HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Since 1990, healthcare providers working in underserved areas have received loan repayment assistance through the Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program.* In return, these healthcare professionals make a two-year commitment to provide healthcare to underserved communities throughout Utah.

Many Utah Counties are considered medically underserved areas:
- Primary Care (26 of 29)
- Mental Health (All 29)
- Dental (18 of 29)

ELIGIBLE PROFESSIONS INCLUDE:
- Physicians (MD, DO)
- Physician Assistants
- Nurses (BSN, APRN, RN, LPN)
- Nurse Educators
- Behavioral Health Specialists
- Dentists
- Geriatric Professionals

“Coming out of medical school I had a strong desire to work in community health, but realized the potential earning limitations. The Workforce Financial Assistance Program made starting out at Midtown more feasible, and 17 years later and I am still practicing medicine here. In my opinion this program helps increase the probability of medical providers opting to work in underserved areas.”

- Kurt Rifleman, MD,
  Midtown Community Health Center

Recent program applicants serve in the following counties:

Cache  Carbon  Duchesne  Grand  Iron  Kane  Salt Lake

San Juan  Sevier  Summit  Tooele  Utah  Washington  Weber

*Operated as 3 separate programs prior to 2005 (Rural Loan Repayment Program, Urban Loan Repayment Program, Nurse Educator Program)
LEVERAGING STATE FUNDS IN 2 WAYS

HRSA has agreed to allow Utah to carry over $202,500 from FY 2020 into FY 2021—giving Utah up to $405,000 in eligible matching federal money for the program.**

With site match legislation, clinics could also leverage state dollars by directly supporting 20% of the applicant's total award beginning in FY 2021.

** The State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP), operated by the National Health Service Corps (NHSC), matches state dollars to help participating providers work at NHSC-eligible sites.

Since 2016, 41 providers have received awards through the program. 54% of awards have been made to rural recipients. These awardees have included 10 physicians, 17 physician assistants, 9 APRNs, 1 RN, 1 geriatric pharmacist, 1 LCSW, and 1 dentist.

In 2018, there were 21 eligible applicants but Utah was only able to make 12 awards.

In 2019, the state awarded no money for this program. This prevented the state from receiving federal matching funds. The lack of available funding presents a significant recruiting issue for clinics in rural and underserved communities.

**NHSC Eligible Organizations in Utah**

- Aspen Ridge Counseling
- Bear Lake Community Health Center, Inc
- Bear River Health Department
- Bear River Mental Health Services
- Beaver Medical Clinic
- Beaver/Milford Medical Clinic
- Blanding Medical Clinic
- Bryce Valley Clinic
- Budge Clinic/Intermountain Healthcare
- Carbon Medical Service Association, Inc
- Cedar Ridge Family Medicine
- Central Utah Correctional Facility
- Central Utah Counseling Center
- Circleville Clinic
- Color Country Pediatrics
- Community Health Centers Inc.
- Davis Behavioral Health, Inc.
- Division of Child and Family Services-Cedar City
- Enterprise Valley Medical Clinic, Inc
- Ephraim Health Center
- Escalante Dental Clinic
- Garfield Memorial Clinic
- Green River Medical Center
- Intermountain Healthcare Hurricane Valley Clinic
- Intermountain Psychiatry and Counseling - St. George
- Kane County Human Resources Special Service District
- Kazan Memorial Medical Clinic
- Legacy Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Midtown Community Health Center
- Mountainlakes Community Health Center
- Northeastern Counseling Center
- Northeastern Utah Medical Group
- Parowan Medical Clinic
- Revere Health
- San Juan Clinic
- San Juan Counseling
- San Juan Hospital
- Solstice Counseling and Wellness, PC
- The Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation
- Turning Point Family Care
- Uintah Basin Medical Center
- Uintah-Utah Service Unit
- Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake
- Utah Behavioral Services
- Utah County Children's Justice Center
- Utah Navajo Health Systems, Inc.
- Utah Partners for Health
- Utah State Prison
- Valley Family Medicine
- Valley Mental Health
- Wasatch Assistance Team Counseling Homeless
- Wasatch County Family Clinic
- Wasatch Homeless Health Care, Inc
- Wasatch Mental Health
- Wayne Community Health Center, Inc

(137 Total Clinic Locations)