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Office of Primary Care and Rural Health Support, Connect, and Strengthening the Workforce



The Kansas Office of Primary Care and Rural Health aids Kansas' rural and medically underserved communities in building sustainable access to quality, patient-centered primary health care services.

Supporting
recruitment and
retention of the
healthcare workforce



Connecting local
providers and
partners to resources
and programs



Strengthening
system-wide
performance
improvement
capacity

The **Kansas State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)** offers eligible health care professionals an opportunity to receive assistance with the repayment of qualifying educational loans in exchange for a minimum two-year service commitment to an underserved area.



Awards by Year

Fiscal Year	New Awards	2 nd Year	Continuation	Total Funds Awarded
FY 2019	5	5	5	\$285,000
FY 2020	11	5	8	\$450,000
FY 2021	12	11	8	\$630,000
FY 2022	8	12	2	\$630,000
FY 2023	8	8	2	\$322,748.41



From 2019 to 2023, we helped 69 healthcare professionals pay off over \$1.1 million in student debt.



Office of Primary Care and Rural Health

Kansas State Loan Repayment Program

Award Amounts by Eligible Healthcare Discipline

HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL		DISCIPLINE	INITIAL SERVICE		CONTINUATION		
			YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5
MD	Allopathic Medicine	Primary Care/Mental Health	Up to \$25,000	Up to \$25,000	\$20,000	\$15,000	\$10,000
DO	Osteopathic Medicine	Primary Care/Mental Health					
Pharm	Pharmacist	Primary Care					
DDS	Dental Surgery	Dental Health					
DMD	Dental Medicine	Dental Health					
NP	Nurse Practitioner	Primary Care	Up to \$20,000	Up to \$20,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$5,000
PA	Physician Assistant	Primary Care					
RN	Registered Nurse	Primary Care/Mental Health					
CNM	Certified Nurse Midwife	Primary Care					
RDH	Registered Dental Hygienist	Dental Health					
NP	Nurse Practitioner - Mental Health	Mental Health					
PA	Physician Assistant - Mental Health	Mental Health					
HSP	Health Service Psychologist	Mental Health					
LCSW	Licensed Clinical Social Worker	Mental Health					
LPC	Licensed Professional Counselor	Mental Health					
MFT	Marriage and Family Therapist	Mental Health					
PNS	Psychiatric Nurse Specialist	Mental Health					
	Substance Use Disorder Counselors	Mental Health					



Office of Primary Care and Rural Health

Kansas State Loan Repayment Program

ELIGIBLE PRACTICE SITE TYPES
CMS-Certified Rural Health Clinics (RHC)
Community Mental Health Facilities
Community Outpatient Facilities
Correctional or Detention Facilities
Critical Access Hospitals (CAH) Affiliated with a Qualified Outpatient Clinic
Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC)
Federally Qualified Health Center Look-A-Likes (FQHC LAL)
Free Clinics
Immigration and Customs Enforcement Health Service Corps
Indian Health Service Facilities (IHS)
Mobile Units
School-Based Clinics
Solo or Group Private Practices
State and County Health Department Clinics

Program Updates:

- Application cycle now open year-round
- Now Accepting Part-Time Hours!!
- New Eligible Provider Types: RNs and Rural Healthcare Clinic Pharmacists
- Increased Number of Awards & Funding Available through 2025

Award Types

- **Initial 2-year Award**: State Loan Repayment participants receive an award in return for a 2-year service commitment at an eligible practice site. All participants start with a 2-year award.
- **Continuation Award**: After the completion of the initial 2-years of service, eligible program participants can apply to receive an additional award annually for 3 years up to 5 years total.

Eligibility Requirements: Health Care Professional

Be a US Citizen or
National

Have a current
permanent Kansas
Professional
License

Work full-time or
part-time at an
approved practice
site



Eligibility Requirements:

Health Care Practice Sites



Are you planning to apply?

- Application cycle is ALWAYS open!
- Two applications: one from health care professional, AND one from their practice site.



HRSA National Health Service Corps

NHSC Loan Repayment Programs

- **NHSC Loan Repayment Program**
- **Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program**
- **Rural Community Loan Repayment Program**

NHSC PROGRAM FUNDING

The NHSC can provide funding to primary care clinicians interested in serving communities in need.

THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
AWARDS
SCHOLARSHIPS

for tuition and fees to students pursuing eligible primary care health professions training.

THE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM (LRP)
PROVIDES
UP TO \$50,000

to repay qualified student loans of primary care—medical, dental, or mental/behavioral health professionals.

THE SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (SUD) WORKFORCE LRP
PROVIDES
UP TO \$75,000

to qualified health professionals working in underserved areas to expand access to SUD treatment and prevent overdose deaths.

THE RURAL COMMUNITY LRP

THE STUDENTS TO SERVICE (\$2S) LRP

WHICH ONE IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

PROGRAM TYPE	NHSC Loan Repayment Program	NHSC SUD Workforce Loan Repayment Program	NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program
DISCIPLINES ELIGIBLE FOR ALL PROGRAMS	Physicians (DO/MD) • Nurse Practitioners (NP) • Physician Assistants (PA) • Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM) Health Service Psychologists (HSP) • Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW) • Psychiatric Nurse Specialists (PNS) Marriage and Family Therapists (MFT) • Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC)		
DISCIPLINES ELIGIBLE FOR SPECIFIC PROGRAMS	Dentists (DDS/DMD) Dental Hygienists (RDH)	Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Counselors Pharmacists (PHARM) Registered Nurses (RN)	Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Counselors Pharmacists (PHARM) Registered Nurses (RN) Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA)
AWARD AMOUNT	$\frac{\$50K}{full-time}$ / $\frac{\$25K}{part-time}$	$\frac{\$75K}{full-time}$ / $\frac{\$37.5K}{part-time}$	$\frac{\$100K}{full-time}$ / $\frac{\$50K}{part-time}$

Shortage / Underserved Areas Designations

KDHE's Office of Primary Care and Rural Health is responsible for the evaluation and submissions of health professional shortage areas and medically underserved areas/population designations.

State and federal agencies use these designations to prioritize and direct limited resources to areas with unmet health care needs, including programs for:

- Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Conrad State 30 J-1 Visa Waivers
- Financial Assistance for Health Professionals
- Medicare Designations for Rural Health Clinics and Community Hospitals
- Medicare Reimbursement for Rural Providers and Telehealth Services

Kansas State 30 (Conrad) J-1 Visa Waiver Program

The [State 30 \(Conrad\) J-1 Visa Waiver Program](#) assists non-citizen physicians who are international medical graduates in obtaining an H-1B or L-1 visa by waiving the two-year home country residency requirement in exchange for a commitment to practice medicine in a location designated as a health professional shortage area (HPSA). The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is the designated state health agency for recommending J-1 Visa waivers to the U.S. State Department. Kansas can support up to 30 waiver recommendations per Federal Fiscal Year, October 1 through September 30. For details, see the [Kansas J-1 Visa Waiver Program Guidelines \(PDF\)](#) @ <https://www.kdhe.ks.gov/261/J-1-Visa-Waiver-Program>



Office of Primary Care and Rural Health

Kansas J-1 Visa Waiver Program

The Kansas J-1 Visa Waiver program focuses on primary care and meeting emergency medical systems and chronic care needs of underserved populations. Non-primary care specialists may also apply. Evidence of unmet need for non-primary care specialties must be demonstrated by the applicant. Priority will be given in the following order.

- **Tier 1, Primary Care:** Physicians specializing in Family Practice, General Internal Medicine, General Pediatrics, Obstetrics/Gynecology, Emergency Medicine, or Psychiatry; and will work in the outpatient ambulatory care setting.
- **2. Tier 2 Specialty:** Physicians specializing in a primary care specialty (listed above) and will be serving in the capacity as a Hospitalist. Physicians who are board-certified in a non-primary care specialty directly related to the management of time-critical diagnoses (STEMi, Stroke, and Trauma).
- **3. Tier 3 Specialty:** Physicians specializing in all other specialties, with preference to specialties that directly supports the coordination of care for patients with chronic disease (e.g., diabetes, heart disease).

The employer's practice site(s) must be located in federally designated Medically Underserved Areas (MUA), or Medically Underserved Populations (MUP), or Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA). Kansas will use its authority to recommend up to ten (10) waivers each year for Tier 1 or 2 physicians to Updated June 2019, Kansas J-1 Visa Waiver Program Guideline.pdf, ADA Review 15-Feb-22 3 practice in areas that do not have the required federal shortage area designations for physicians.

For questions and technical assistance for the J-1 Visa Waiver Program, [email the Office of Primary Care and Rural Health @ kdhe.primarycare@ks.gov](mailto:kdhe.primarycare@ks.gov). For program updates, [subscribe to our list group @ https://mailchi.mp/ba047ad6cb94/newsletter-sign-up](https://mailchi.mp/ba047ad6cb94/newsletter-sign-up), which is publicly available to all interested parties. For the status of waiver spots available check our list group.

Community-Based Primary Care Clinic Program

SFY 2027 Application opens January 1, 2026

New Applicants must submit intent to apply by February 16, 2026

Closes March 16, 2026

Early History

1987: Commission on Access to Services for the Medically Indigent and Homeless created by Governor Mike Hayden

- Indigent care clinics, demonstration grants for indigent health care programs

In 1991, House Bill 2019 (K.S.A 65-229)

- Established three pilot community health clinic programs through local health departments. The pilot clinics were to be modelled after Section 330 clinics, AKA Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs).

Early History Continued...

Ten Proposals submitted by clinics from around the state, nine were eligible.

- Lyon County Local Health Department (15,000-50,000 population)
- Manhattan/Riley County Health Department (50,000-150,000 population)
- Sedgwick County Local Health Department (150,000+ population)

Community-Based Primary Care Clinic Program

1992 – 2006

- In June of 1994, KDHE announced additional funds for the CBPCC Grant Program, including \$300,000 for new starts and \$200,000 for the expansion of existing clinics.
- In 1996, 1:1 Match requirement was added.
- By SFY 2004, the funding had increased to \$1.5 million.
 - Added language to statute that any unencumbered funds would be reappropriated for the following fiscal year.
- In SFY 2006, funding was increased by \$750,000 to support prescription assistance.
 - Added language about sliding fee scale and eligibility be publicly posted in clinic.

2007 – 2024

- In SFY 2007, \$1,000,000 in funding was added to expand and support additional clinics, bringing the total allocation to over \$3 million.
- In SFY 2008, \$2,000,000 in funding was added, with \$500,000 reserved for expanding access to dental health services.
- By SFY2009, total funding allocated for the Primary Care Clinic Program was slightly over \$7 million.
- SFY 2022 \$12,570,690 distributed via direct clinic awards.
- SFY 2024 \$13,091,772 distributed.

Six Criteria for Eligibility

1. The clinic is a not-for-profit or publicly-funded primary care clinic that offers comprehensive primary care health services or dental health services.
2. The clinic serves any person regardless of the ability to pay.
3. The clinic offers a sliding fee discount based upon household income and family size. Sliding Fee Schedule Policy must be documented and available upon request. Clinic has publicly posted signage and supports to communicate the availability of the sliding fee scale to eligible patients.

Six Criteria for Eligibility

4. Ten percent of the clinic's total unduplicated patients at or below 200% of federal poverty guidelines receive a sliding fee scale discount.
5. The total unduplicated patients of an eligible clinics must, at a minimum, mirror the disparities present in the county being served.
6. Submission of accurate and complete Quality Improvement (QI) data for the previous calendar year. Grantees must also sign a data release with Community Care Network of Kansas so that we can access and use the QI data in the funding formula.

Patient Use Data Required for All Clinics

- Total, Unduplicated **all** Patients.
- Total, Unduplicated Medical Services Patients Total, Unduplicated Dental Patients.
- Percent of **all** Unduplicated Patients with “Unknown Income Level” (If percent of unknown is more than 25%, clinics will be expected to provide explanation).
- Percent of **all** Unduplicated Patients with Income under 100% FPL, Percent of **all** Unduplicated Patients with Income at or below 200% FPL.
- Total Medical Services Visits, Total Dental Visits.

Service Specific Data

Clinical Measures

- Diabetic Patients - Poor Control or No Testing
- Controlling High Blood Pressure
- Tobacco Use Screening and Cessation
- BMI Screening and Follow-Up Plan
- Weight Assessment and Counselling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents

Dental Measures

- Emergency Services
- Oral Exams
- Prophylaxis
- Sealants
- Fluoride Treatment
- Oral Surgery
- Rehab Services
- Restorative Services
- Sealants (6-9-year-olds)

Formula Funding History

- Approved by Community Care Network of Kansas (CCNK) Board in 2019, implemented in SFY2020.
 - Added program continuity, reporting capabilities and access to increased funding for clinic successes.
- Returning applicants may request any justifiable amount. However, the award amount will depend on the funding formula.
- **New Applicants** may submit a budget request for **no more than \$50,000**.

Formula Creates a Cost-Per-Patient Adjustment

- 20% Application Score, Number of Unduplicated Patients at or Below 200% FPL.
 - May receive bonus point for primary clinic location in rural or frontier county.
 - High applications scores also equal bonus points.
- 40% Number of Unduplicated Uninsured Patients.
- 40% Number of Visits for Patients at or Below 200% FPL.

Community-Based Primary Care Clinic Program

CBPCC Allowable Expenses

	USE AS LOCAL MATCH		USE OF GRANT FUNDS	
	Allowable	Not Allowable	Allowable	Not Allowable
Clinical personnel working in Outpatient/Ambulatory Care setting	YES	NO	YES	NO
Clinical personnel working in Inpatient Care Setting				
Clerical or Administrative Personnel	YES		YES	
Fringe Benefits (including taxes, insurance, FICA, Worker's Compensation, unemployment insurance.)	YES		YES	
Pharmaceuticals	YES		YES	
340B discounts	YES		YES	
Lab & X-ray Services	YES		YES	
Laboratory Materials	YES		YES	
Specialty Referrals	YES		YES	
Other Health Services (e.g., Diabetes Education)	YES		YES	
In-State Travel for training/continuing education		NO	YES	
Out-of-State Travel		NO		NO
Other care-related supplies	YES		YES	
Office/clerical supplies	YES	NO		NO
Utilities	YES			NO
Equipment				NO
Capital Expenditures				NO

Local Match Requirements

- A clinic's 1:1 match may come from non-cash donations, in-kind services, donated sample medications, or clinic expenses.
- The value of health services provided at no or reduced cost can be used to meet the match requirement.
- Non-cash contributions, such as personnel time, space, commodities, or services used as local match should be stated at an amount agreed upon as the market value and documented in the applicant's accounting records.
 - In-Kind personnel time must follow hourly donation maximums set forth by KDHE Aid-to-Local guidelines

KGMS Application, Budget Request and Data Submissions

- In KGMS, you will complete a narrative-based application, which will be scored on a scale of 0-100 points.
 - Scored by a team of six reviewers.
 - Failing grades of 59 or lower will not receive funding.
- In KGMS you will submit your budget request, including your local match usage plan.
- Via Network Data Hub or New Applicant Packet, clinics will submit their Quality Improvement and Patient Utilization data.

Unless otherwise notified, **all portals close at 5 p.m. on March 16, 2026.**

Office of Primary Care and Rural Health Kansas State Loan Repayment Program

Let's Stay In Touch!

1. Visit our Website



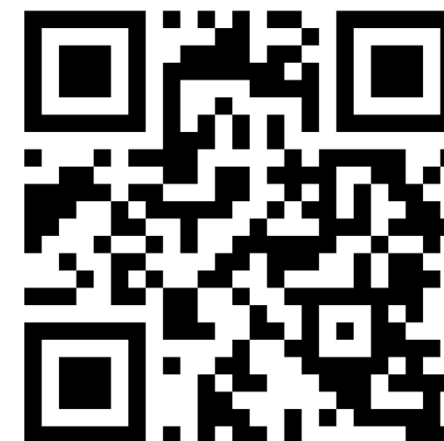
2. Sign up for our
Community Health
Access Newsletter



3. Receive News,
Events, Training,
Funding Opportunity
Info and More

SLRP Webpage: <https://www.kdhe.ks.gov/296/Kansas-State-Loan-Repayment-Program-SLRP>

Community Health Access Newsletter:
<https://mailchi.mp/ba047ad6cb94/newsletter-sign-up>





State Loan Repayment Program KS Office of Primary Care and Rural Health

Thank you!
We appreciate your time and attention.

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Feel free to reach out with any questions or further discussions.

“Let’s collaborate for success!”