

# 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)

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## 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  
Mountainlands 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-Ouray Service Unit  
Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake  
Utah Behavior 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)