1-year service obligation providing direct patient care in your field of study	

Program	Document Submission Requirements	Length of Service Obligation	Where Service Can Be Fulfilled
Licensed Vocational Nurse Loan Repayment Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lender Statements • Employment Verification • Copy of LVN License • Progress Reports 	1-year service obligation providing direct patient care on a full-time basis as a Licensed Vocational Nurse	Qualified Facility/Agency
Bachelor of Science Nursing Loan Repayment Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lender Statements • Employment Verification • Copy of BSN License • Progress Reports 	1-year service obligation providing direct patient care on a full-time basis as a Registered Nurse	
Advanced Practice Healthcare Loan Repayment Program <i>*No Cycle At This Time</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lender Statements • Employment Verification • Copy of License, Registration or Certification (If Applicable to Health Profession) • Progress Reports 	Up to 2-year service obligation providing direct patient care in your field of study	
Licensed Mental Health Services Provider Education Loan Repayment Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lender Statements • Employment Verification • Copy of Mental Health License or Registration • Progress Reports 	Up to 2-year service obligation providing direct client care as a Mental Health Provider	
Steven M. Thompson Physician Corps Loan Repayment Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lender Statements • Certification of Practice Setting Form • Copy of D.O. or M.D. License • Progress Reports 	3-year service obligation providing direct patient care	