

# Oregon Partnership State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)

**BILL PFUNDER - INCENTIVE PROGRAMS MANAGER**

*The mission of the Oregon Office of Rural Health is to improve the quality, availability and accessibility of health care for rural Oregonians.*

*The Oregon Office of Rural Health's vision is to serve as a state leader in providing resources, developing innovative strategies and cultivating collaborative partnerships to support Oregon rural communities in achieving optimal health and well-being.*



## Oregon Partnership State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)

SLRP is an incentive program for primary care providers working at approved practice sites in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs). SLRP is funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to the Office of Rural Health (ORH) and requires nonfederal matching funds.

In exchange for loan repayment funds, SLRP requires a minimum initial 2-year service obligation for full-time providers, and a minimum 4-year service obligation for part-time providers.

Providers may qualify for up to two 1-year continuations beyond their initial service obligation, contingent on the on provider's remaining eligible loan debt amount and adherence to program requirements.

HRSA typically issues Oregon through ORH \$300,000 in federal funds per grant year for a 4-year grant cycle.

<https://www.ohsu.edu/oregon-office-of-rural-health/oregon-partnership-state-loan-repayment-program-slrp>

## Oregon Partnership State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)

### Eligible provider types:

- Allopathic or Osteopathic Physicians specializing in Family Medicine, General Pediatrics, General Internal Medicine, Gerontology, General Psychiatry or Obstetrics/Gynecology
- Primary Care Nurse Practitioners
- Primary Care Physician Assistants
- Certified Nurse-Midwives
- Dentists (DMD/DDS)
- Expanded Practice Dental Hygienists
- Licensed Mental Health or Behavioral Health Professionals: Clinical or Counseling Psychologists, Clinical Social Workers, Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists
- Psychiatric Nurse Specialists
- Registered Nurses
- Pharmacists
- Certified Alcohol Drug Counselor IIIs (Master Degree required)

## Oregon Partnership State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)

Practice sites must be\*:

- Non-profit (public or private); **AND**
- Located in a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA); **AND**
- Providing outpatient, ambulatory, primary medical, mental and behavioral, and/or dental services; **AND**
- Providing services on a free or reduced fee schedule basis to individuals at or below 200% of the federal poverty level; **AND**
- Accept Medicaid and/or Medicare; **AND**
- Approved by ORH to participate in the SLRP with a Site Application on file that is no more than one year old.

\*Does not include all site requirements.

## Oregon Partnership State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)

Full time providers may receive up to a total of 50% of their qualifying educational debt, up at a maximum of \$25,000 per obligation year, for an initial two-year obligation.

Part time providers may receive up to a total of 25% of their qualifying educational debt, up at a maximum of \$12,500 per obligation year, for an initial four-year obligation.

After successful completion of an initial SLRP service obligation providers may apply for a one-year continuation. Providers who qualify and receive a continuation will be awarded up to 60% of their remaining qualified educational debt, up at a maximum of \$25,000.

After successful completion of their first continuation providers may apply for a second, one-year continuation. Providers who qualify and receive a second continuation will be awarded up to 60% of their remaining qualified educational debt, up at a maximum of \$25,000 per obligation year for an additional one-year obligation.

## Oregon Partnership State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)

### Overview:

- From 2009 – 2021, SLRP matching funds were provided by awardee practice sites\*
- On 9/1/2025, HRSA will again require SLRP matching funds for awards (funding notice pending release)
- Without state matching funds, SLRP will revert to relying on funds provided by awardee practice sites. ORH might request OHA Health Care Provider Incentive Program (HCPIP) funding to meet the requirement, which would require approval from the Health Care Workforce Committee and Oregon Health Policy Board.

### SLRP Challenges:

- SLRP has rigid requirements that are set by HRSA for both providers and sites
- SLRP has not changed provider types, award amounts, obligation times, or qualifying debt definition
- SLRP does not allow for providers to receive a lifetime maximum of \$100,000 in award funds
- SLRP has limited portability around the state due to a relatively small site pool
- SLRP has repayment clauses that mirror that of National Health Service Corps (NHSC)
- Uncertainty with federal funding and programs

\*In 2023, HCPIP supplied \$300,000 in match funds to cover one year of awards.