

HB87 HEALTH CARE WORK FORCE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AMENDMENTS

LEVERAGING PROGRAM FUNDS THROUGH THE ADDITION OF HOST SITE MATCHING FEES

HB87 is seeking to amend the current program to require eligible host sites to pay 20% of the total loan repayment amount provided to the eligible professional.

While not included in HB87, the program is also eligible to match state funds on a one-to-one basis through the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) State Loan Repayment Program for NHSC eligible sites*. However, the program MUST have state funding to be able to apply for the federal matching dollars.

*Approximately 55 NHSC eligible organizations operate more than 135 clinic locations throughout Utah.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Recipients must work in underserved areas (e.g. rural and frontier) and/or with underserved populations (e.g. low-income, uninsured).

ELIGIBLE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS:

- Physician
- Physician Assistant
- Nurse
- Dentist
- Behavioral Health Specialist
- Occupational Therapist*
- Physical Therapist*
- Pharmacist*

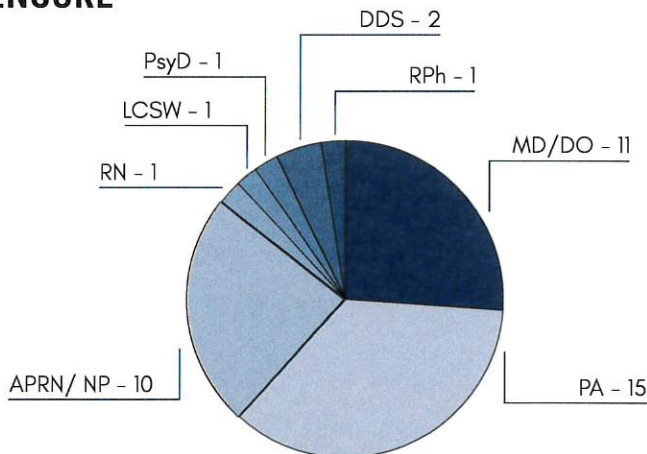
*These professionals must have advanced training in Geriatrics to meet eligibility requirements.

MOST UTAH COUNTIES ARE CONSIDERED MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED AREAS:

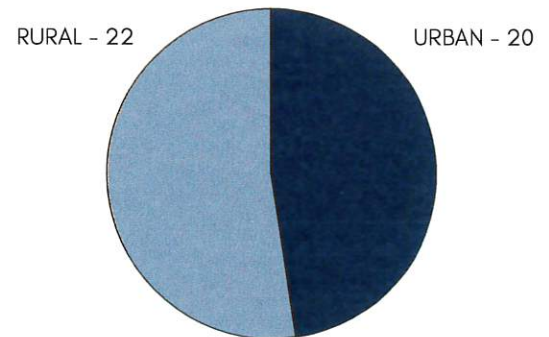
- PRIMARY CARE (26 OF 29)
- MENTAL HEALTH (ALL 29)
- DENTAL (18 OF 29)

In SFY2016-19, the program awarded 42 eligible professionals in the following professions. In SFY2018-19 23 eligible professionals applied, but funding was only available for 13 applicants. The program was not funded in SFY2019-20.

BY LICENSURE



URBAN / RURAL



"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 18 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