

# MI Opioid Treatment Access Loan Repayment Program (MIOTA LRP)

## Fiscal Year 2019 Application & Program Guidance

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## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Michigan Opioid Treatment Access Loan Repayment Program (MIOTA LRP) is a medical education debt repayment program focused on incentivizing healthcare providers to begin and expand opioid treatment in Michigan. Eligible providers will receive loan repayment for beginning either/or expanding opioid treatment in Michigan for two years of service and by completing specific requirements outlined in this document.

The application period starts on October 21, 2019 and ends November 30, 2019.

For Questions, please call 517-335-6713 Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm ET.

This program is funded by the Michigan Health Endowment Fund and is administered by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

## ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for the Michigan Opioid Treatment Access Loan Repayment Program (MIOTA LRP), applicants must do one of the following:

- 1) begin offering opioid treatment in Michigan by obtaining a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) registration certificate that clearly reflects the possession of a DATA 2000 Waiver, or
- 2) be providing and expanding opioid treatment to patients in Michigan by having obtained a DEA registration certificate that clearly reflects the possession of a DATA 2000 Waiver, and in the case of physicians, will apply for a patient limit increase, or
- 3) be a Substance Use Disorder Counselor that practices full time in an Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) or an Office-Based Opioid Treatment (OBOT) Practice located in a Federally Qualified Health Center.

### Eligible MIOTA LRP Provider Types:

Applicants must have one of the following professional titles and an appropriate unencumbered license in the State of Michigan to be eligible for loan repayment through the MIOTA LRP.

- Physicians (MDs or DOs)
- Nurse Practitioners (NP)
- Physician Assistants (PA)
- Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Counselors

Providers may not be dually enrolled in this loan repayment program and any other loan repayment program with a service obligation (for example, the Michigan State Loan Repayment program or the National Health Service Corps).

Providers must be working on a full-time basis at the approved eligible practice site.

#### Eligible Practice Sites:

Practice sites for eligible providers may be located anywhere in the state.

Eligible practice sites do not need to be in a Health Professional Shortage Area designation.

Eligible practice sites must be an outpatient setting and meet the requirements to be considered one of the following site types (please see Definitions section on page ten for further clarification):

- Opioid Treatment Program (OTP)
- Office-based Opioid treatment program (OBOT)
- Out-patient Substance Use Disorder sites

Eligible practice sites may be in an outpatient clinic setting or group or solo private practice.

#### Service Obligation Period

Any provider participating in this program will be eligible to receive loan repayment for two-years with a two-year service requirement starting February 1, 2020 and ending January 31, 2022. Every participant will sign a contract with MDHHS agreeing to a repayment process if a breach occurs.

#### Service Obligation Requirement

Physician participants:

If you are a physician (MD or DO) and you are accepted into this program, you must do one of the following:

- Apply for and receive a DEA registration certificate that clearly reflects the possession of a DATA 2000 Waiver by June 1, 2020, or
- Apply for and receive approval to increase the patient limit of the current DATA 2000 Waiver in the first year of the Service Obligation Period

If you are a physician (MD or DO) and you are accepted into this program, you must do all of the following in the first six months of the Service Obligation Period:

- Submit a plan to provide for SUD counseling for SUD patients. This plan will detail the provider's plan for making referrals to SUD counseling services and providing information on available community group or self-help resources or any other supportive resources.

- Participate in provider-to-provider support specific to substance abuse, as available. More information is available through MDHHS.
- Obtain state licensure for the SUD program if an individual, or individuals in a group practice, is offering psychological or medical services and providing buprenorphine or naltrexone treatment to more than 100 individuals at any one time at a specific property.

In the remainder of the Service Obligation Period providers must continue to provide opioid treatment services at their approved practice site location.

[Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistant participants:](#)

If you are a Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant and you are accepted into this program, you must do both of the following by June 1, 2020:

- Complete the required 24 hours of required training to obtain a DATA 2000 waiver, and
- Apply for and receive a DEA registration certificate that clearly reflects the possession of a DATA 2000 Waiver

If you are a Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant and you are accepted into this program, you must also:

- Participate in provider-to-provider support specific to substance abuse, as available in your community. More information is available through MDHHS.
- Obtain state licensure for SUD program if an individual, or individuals in a group practice, is offering psychological or medical services and providing buprenorphine or naltrexone treatment to more than 100 individuals at any one time at a specific property.

In the remainder of the Service Obligation Period providers must continue to provide opioid treatment services at their approved practice site location.

[Substance Use Disorder Counselor participants:](#)

Substance Use Disorder Counselors must have a valid substance use disorder certification and a valid professional license and must provide full-time SUD counseling in an OTP setting or OBOT setting for the duration of the Service Obligation Period.

If you are a Substance Use Disorder Counselor, you must also:

- Participate in provider-to-provider support specific to substance abuse, as available in your community. More information is available through MDHHS.
- Obtain state licensure for SUD program if an individual, or individuals in a group practice, is offering psychological or medical services and providing buprenorphine or naltrexone treatment to more than 100 individuals at any one time at a specific property.

## PAYMENT PROCESS

Each participant will be paid their approved medical education debt repayment after at the beginning of the service obligation period. Payments are made directly to healthcare providers, not to their lenders, and providers are required to pay down their qualifying educational loans for reasonable education expenses by an amount at least equal to the payments they receive from the MIOTA program.

### Maximum Award Amount

Use the chart below to determine the amount of loan repayment you are eligible to receive. The amount of loan repayment cannot exceed the amount of debt owed in medical education loans.

Provider Type	Waiver Status	Maximum Amount of Loan Repayment
<b>Physicians (MD or DO)</b>		
	Currently does not have a DATA 2000 Waiver and will receive a DATA 2000 Waiver for a 30-patient limit by January 1, 2020	\$20,000
	Currently has a DATA 2000 Waiver with a 30-patient limit and will receive a DATA 2000 Waiver for a 100-patient limit within the first year of the Service Obligation Period	\$25,000
	Currently has a DATA 2000 Waiver with a 100-patient limit and will receive a DATA 2000 Waiver for a 275-patient limit within the first year of the Service Obligation Period	\$30,000
<b>Nurse Practitioners &amp; Physician Assistants</b>		
	Will complete the required training and receive a DATA 2000 Waiver by January 1, 2020	\$15,000
<b>Substance Use Disorder Counselor</b>		
	Will provide full-time SUD counseling in an OTP setting or an OBOT setting	\$15,000

### Service Verifications

Each participant that is successfully enrolled in this program will be required to submit data. Data will be requested every six months regarding the size of the opioid treatment patient caseload and steps taken to meet the requirements of this program.

### Registration on Sigma Vendor Self Service (VSS)

All providers participating in this program (considered “vendors” in SIGMA VSS) must immediately register for electronic funds transfer (EFT) on SIGMA VSS

(<https://sigma.michigan.gov/webapp/PRDVSS2X1/AltSelfService>). This will allow MIOTA LRP payments to be electronically deposited into your personal checking or savings account. Providers will receive their fully-executed MIOTA LRP agreements attached to an email announcing their fully-executed LRP agreement package.

### Change of Personal Information Reporting Requirements

Providers must notify the MIOTA LRP Office of ANY personal information changes (including name, home address, phone numbers and email address) and change their profiles on SIGMA Vendor Self Service (VSS) no less than 10 calendar days before they occur. Your personal information must be the same at the MIOTA LRP Office and on SIGMA VSS to receive LRP payments.

## APPLICATION FORMS AND PROCESS

This is a two-year program. Opioid Treatment Providers may apply starting October 21, 2019 and will end on November 30, 2019.

### Application Form

There is one Provider Application Form and it must be mailed to the MDHHS in a single package, together with all the required supporting documentation. Eligible providers must complete the Provider Application Form entirely and submit the supporting evidence in order to qualify for the program.

A complete MIOTA LRP Application Package consists of:

1. Completed Application Form, and
2. Required Supporting Documentation

### **Application Packages Must be Mailed with a Postmark on Envelope:**

All documents must arrive together at the MIOTA LRP Office by mail in a single envelope, with a clearly-visible postmark and each document must be entirely complete and legible.

MIOTA LRP cannot accept application forms submitted separately, or submitted by email, phone, or fax. Application packages must include clear postmarks to determine their place among all documents pending review.

### **All application packages must be mailed together in a single envelope to:**

Megan Linton  
Office of Planning  
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services  
South Grand Building  
P.O. Box 30195  
Lansing, MI 48909

The Application Form must be completed by the provider applying for loan repayment. It should be typed, then printed, signed and mailed to the MIOTA LRP Office as part of your application package.

The Application Form is broken up into four sections and it will not be considered complete unless it contains information on each of the following required sections and the corresponding supporting documents:

- 1. Personal Information:** Enter the answers for each question from 1a to 1p.
- 2. Education & Professional Information:** Enter the answers for each question from 2a to 2e.
- 3. Opioid Treatment Practice Information:** Provide information about the opioid treatment that will be provided, questions 3a to 3f.
- 4. Eligibility:** Provide information about the location and type of practice for questions 4a to 4f.
- 5. Loan Information:** You must list all educational loans for which you have a remaining balance and whether or not they entail a service obligation. Include only loans that funded your undergraduate or graduate education and training that led to the professional license necessary for the position at which you will fulfill your MIOTA LRP service obligation. Please list the information about all your current educational loans in the “Current Loans” section.

*Note: If you have consolidated or refinanced any eligible loan with a non-educational loan, no portion of the consolidated/refinanced loan is eligible for loan repayment and must not be listed in this section.*

#### Required Supporting Documentation

- 1) Proof of Waiver Status:** Physician applicants will be required to provide documentation of the DATA 2000 waiver status, if applying for an amount of loan repayment that includes increasing the patient limit.
- 2) Plan for SUD Counseling:** Physician applicants must submit a plan for providing SUD counseling for SUD patients. This plan should detail the provider’s plan for making referrals to SUD counseling services and providing information on available community group or self-help resources or any other supportive resources.
- 3) Proof of Opioid Treatment Certification:** Substance Use Disorder Counselor applicants will be required to provide documentation showing that they are certified to provide drug counseling and treatment.
- 4) State Licensure for SUD Program:** Applicants will be required to provide documentation of the state licensure for the SUD program if an individual, or individuals in a group practice, is offering psychological or medical services and providing buprenorphine or naltrexone treatment to more than 100 individuals at any one time at a specific property.

- 5) **Loan Information Verification:** Applicants will be required to provide two types of documentation for each loan that is being submitted for consideration:
- a) **Account Statement:** This document is used to provide current information on the applicant’s qualifying educational loans, indicating the status of his/her loan balance. This document should:
    - be on official letterhead or other clear verification that it comes from the lender/holder;
    - include the name of the applicant;
    - contain the account number;
    - include the date of the statement (cannot be more than 30 days from the date of LRP application submission);
    - include the current outstanding balance (principal and interest) or the current payoff balance; and
    - include the current interest rate.
  - b) **Loan Disbursement Report:** This report is used to verify the originating loan information and should:
    - be on official letterhead or other clear verification that it comes from the lender/holder;
    - include the name of the applicant;
    - contain the account number;
    - include the type of loan;
    - include the original loan date (must be prior to the date of the application submission); and
    - include the original loan amount;

## DEFINITIONS

**DATA 2000 Waiver**—A waiver obtained under the Controlled Substances Act (CSA), 21 U.S.C. § 823(g)(2), as amended by the Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 (DATA 2000), and the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016, that permits physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants who meet certain qualifications to treat opioid use disorder with Schedule III, IV, and V narcotic medications, including buprenorphine, or combinations of such medications, that are approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in treatment settings other than opioid treatment programs (OTPs).

**Federally-Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)** – FQHCs include: (1) nonprofit entities that receive a grant (or funding from a grant) under section 330 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act (i.e., health centers); (2) FQHC “Look-Alikes,” which are nonprofit entities that are certified by the Secretary of HHS as meeting the requirements for receiving a grant under section 330 of the PHS Act but are not grantees; and (3) outpatient health programs or sites operated by a tribe or

tribal organization under the Indian Self-Determination Act or by an urban Indian organization receiving funds under title V of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

**Fiscal Year (FY)**—Defined as October 1 through September 30.

**Full-Time Clinical Practice** – For the purposes of the MIOTA program, full-time clinical practice is defined as a minimum of 40 hours/week, for a minimum of 45 weeks each service year. The 40 hours/week may be compressed into no less than 4 days/week, with no more than 12 hours of work to be performed in any 24-hour period. Of the 40 hours/week, a minimum of 32 hours must be spent providing patient care. Participants do not receive service credit for hours worked over the required 40 hours/week and excess hours cannot be applied to any other work week. Also, time spent “on call” will not be counted towards the service obligation, except to the extent the provider is providing patient care during that period. Clinical service provided by MIOTA participants while a student/resident observes, should be counted as patient care as the MIOTA participant is treating the patient.

**Holder**—The commercial or government institution that currently holds the promissory note for the qualifying educational loan (e.g., Sallie Mae, PHEAA, etc.).

**Lender**—The commercial or government institution that initially made the qualifying loan (e.g., Department of Education).

**Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)**—The use of FDA-approved medications, in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, to provide a “whole-patient” approach to treatment of substance use disorders.

**Office-Based Opioid Treatment (OBOT) Practice**—Clinical practices that provide office-based medication-assisted treatment services to patients with opioid use disorder by a provider with a waiver granted under 21 U.S.C. § 823(g)(2), otherwise known as the Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 (DATA 2000) waiver.

**Opioid Treatment Programs (OTP)**—Sites that provide medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for people diagnosed with opioid-use disorder that are certified by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in accordance with 42 C.F.R. Part 8. OTPs must also be accredited by an independent, SAMHSA-approved accrediting body to dispense opioid treatment medications, licensed by the state in which they operate, and must register with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) through a local DEA office.

**Qualifying Educational Loans**—Government and private student loans for actual costs paid for tuition and reasonable educational and living expenses related to undergraduate or graduate education of the participant that were obtained by the clinician prior to their submission of an application to participate in the MIOTA LRP. Such loans must be contemporaneous with the education received. Participants will receive funds for repayment of qualifying educational loans that are still owed. If the applicant has a consolidated/refinanced loan that is made up

entirely of qualifying educational loans of the applicant, the consolidated/refinanced loan is eligible for repayment. If the applicant has consolidated otherwise qualifying educational loans with any non-qualifying debt, no portion of the consolidated/refinanced loan will be eligible.

**Reasonable Educational Expenses**—The costs of education, exclusive of tuition, such as fees, books, supplies, clinical travel, educational equipment and materials, and board, certification/licensing exams, which do not exceed the school’s estimated standard student budget for educational expenses for the participant’s degree program and for the year(s) of that participant’s enrollment.

**Solo or Group Private Practice**—A clinical practice that is made up of either one or many providers in which the providers have ownership or an invested interest in the practice. Private practices can be arranged to provide primary medical, dental, and/or mental health services and can be organized as entities on the following basis: fee-for-service; capitation; a combination of the two; family practice group; primary care group; or multi-specialty group.

**Substance Use Disorder**—Involves the overuse of, or dependence on, one or more substances leading to a clinically significant impairment whose effects are detrimental to the individual’s physical and mental health, or the welfare of others.

**Substance Use Disorder Licensure**—Providers that offer SUD services in the State of Michigan must obtain a license from the MI Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA). Information about state SUD licensing is found at LARA’s website:  
[https://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-89334\\_63294\\_30419---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-89334_63294_30419---,00.html).

**Substance Use Disorder Treatment**—As used in this Guidance and for purposes of the MIOTA LRP, substance use disorder treatment refers to substance use disorder related care that is delivered based on a standardized assessment of substance use disorder treatment needs.

**Substance Use Disorder Treatment Site**—As used in this Guidance and for the purposes of the MIOTA LRP, the term Substance Use Disorder Treatment Site is a collective term used to refer to Opioid Treatment Programs (OTP), Office-Based Opioid Treatment (OBOT) Practices, and Non-Opioid Outpatient Substance Use Disorder Sites.

**Unencumbered License** – A license that is not revoked, suspended, or made probationary or conditional by the state licensing authority as the result of disciplinary action.