



HealthFirst Physician Loan Repayment Program

HealthFirst has partnered with the Broughton Fund to offer a Community Match Grant to HealthFirst member practices seeking to hire new physicians or retain current physicians. This grant is administered through the UVM Larner College of Medicine Office of Primary Care and Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) Program. Grant funds of \$50,000 to assist with medical school loan repayment have been earmarked over a two year period, 2018-2019. Minimum matching grants of \$5,000 from the HealthFirst Community Match Fund will be granted to each recipient. HealthFirst practices seeking to hire or retain physicians or member physicians seeking jobs in the practice areas of family medicine, internal medicine, geriatrics, pediatrics, obstetrics & gynecology, and psychiatry may apply.

How to Apply

- The 2018 application period has passed. 2019 Educational Loan Repayment (ELR) applications will be available in late July 2018. The 2019 ELR application deadline will occur in September 2018. Applications will be available here: <https://www.med.uvm.edu/ahec/forms/educational-loan-repayment>
- HealthFirst practices or job seekers wishing to work at a HealthFirst practice must write “HealthFirst Community Match Grant” on their application to notify the AHEC office that you want to take advantage of these funds.
- For practices looking to hire or retain physicians, practices must agree to match the grant amount. **Both the practice match and the grant funds are tax-exempt.**
- Funds from the HealthFirst Community Match Grant may be pooled with available funds from state and federal loan repayment programs to comprise the total award for a recipient.
- The AHEC grant approval process prioritizes candidates and practices providing care to underserved populations and communities; this includes primary care services in Chittenden County and all other counties. Candidates with a demonstrated affinity for Vermont through medical school, residency, background, or family connections are also prioritized.

Answers to FAQ's

- “Direct Pay” practices are not eligible for participation in the AHEC / HealthFirst Grant program at this time due to restrictions written into the federal legislation.
- AHEC will pay 100% of the funds granted directly to the award recipient’s certified lender. A list of approved lenders can be found in the AHEC application materials.
- All grant recipients must sign a service obligation of 12 months in the practice.