

Loan and Scholarship Programs under Title VII

Primary Care Loan Program

The Primary Care Loan (PCL) program, part of the Health Resource and Services Administration's (HRSA) Title VII student loan programs, is a low cost federal loan program for medical students who commit to practicing in primary care. The interest rate is 5 percent and begins to accrue following a one year grace period after graduation.

The Patient Protection and Accountable Care Act (ACA) made changes to the Primary Care Loan Program by establishing a lower default rate (2 percent greater than the rate the student would pay if compliant, instead of 18 percent). It also requires primary care loan recipients to practice primary care for 10 years or the date the loan is repaid if it is less than 10 years. In addition, loan guidelines will be amended to no longer require parental information to determine financial need for independent students.

How can I apply for a Primary Care Loan?

Apply for this loan at the student financial aid office of the school where you are or intend to be enrolled.

Additional Resources

- *Health Resources and Services Administration.*

<http://www.hrsa.gov/loanscholarships/loans/primarycare.html>

Faculty Loan Repayment Program

The Faculty Loan Repayment Program was established to increase the recruitment and retention of faculty members from disadvantaged backgrounds in eligible health professions disciplines who have a health professions degree or certificate to serve at an eligible health professions school for a minimum of 2 years.

The ACA increases the maximum award for the Title VII faculty loan repayment from \$20,000 to \$30,000, and reauthorizes the program at \$5 million for each of FYs 2010-2014.

How can I apply for the Faculty Loan Repayment Program?

The application cycle for FY 2013 is closed. However you can sign up to be notified by email when the application cycle for FY 2014 opens. Please visit: <http://www.hrsa.gov/loanscholarships/repayment/faculty/>.

Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students

The Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students program provides funds to schools to provide scholarships to full-time, financially needy students from disadvantaged backgrounds, enrolled in health professions and nursing programs. Participating schools are responsible for selecting scholarship recipients, making reasonable determinations of need, and providing scholarships that do not exceed the cost of attendance (tuition, reasonable educational expenses and reasonable living expenses).

The ACA reauthorized the Title VII Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students program at \$51 million for FY 2010 (and such sums for each of FYs 2011-2014).

How can I apply for a scholarship?

Apply for this scholarship at the student financial aid office of the school where you are or intend to be enrolled.

Additional Resources

- *Health Resources and Services Administration.*

<http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/dsa/sds.htm>