

NEW

VIRGINIA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

The 2021 General Assembly established a \$1.6 million **Virginia Behavioral Health Student Loan Repayment Program (BH-LRP)** to help recruit and retain behavioral health (BH) professionals to practice in underserved areas of the Commonwealth and/or provide counseling and treatment to underserved populations.

This program will repay a portion of an eligible BH professional's student loan debt. In return, recipients commit to practicing in Virginia for a minimum of two years at an eligible site.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

BH-SLRP awardees must possess a valid and unrestricted license to practice in Virginia in one of the following disciplines:

- Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists,
- Psychiatrists,
- Psychiatric Physician Assistants,
- Psychiatric Pharmacists,
- Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners (*Psych NPs*),
- Licensed Clinical Psychologists,
- Licensed Professional Counselors (*LPCs*),
- Licensed Clinical Social Workers (*LCSWs*).

APPLICATION DEADLINES

The application cycle begins October 1st and closes April 15th of each year.

APPLY
online NOW

Click here >>>

Visit <https://bit.ly/2XrKvls> for full Eligibility Guidelines, Application Instructions, and FAQs.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- Eligible BH-SLRP practice sites include behavioral health authorities or community services boards, federally qualified health centers, free clinics/hybrid clinics, rural health clinics, state mental health or correctional facilities, nonprofit organizations serving uninsured or medically underserved populations and/or communities, and stand-alone inpatient psychiatric facilities serving uninsured or medically underserved populations and/or communities.
- Priority will be given to eligible BH professionals of color, those who speak more than one language fluently, and/or those who practice in one of Virginia's many mental health professional shortage areas
- Total award amount will not exceed 25% of student loan debt (annual limits include \$30,000 for Psychiatrists and Psych NPs and \$20,000 for Psychologists, LPCs, and LCSWs)
- No employer or community match is required.

Please send questions to: olivette.burroughs@vdh.virginia.gov or call 804-864-7435.