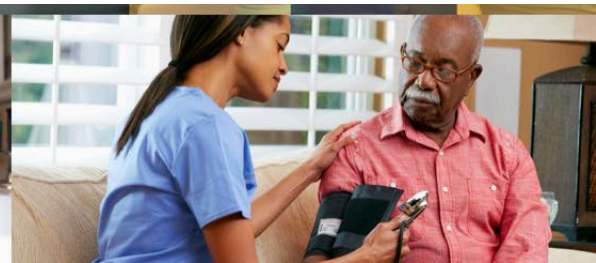
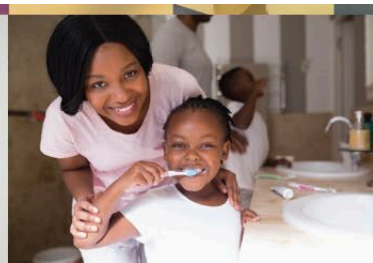
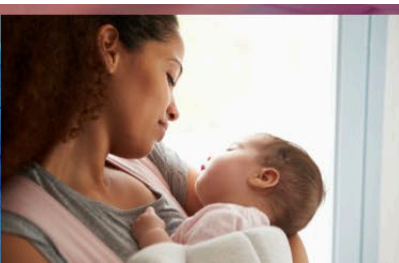




Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program Stakeholder Workgroup for Nurses and Nursing Support Staff

December 12, 2022



Agenda

- I. Opening Business and Remarks
- II. Introduction to the Maryland Loan Repayment Programs
- III. Discussion
- IV. Next Steps
- V. Open Discussion with Public Comment
- VI. Adjournment

Opening Business & Remarks

Roll Call

- I. Workgroup Members
 1. Name
 2. Affiliation
 3. Interest in workgroup

- II. Guests

Please note your name and affiliation, as relevant, in the chat box

Minutes Approval and Updates

Acceptance of Meeting Notes

Review/vote to accept meeting notes: 11/14/2022

Interim Report

Submitted to MDH Office of Governmental Affairs for submission to the General Assembly

Mandated Activities

1. Review/examine/investigate, specific to nurses and nursing support staff:

- Nursing school debt experienced in the United States and in Maryland;
- Models for recruitment and retention that operate in other states, including how these models are funded and how to improve MLARP to ensure that the Program is competitive with other states;
- Methods to incentivize students to commit to practicing in medically underserved areas in the State before entering an educational program or on graduation; and
- Availability of other federal grants to further expand loan repayment and loan forgiveness for other nurses and nursing support staff in Maryland

Mandated Activities

2. Recommend, specific to nurses and nursing support staff:

- Methods to incentivize students to commit to practicing in medically underserved areas in the State before entering an educational program or on graduation;
- Priorities for funding the repayment of education loans through MLARP for Nurses and Nursing Support Staff, including priorities relating to practice settings other than an “eligible field of employment,” as defined by § 24–1804 of the Health – General Article; and
- A permanent MLARP funding structure

Opening Business & Remarks

Work Plan

Timeframe	Presentations/ Discussion	Post-Meeting Action Steps
November 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Introductions- Review of mandated activities/ deliverables- Work plan development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Google Drive additions – research/data- Draft interim report review- Draft interim report approval (by 11/18)
December 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Current MLRP (SLRP and MLARP) intro- Inaugural MLARP for Nurses and Nursing Support Staff application cycle- Research area needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Member contributions to research/data topic areas
January – July 2023	Recommendation formulation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Incentive program recommendations- Priority funding areas- Permanent funding structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- TBD
August 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Review of recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Finalize recommendation language for September report draft
September 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Report draft review, final recommendations review and revisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Further report review/ feedback via email
October 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Review of completed work, next advisory group steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Submission of report to MDH Office of Governmental Affairs before Nov. 1, 2023

Maryland Loan Repayment Programs



Maryland Loan Repayment Programs

Administered by MDH Office of Health Care Workforce Development:

- I. Maryland State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)
- II. Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Physicians and Physician Assistants (MLARP-PPA)
- III. Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Nurses and Nursing Support Staff (MLARP-NNSS)

Program Purpose

The Maryland Loan Repayment Programs serve as one method utilized in Maryland to improve the recruitment and retention of the health professional workforce to areas of provider shortages around the state.

The Programs offer higher education loan repayment assistance to health professionals in exchange for service obligations in underserved areas of Maryland.

State Loan Repayment Program

- Funding: Federal; Health Resources and Services Administration/ Bureau of Health Workforce/ National Health Service Corps
- Eligibility:
 - Physicians, physician assistants (FY23: +nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives)
 - Practicing with a primary care focus
 - Practice site located in a federally-designated Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)
 - Non-profit practice site serves regardless of ability to pay/sliding fee scale

Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program

- Funding: Traditionally, Board of Physicians-funded
- Eligibility:
 - Physicians, physician assistants, final year medical residents
 - Priorities outlined in legislation
 - SLRP eligible providers
 - Primary care definition includes emergency medicine
 - Specialists

Individual Eligibility Criteria

- Be a United States citizen or national.
- Have completed training in an accredited graduate training program in one of the eligible disciplines.
- Have a valid, unrestricted certificate or license to practice in the State of Maryland;
- Not have any outstanding contractual service obligations;
- Have a valid employment contract to work at an eligible practice site;
- Practice part-time or full-time (20+ hours) at an eligible practice site, with a minimum 80% of work hours dedicated to direct patient care; and
- Must not have:
 - Federal judgment liens;
 - A current or past default on any federal payment obligations;
 - Breached a prior service obligation to the federal/state/local government or other entity, and
 - Any debt written off as uncollectible

Program Calendar

Month	Program Element
March 1	Application cycle opening
April 15	Application cycle closing
April - May	Application eligibility review, technical scoring, and participant selection
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Award/ denial notifications- Document collection from initial awardees and second year “renewal” participants
July - September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Service obligation start date: 7/1- Continued document collection from awardees- Payment requests submitted to Accounting for lender payments (federal funds by 8/31)

Application Process

Application Components

Part I: Candidate Information

Part II: Practice Site Confirmation

Part III: Site Eligibility Application

Part IV: Lender Verification Form

Part V: Cultural Competency Requirements

Part VI: Retention Study Form

Part VII: Understanding Breach of Contract

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Fiscal Year 2023 Funding

Historically, \$360,000 Federal dollars + \$400,000 Board of Physician funds for MLARP-PPA

FY2023:

- HRSA/SLRP funding = \$772,160 annually for next 3 years to be utilized for physicians, PAs, NPs, and certified nurse midwives
- Dedicated purpose, General, and BOP funds = \$4.4 million for physicians and physician assistants
- Dedicated purpose, General funds = \$3 million for nurses and nursing support staff

Program Monitoring and Evaluation

- Member of the multi-state Provider Retention & Information System Management program ([PRISM](#)), as of 2022
- Implementation of the MLRP monitoring and evaluation plan
- Annual analysis of applicants and awardees
- Continued engagement with MDH OET and MD DoIT toward data system procurement

Program Expansion

- 2023 application cycle:
 - Part-time providers (20-39 hours per week), with at least 80% in direct patient care
 - + MLARP for Nurses and Nursing Support Staff

MLARP-NNSS Inaugural Application Cycle

- March 1 – April 15, 2023
 - Webpage updates pending
 - Program marketing pending
- Eligibility:
 - Licensures/credentials noted in legislation
 - Non-profit practice site ([§24-1904](#))

Discussion

Discussion

Final Report and Recommendations:

1. Areas of research: Nursing school debt, other state programs, incentives to practice in underserved areas, other federal grants
2. Incentive program recommendations
3. MLARP funding priorities
4. Permanent funding structure

Starter Questions:

1. What data do Workgroup members have to contribute toward areas of research?
2. What information does the Workgroup need in order to continue conversation about funding priorities?

Next Steps

Next Steps

- Meeting Schedule
 - 4th Monday of the month availability?
 - Next Meeting: January 22, 2023?, 3:00 p.m.
- **Action Steps**
 - Data/research: Submit relevant resources and data via email by next meeting
 - Workgroup's dedicated Google Drive coming

Open Discussion with Public Comment

Questions: sara.seitz@maryland.gov

Adjournment