



HEALTH PROFESSIONS
EDUCATION FOUNDATION
Giving Golden Opportunities

Mental Health Loan Assumption Program (MHLAP)

Greater Bay Area Mental Health Collaborative
January 28, 2009

Foundation Background

The Health Professions Education Foundation (Foundation) is a 501 (C) (3) non-profit public benefit corporation that was created by the Legislature in 1987.

The Foundation is advised by a thirteen member Board of Trustees and receives administrative support from the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHDP).



Our Mission

The Foundation improves healthcare in underserved areas of California by providing scholarships, loan repayments, and programs to health professional students who are dedicated to providing direct patient care.

Current Foundation Programs

- Allied Healthcare Scholarship Program
- Vocational Nurse Scholarship Program
- Licensed Vocational Nurse Loan Repayment Program
- Licensed Vocational Nurse to Associate Degree Nursing
- Associate Degree Nursing Scholarship Program
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing Scholarship Program
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing Loan Repayment Program
- Health Professions Education Scholarship Program
- Health Professions Education Loan Repayment Program
- Steven M. Thompson Physician Corp Loan Repayment Program
- Licensed Mental Health Service Provider Education Program
- Mental Health Loan Assumption Program

Licensed Mental Health Service Provider Education Program



- Implemented November 2007
- Funded by licensure renewal fees collected from the California Board of Behavioral Sciences and the Board of Psychology (\$10.00)
- Applicants are eligible to receive up to \$15,000 in exchange for a two-year service obligation in a qualified facility.

Eligible Applicants and Qualified Facilities

- Qualified facilities include: “Mental Health Professional Shortage Areas, a publicly funded facility or public mental health facility, or a non-profit private mental health facility.”
- Eligible mental health professions include: Licensed Psychologist; Registered Psychologist; Postdoctoral Psychological Trainee; Postdoctoral Psychological Assistant; Licensed Clinical Social Worker; Associate Clinical Social Worker; Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist; and Marriage and Family Therapist Intern.



Program Statistics

(last 3 cycles)

- Applications received: 932
- Applicants awarded: 37
- Dollars awarded: \$361,897.67
- Average Award: \$9,781.02 per person

The Foundation acknowledges that there is a high need in the mental health field for additional funding to support loan repayment.

Mental Health Loan Assumption Program (MHLAP)



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
MENTAL HEALTH

MHLAP is supported by funds secured from the Mental Health Services Act, under the Workforce, Education and Training component.

Mental Health Loan Assumption Program (MHLAP)



Eligible Applicants:

- Licensed Psychologist
- Registered Psychologist
- Postdoctoral Psychological Trainee
- Postdoctoral Psychological Assistant
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker
- Associate Clinical Social Worker
- Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
- Marriage and Family Therapist Intern
- Licensed Psychiatrist
- Registered Psychiatrist
- Licensed Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Registered Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Mental Health Loan Assumption Program (MHLAP)

Scoring and Criteria

- Applicants will be scored based on work experience, cultural and linguistic competence, career goals, community service, community background and fluency.
- Complete application packets consist of:
 - Application
 - Personal statement
 - Employment or volunteer verification form
 - Educational debt reporting form
 - Lender statements
 - Two professional letters of recommendation
 - Proof of registration or licensure



Mental Health Loan Assumption Program (MHLAP)

Selection Process and Estimated Timeline

Jan. to March: Applicant's employment is verified and submitted as part of the application packet

3/24: Postmark deadline for applicant to mail application packet

3/24 to 4/16: Foundation determines if the applicants work in a "hard to fill" position in the Public Mental Health System

If yes, the packet will be reviewed by the MHLAP

If no, the packet will be reviewed by the LMHSPEP

4/17 to 5/1: Selection Committee members score each application and send in final scores to the Foundation by 5/4/09

May to July: Foundation obtains approval from Board Program Committee and from DMH

Mental Health Loan Assumption Program (MHLAP)

Selection Committee

Composition:

- 2 county representatives
- 2 DMH representatives
- “at large” representatives from Licensing Boards, professional associations or other
- Foundation Staff

Recruitment:

- Now accepting applications from interested volunteers
 - For more information, please contact Adrienne Shilton

Mental Health Loan Assumption Program (MHLAP)

Foundation Analysis on Counties

Counties with high numbers of applicants from the Bay Area in past cycles:

- Alameda 47
- Napa 16
- San Francisco 34
- San Mateo 14

Strongly coordinated outreach needed:

- At least 12 counties within CA have never sent the Foundation an application.
- 18 counties have sent the Foundation less than 5 applications during the last 3 cycles.

Mental Health Loan Assumption Program (MHLAP)

MHSA funding is for mental health professionals working in the “Public Mental Health System.”

- Publicly-funded facilities administered in whole or in part by the Department of Mental Health or by the County.
- Does not include programs and/or services administered by federal, state, county or private correctional entities or programs and/ or services provided in correctional facilities.

Mental Health Loan Assumption Program (MHLAP)

Spring Cycle Postmark Deadline:
March 24, 2009

Applications are currently being accepted.

- Early applications will be reviewed for completeness.

Licensed Mental Health Service
Provider Education Program
and
Mental Health
Loan Assumption Program:

Tips on Completing the Application

Application Instructions

Read both pages of the instructions carefully. This section should help to answer most of your questions and help to explain the following:



- Qualified Facilities
- Award Amount
- Mental Health Profession Eligibility
- Selection Criteria
- Required Documentation
- Application Submission
- Notification of Awards

Service Obligation

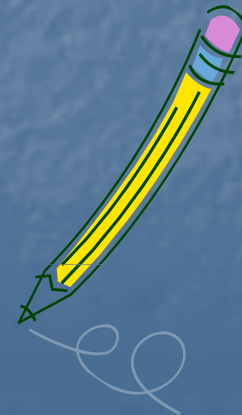
“Service obligation” means the contractual obligation agreed to by the recipient of a loan repayment where the recipient agrees to practice their profession for a specified period of time in or through a designated facility.

Applicants who indicate that they currently owe an existing service obligation are ineligible to apply for this program until the current obligation is completed.

Personal Statement

When writing the personal statement, consider these recommendations:

- Consider career goals as they relate to your chosen health profession
- Explain volunteer service, community outreach and organizational membership that you have recently been involved with
- Consider cultural and language experiences
- Consider the communities and populations you currently serve or would like to serve
- Elaborate and provide as much detail as possible. Personal statements that lack detail may be considered incomplete, and therefore, ineligible.



Employment or Volunteer Verification Form

- Break down of hours spent providing the listed services
- Average monthly hours worked
- Full-time or part-time status
- Start date at this site
- Fluency in a second language
- Type of qualified facility (MHLAP applicants: be sure to check “Public Mental Health System”)
- Verification signature

Applicants may submit several of these forms if they are employed or volunteer at more than one location.

Incomplete or Ineligible Applications

Common mistakes which would deem an application incomplete or ineligible include the following:

- One or more of the required documents is postmarked beyond the current cycle deadline
- Applicant does not know what a service obligation is
- Letters or recommendation are not dated, signed and formatted correctly
- Application is not signed and dated
- Forms are not completely filled out
- Lender statements are unacceptable because they are not current or do not include all of the information specified in the application
- Applicant does not follow the format or questions specified for the Personal Statement

Frequently Asked Questions:

- County Verification:
 - Do counties review the applications?
 - Should counties develop their own process?
- How much funding is allocated to my county?

Frequently Asked Questions:

- Is this funding for individuals currently in school to become qualifying licensed or registered mental health professionals?
- Do certain professions receive preference and/or a larger award amount?
- When will awarded applicants be notified?

Next Steps

- Technical Assistance to Applicants

January 28, 2009

- 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
- 5:30 to 6:30 p.m..

February 23, 2009

- 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

- Distribute outreach materials
- Presentations to your county



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Contact Information

Daniela Reynoso-Miranda

DReynoso@oshpd.state.ca.us

Judy Melson

JMelson@oshpd.state.ca.us

Kristen Meza

KMeza@oshpd.state.ca.us

(800) 773-1669 or (916) 326-3640

www.healthprofessions.ca.gov