

Doctors Across New York

Physician Loan Repayment Program and Physician Practice Support Program

Applicant Conference – October 24, 2008

Albany, NY

(Audio-links to locations statewide)



Conference Presenters

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Conference Sites

Main Site

- Albany – Empire State Plaza

Audio Links

- New York City – NYS DOH Offices
- East Syracuse – Iroquois Healthcare Association
- Buffalo – Erie-Niagara AHEC
- Jamestown – WCA Hospital
- Saranac Lake – Adirondack Medical Center

Information contained in this slide presentation is for summary purposes only. For complete information refer to the two Request for Applications (RFAs)

Overview of Conference

- Background of Doctors Across New York
- Features for both programs
- Highlights of Practice Support Program
- Highlights of Loan Repayment Tracks
- Highlights of Loan Repayment
- Underserved Areas
- Questions and Answers

Doctors Across New York

- A State-funded initiative enacted in 2008 to help reform Graduate Medical Education and place physicians in underserved communities in a variety of settings and specialties to care for New York's diverse population
- Reflects the policy recommendations of the New York State Council on Graduate Medical Education (COGME) and endorsed by the New York State Rural Health Council

Doctors Across New York

- Six initiatives to improve access to quality health care and address health disparities in New York State
 - Physician Loan Repayment Program
 - Physician Practice Support Program
 - Ambulatory Training – RFA to be released later this year
 - Physician Studies – RFA to be released later this year
 - Diversity in Medicine/Post-Baccalaureate Program
 - GME Innovations Pool – RFA to be released in 2009

Physician Loan Repayment and Practice Support

- 2008-09 budget provides \$1.96 M for Loan Repayment and \$4.9M for Practice Support
- Funds allocated Regionally
 - One-third of funds for New York City region
 - Two-thirds of funds for Rest of State
- 50% of funds will be distributed to general hospitals (or in loan repayment program to physicians identified by general hospitals)

Physician Loan Repayment and Practice Support

- Physicians and other health care providers are eligible to apply for both programs
- Target underserved areas and populations
- Primary care and specialty physicians eligible
- One preference will be given to physicians who propose to spend a majority of their time providing:
 - Primary care services
 - General ob/gyn services
 - General surgical services
 - Care for the elderly
 - Emergency medicine services
 - Mental health services (including child and adolescent)



Requirements for Physicians

- U.S. citizen or permanent resident; and
- Licensed to practice in New York State; and
- Not currently working in, or serving, an underserved area prior to May 1, 2008; and
- In good standing with the NYSDOH Office of Professional Medical Conduct; and
- Residency program graduate within last five years; and
- Graduate of a NYS high school, undergraduate program, medical school or residency program

Physician Practice Support

- Physician Practice Support provides up to \$100,000 in practice support funding over 2 years for providing medical services in an underserved area
- Two applicant types
 - Physicians
 - Funds used to establish or join practices
 - General hospitals and other health care providers
 - Funds used to recruit new physicians

Eligible Expenditures for Practice Support (physician applicants only)

Examples include:

- Land/Building acquisition
- Renovation/Construction
- Equipment/Furniture
- Staff salaries

Eligible Expenditures for Practice Support (health care provider or physicians joining an existing practice)

Limited to:

- Loan repayment
- Income guarantees
- Investment in partnership
- Other direct payments to physicians

Obligation and Default

- 2 consecutive years providing full-time medical services in, or to populations in, underserved areas
- Obligation begins when contract is executed or the start date of the contracted service, whichever is later
- Obligated physician who defaults will repay:
 - 100% of funds if service less than 1 year
 - 75% of funds if service 1 to 2 years



Practice Support Application Process

- One technical and one financial proposal required per application
- Non-physician applicants
 - Up to 2 applications
- Individual physicians
 - 1 application
- Must be formatted as specified in the RFA

Practice Support Scoring

- Technical proposal – 75 points, based on preferred qualifications in RFA
- Financial proposal – 25 points, based on lowest 2-year request (in dollars) in each scoring group
- Scored in 4 separate groups
 - New York City
 - 1) Other facilities and 2) individual physicians
 - Rest of State
 - 3) Other facilities and 4) individual physicians

Residency Program Loan Repayment Tracks

- Awards to teaching hospitals that develop curricula to train residents in a primary care or specialty track to serve underserved areas
- A resident identified by the teaching hospital would automatically qualify for loan repayment after completing training and securing employment in an underserved area
- Only teaching hospitals eligible to apply
- Up to 25 total track awards annually
- One application per teaching hospital

Residency Program Loan Repayment Tracks

- The RFA will be amended to clarify that the tracks are approved for three years
- 25 positions in each of the next three years (subject to the availability of funding)

Residency Program Loan Repayment Tracks

Teaching hospital expectations

- Identify a physician specialty in short supply
- Identify resident in that specialty and ensure that a minimum of 20% of training occurs in, or serves, underserved areas
- Ensure track is no longer than 1 year
 - Must complete by December 2010 (1st year)
- Assist identified physician in commencing service obligation within 180 days after completing training

Residency Program Loan Repayment Tracks

Training Curriculum (preferred qualifications) should provide:

- Training in community-based sites serving populations in underserved areas
- Experience managing chronic diseases prevalent in underserved communities
- Linkages with other health care professionals
- Opportunities for integration with the community
- Opportunities for research projects and advocacy
- Equivalent training experiences for all residents

Residency Program Loan Repayment Tracks

- Teaching hospital receives award notice for loan repayment
- Identified physicians receive loan repayment after completing residency program and begin practicing in an underserved area
 - Physician has 24 months from date of hospital award notice to begin practicing in an underserved area
- Track physicians must meet same requirements of loan repayment while practicing to maintain award

Loan Repayment Track Scoring

- Technical proposal – 90 points, based on preferred qualifications in RFA
- Financial proposal – 10 points, based on lowest 5-year request (in dollars) in each scoring group
- Scored in 2 separate groups
 - New York City
 - 1) Teaching hospitals
 - Rest of State
 - 2) Teaching hospitals

Physician Loan Repayment

- Physician Loan Repayment provides up to \$150,000 in repayment of qualified educational debt in exchange for a 5-year service obligation in an underserved area
- Two components

Physician Loan Repayment - for hospitals, other health care facilities, physician practice organizations and individual physicians

Residency Program Loan Repayment Tracks - for teaching hospitals only

Loan Repayment Awards

- Approximately 100 awards available
- Successful applicants receive award letters for a future loan repayment contract
- Funding contracts will be between DOH and the physician, NOT the facility
- Awards expire after 6 months

Loan Repayment Awards

- Up to \$150,000 over 5 years as follows:
 - 15% of total qualified debt up to \$20,000 for the first year;
 - 15% of debt up to \$25,000 for the second year;
 - 20% of debt up to \$35,000 for the third year; and
 - 25% of debt up to \$35,000 for the fourth and fifth years.
- One-half the annual award will be made after verification of each six months of obligated service

Obligation and Default

- 5 consecutive years providing full-time medical services in, or to populations in, underserved areas.
- Obligation begins when contract is executed or the start date of the contracted service, whichever is later.
- Obligated physician who defaults will repay:
 - Service of less than 2 years - repayment of 100% of funds received;
 - 2-3 years - 50% of total funds received;
 - 3-4 years - 25%, of total funds received; and
 - 4-5 years - 10%.



Loan Repayment Application Process

- One technical and one financial proposal required per loan repayment application
- Teaching hospitals
 - 1 Residency Program Loan Repayment Track application
 - Up to 2 Physician Loan Repayment applications
- Non-physician applicants
 - Up to 2 Physician Loan Repayment applications
- Individual physician
 - 1 Physician Loan Repayment application
- Must be formatted as specified in the RFA

Loan Repayment Scoring

- Technical proposal – 90 points, based on preferred qualifications in RFA
- Financial proposal – 10 points, based on lowest 5-year request (in dollars) in each scoring group
- Scored in 6 separate groups
 - New York City
 - 1) Hospitals, 2) other facilities and 3) individual physicians
 - Rest of State
 - 4) Hospitals, 5) other facilities and 6) individual physicians

Underserved Areas

Can be any combination of the below:

- HPSAs/MUAs,
- SED specialty county shortage areas,
- Rural hospitals;
- Additional criteria related to:
 - Level to service to indigent patients;
 - scarcity of specialty;
 - overutilization of requested services, including PQI issues; and
 - distance to requested services.

Important Dates

- Questions Due Date
 - October 30, 2008
- Questions and Answers Available
 - No Later Than November 14, 2008
- Deadline to submit applications
 - December 2, 2008 - 4 PM
- Awards Made
 - Early 2009

Formatting Requirements

- Size 12 Font
- Double spaced
- 8.5” by 11” paper
- Any material submitted in excess of question page limits may not be considered

Questions and Answers

Answers are not final

Final answers will be those that are published in writing

Submit Additional Questions to:

gme@health.state.ny.us

Sch_loan@health.state.ny.us

Questions and Answers will be posted at:

www.nyhealth.gov/nysdoh/gme/main.htm