

**\*\*\*Michigan State Loan Repayment Program (MSLRP) 2026 Application Period Update\*\*\***

12/1/2025

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**a. Inpatient Pediatric Psychiatrists, Inpatient Pediatric Physician Assistants in Psychiatric Unit, and Inpatient Pediatric Nurse Practitioners in Psychiatric Unit**

**b. Genesee County Applicants:**

Please Note: Genesee County applicants remain a top priority, but employers will be required to make contributions equal to 20% of their providers' loan repayment agreements.

**c. Northern Obstetric Service Providers:**

Please Note: For providers other than OB/GYN physicians and certified nurse midwives (CNMs) to be considered a top priority, employers must include a signed letter with their Practice Site Applications (See below.)

**7. Important Reminders:**

**a. Non-priority Practice Sites with Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) Scores of eight or Higher Treated as Priority**

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## **Program Purpose:**

The Michigan State Loan Repayment Program (MSLRP) assists employers in the recruitment and retention of medical, dental, and mental health primary care providers who continue to demonstrate their commitment to building long-term primary care practices in underserved communities designated as Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs). MSLRP will assist those selected by providing up to \$300,000 in tax-free funds to repay their educational debt over a period of up to 10 years of participation. New applicants and current participants compete for consecutive two-year MSLRP agreements requiring them to remain employed for a minimum of 40 hours per week for no less than 45 weeks per year at eligible nonprofit practice sites providing primary health care services to ambulatory populations. Providers must remain with the employers who sponsor them during their two-year agreements, and employers must continue to employ the providers they sponsor during their two-year service obligations. Employers must not use MSLRP payments to offset participants' salaries or other components of their compensation packages. MSLRP payments must be in addition to participants' salaries, which must be based on prevailing rates in their practice areas. Due to significant program changes starting with this application period, providers and employers are urged to carefully read this update, as well as the entire updated MSLRP website and instructions for all application forms.

### **1. New MSLRP Application Process**

MSLRP will use a new online portal through the State of Michigan MiLogin System for the 2026 application period to streamline the MSLRP application submission process. For the 2026 application period, all MSLRP applications must be submitted through the **Primary Care Loan Repayment Program Online Portal**. This portal contains the Michigan State Loan Repayment Program application for applicants to complete. Providers, **not their employers, must submit their applications via the Primary Care Loan Repayment Program Online Portal**. Providers can access this portal through the State of Michigan MiLogin System using following link: [MiLogin - Login](#).

In order for providers to access the Primary Care Loan Repayment Program Online Portal, providers must first create an account. Once an account is created, providers will then need to select the option "Find Services." Providers must then enter 'Primary Care Loan Repayment Program' in the "Search for Services" field. **Providers can obtain directions for accessing the online portal through MiLogin using the following link: [Primary Care Loan Repayment Program](#)**. These directions explain each step of the process for creating an account and accessing the Primary Care Loan Repayment Program Online Portal. **Providers will only be able to submit their MSLRP Applications during the MSLRP Application Period.**

### **2. 2026 MSLRP Application Period: March 2, 2026 – April 30, 2026**

The 2026 application period will begin on **March 2, 2026**, and continue through **April 30, 2026**. Applications will be batched according to the month their MSLRP application is submitted via the Primary Care Loan Repayment Program Online Portal. **There will be two batches corresponding to each month of the application cycle.**

**Batch 1: March 2-31 and Batch 2: April 1-30.** Applications in each batch will have preference over those in each subsequent batch. First, applications in the March 2-31 submission batch will be ranked according to their applicant priority status and randomly generated lottery numbers assigned during intake and then screened and reviewed. This process will continue with the following monthly submission batch until enough applications have been approved to obligate program funds. The best strategy for being awarded in 2026 is to start working on applications early, make sure they are 100% complete, and submit the application via the Primary Care Loan Repayment Program Online Portal in March. You will find more information about applicant priority status, lottery numbers and rank ordering, as well as the screening and review process on the MSLRP website.

New application forms will be posted on the MSLRP website under *Application Periods, Forms, and Process* as soon as possible. The new forms must be used to apply. Briefly, providers must have the *Provider Application Part B* form completed by their loan servicers, and employers must complete the *Practice Site Application and Declaration of Intent* form and include all required attachments. Providers should start with their *Part B* forms, because they take the longest to complete. Providers must then complete the MSLRP online application via the Primary Care Loan Repayment Program Online Portal. **Providers will also need to attach the *Provider Part B* form and the *Practice Site Application and Declaration of Intent* form with their online application in the portal.**

**Please note, the *Provider Application, Part A* form will now be completed only through the online portal. There is no separate physical *Provider Application, Part A* form for completion.**

Loan repayment agreements for successful applicants will begin October 1, 2026, and continue through September 30, 2028. The contribution requirement for nonprofit employers will remain at 20% of their providers' agreement amounts. For-profit employers placing providers in nonprofit practice sites, such as state prisons, will continue to contribute 50%. Participation in MSLRP is contingent upon the availability of program funds at the time of contracting. Although the program expects to receive funding for loan repayment agreements resulting from this application period, applicants should be aware that state and federal budgeting processes may affect their participation. **Applicants are asked not to call the MSLRP Office to inquire about funding status. Applicants will be notified as soon as information is available.**

**Applications must be submitted through the Primary Care Loan Repayment Program Online Portal. The following link will direct providers to the Online Portal:**

[MiLogin - Login](#)

**Providers can obtain directions for accessing the online portal through MiLogin using the following link: [Primary Care Loan Repayment Program](#).**

Providers should create an account as soon as possible. This will allow them to access this system and have everything prepared for the MSLRP Application Period. **Providers should also have the *Provider Application Part B* form, and their employer's *Practice Site Application and Declaration of Intent* form completed and attach them to their application for the online application submission.**

### **3. Employer contribution waived for eligible State of Michigan Employees working at State Psychiatric Hospitals Only**

Eligible State of Michigan Employees working at state psychiatric hospitals must be included on the list of eligible providers types located on the following link: [1. Eligibility and Program Requirements \(michigan.gov\)](#). The employer contribution for eligible State of Michigan Employees working at state psychiatric hospitals will be waived. Applicants must meet all program eligibility and application requirements, except they may be:

- Inpatient hospital-based, instead of clinic-based.
- Treating an inpatient hospital, instead of an outpatient, ambulatory population.
- Working at a practice site(s) that does **not** have a mental health HPSA facility designation and is not located within a mental health geographical HPSA.

### **4. Employer contribution waived for Indian Tribal-Affiliated Primary Care Clinics**

The employer contribution is waived for eligible providers working at Indian Tribal-Affiliated Primary Care Clinics. Applicants must meet all of the other eligibility criteria.

## 5. MSLRP awards up to \$300,000 over a period of up to 10 years

Legislation passed which allows MSLRP to award providers up to \$300,000 in loan repayment over a period of up to 10 years. This change in legislation further aids the program in its objective of recruitment and retention of health care providers through the loan repayment incentive. It allows for a greater impact on student loan debt while increasing the likelihood of participants remaining in HPSAs beyond their service obligations.

## 6. Top Priority Applicants for 2026 Application Period

### a. Inpatient Pediatric Psychiatrists, Inpatient Pediatric Physician Assistants in Psychiatric Unit, and Inpatient Pediatric Nurse Practitioners in Psychiatric Unit:

Psychiatrists, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners specializing in pediatrics at inpatient psychiatric units will be a priority during the 2026 application period. To be eligible for priority status, psychiatrists, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners must be involved in the assessment, admission, and treatment of pediatric inpatients. Employers of those awarded will be required to make 20% employer contributions. Applicants must meet all program eligibility and application requirements except they may be:

- Inpatient hospital-based, instead of clinic-based.
- Treating an inpatient hospital, instead of an outpatient, ambulatory population.
- Working at a practice site(s) that does **not** have a mental health HPSA facility designation and is not located within a mental health geographical HPSA.

### b. Genesee County Applicants:

Providers working at practice sites in Genesee County will continue to be a priority during the 2026 application period. Employers are required to make contributions equal to 20 percent of providers' loan repayment agreements. Providers must meet all MSLRP requirements except:

- Provider practice sites are not required to be located within a Health Professional Shortage Area.

### c. Northern Obstetric Service Providers:

This includes all obstetric service providers working at practice sites in, or north of, Mason, Lake, Osceola, Clare, Gladwin, Arenac, Bay and Huron Counties. This includes OB/GYN physicians and CNMs, as well as family medicine physicians, nurse practitioners (NPs), and physician assistants (PAs) who provide obstetric services on a regular basis at hospital or non-hospital-based clinics. Clinicians who provide prenatal care, but do not perform deliveries, may also receive priority status. For more information see the *Selection Criteria, Review Process, and Final Phase Procedure* chapter on the MSLRP website.

**Please Note: For providers other than OB/GYN physicians and CNMs to be considered a top priority, employers must include a signed letter with their Practice Site.**

Applications which includes the: 1) Number of hours per week the applicant spends providing obstetric services (**which must be 10 hours per week or more**); and, 2) Provider types and number of hours per week other practitioners provide obstetric services at the applicant's practice site(s).

- **For providers other than OB/GYN physicians and certified nurse midwives (CNM), if the number of hours per week the applicant spends providing obstetric services are not specifically stated in the signed and dated letter, the provider will not be considered a top priority applicant.**

**Please Note:** MSLRP reserves the ability to add to the priority list

## 7. Important Reminders:

### a. **Non-priority Practice Sites with HPSA Scores of eight or Higher Treated as Priority**

Non-priority practice sites with Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) scores of at least eight, will be treated as priority sites. To be considered a priority applicant, all the non-priority practice sites at which a provider may complete their MSLRP service obligation must have HPSA scores of at least eight. Non-priority applicants working at sites with less than a score of eight will be included in the second and final batch of applications, regardless of the submission date.

### b. **MSLRP Review Process**

The review process has been streamlined to accommodate increasing application volume. In the past, those submitting incomplete applications were provided an opportunity to complete their applications by submitting supplemental documentation. Now, those submitting incomplete application packages will be notified they have been screened out of the current application process and encouraged to reapply the following year. Emails notifying applicants they have been screened out will outline deficiencies in their current applications to assist them in submitting complete future applications.

**Providers and employers are strongly encouraged to read more about the review process in the *Selection Criteria, Review Process and Final Phase Procedure* section of the MSLRP website.**

### c. **Workdays Away Form Must be Submitted with Final Work Verification Form**

Employers are required to complete, sign and mail each participant's *Workdays Away from Practice Sites (WDA)* form with their final *Work Verification Form (WVF)*. Employers will find instructions for calculating workdays away in the *Participant Information and Requirements* section of the MSLRP website. Complete mailing instructions are included on each WVF. **Participants will only receive their final payments if their WDA forms are submitted.**

### d. **Participants Must Complete Service Obligations with Original Employers**

Providers applying for MSLRP are agreeing to stay with their employers during their two-year service obligations. Providers uncertain about remaining with their current employers during their entire two-year MSLRP service obligations should not apply for loan repayment during the current application period. They should wait until concerns with their current employers are resolved or start with other employers before applying. Provider-initiated transfers to new employer practice sites with start dates other than the first day of their next MSLRP loan repayment agreement, if awarded, are a breach of that agreement for which they will receive a *Non-Compliance Assessment*. This means they will not be eligible to participate in the next application period during which they would normally reapply.

### e. **Employers Must Employ Participants Throughout Service Obligations**

Employers applying for MSLRP are agreeing to employ the providers they sponsor throughout their service obligations to the program. Employers uncertain about continuing to employ providers should not sponsor them during the current application period. They should wait until issues with those providers are resolved or sponsor other providers. Employers who terminate their MSLRP participant's employment during their service obligations without 'good cause' are in breach of their agreements and will receive a *Non-Compliance Assessment*. This means the sponsoring agency will not be able to participate in the next application period by sponsoring providers applying to the program for the first time as their employees. They will, however, be able to continue sponsoring employees who are reapplying to the program.

## **Additional MSLRP Information:**

You will find additional information regarding MSLRP eligibility requirements and application forms on the MSLRP Website at: [www.michigan.gov/mslrp](http://www.michigan.gov/mslrp). If you have further questions **after reading the MSLRP website**, please contact Brittany Brookshire at [BrookshireB1@michigan.gov](mailto:BrookshireB1@michigan.gov)