



# **Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program Advisory Council for Physicians and Physician Assistants**

**February 7, 2024**

# Agenda

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- I. Opening Business and Remarks
- II. Discussion
  - A. Evaluation Plan and Progress
  - B. 2024 Application Cycle
  - C. Regulations Development
  - D. Recommendations Development
- III. Next Steps
- IV. Open Discussion with Public Comment
- V. Adjournment

# Introductions/ Roll Call

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## 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

# Administrative Reminders

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## Meeting Recordings

Posted to workgroup webpage for 10/4/2023

## Workgroup Webpage

<https://health.maryland.gov/pophealth/Pages/MLARP-Advisory-Council-for-Physicians-and-Physician-Assistants.aspx>

## Google Share Drive

Shared to members; contact

[sara.seitz@maryland.gov](mailto:sara.seitz@maryland.gov) if unable to access

## **Mandated Activities**

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[SB626 \(2022\), Article – Health – General §§ 24–1701 – 1708](#)

The Council Shall:

- (1) Seek permanent and diverse revenue sources to aid in the stability and further development of the Program;
- (2) Help ensure maximum use of Federal funds;
- (3) Use available data and information to help direct funding to priority areas;
- (4) Monitor similar loan programs in other states and ensure that the Program remains competitive;
- (5) Assist the Department in the administration of the Program;

## **Mandated Activities**

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The Council Shall:

(6) Help market and raise awareness of the Program through educational institutions and other appropriate entities as an incentive to health care providers to practice in underserved areas;

Administratively, the Council shall:

(1) Meet at least three times per year

(2) On or before October 1 each year, the Council shall report to the Governor and the General Assembly on the activities of the Council and recommendations on any necessary changes to the Program

# MLARP Advisory Council (Living) Work Plan

Timeframe	Presentations/ Discussion	Mandate Area
<b>Annual Cycle</b>		
<b>August</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Application cycle results</li><li>- Preliminary profile of applicants/ awardees</li><li>- Cement/ approve October 1 report for submission</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Assist in the administration of MLARP</li><li>- Report to Governor &amp; Legislature</li></ul>
<b>October</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Marketing preparation/plan for winter implementation</li><li>- Member marketing action steps</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Market and raise awareness of the Program</li><li>- Monitor similar loan programs</li></ul>
<b>February</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Evaluation plan review/ improvements</li><li>- Application cycle preparation</li><li>- Member action steps toward 10/1 report</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Direct funding to priority areas</li><li>- Monitor similar loan programs</li><li>- Maximize use of Federal funds</li><li>- Direct funding to priority areas</li></ul>
<b>May</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Revenue source review</li><li>- Member action steps to expand revenue sources</li><li>- Preliminary recommendations for 10/1 report</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Revenue sources</li><li>- Direct funding to priority areas</li></ul>

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# Program Update



# FY 2024 Awards

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Total obligations: 142

- 2<sup>nd</sup> year obligations: 25
- 1<sup>st</sup> year obligations: 117
  
- 66 Physicians or physician assistants
  
- 10 Part-time (20-39 hrs per week)
- 56 Full-time ( $\geq$  40 hrs per week)

Payment requests submitted for all 142 participants

# Program Updates

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## Communication Improvements

- Triage process
- Documentation development
- Application cycle

# MLRP Funds Balance – PPA

Resource	Description	Obligated FY24	Obligated FY25	FY24 Application Cycle
SLRP (Federal HRSA Award)	Physicians, PAs, NPs, CNMs	- 1 <sup>st</sup> years: \$259,708	- 1 <sup>st</sup> years: 2024 application cycle	~\$1,000,000/2 for new awards
		- 2 <sup>nd</sup> years: \$319,227	- 2 <sup>nd</sup> years: \$319,227	
MLARP-PPA	Physicians, PAs, Final Year Residents	- 1 <sup>st</sup> years: \$1,415,439	- 1 <sup>st</sup> years: 2024 application cycle	~\$1,000,000/2 for new awards
		- 2 <sup>nd</sup> years: \$709,227	- 2 <sup>nd</sup> years: \$1,415,439	

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# Discussion

# Evaluation Plan and Progress

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## Processes in Use

- Applicant and awardee profiling
- PRISM participation

## Continued Expansion

- Addition of Health Policy Analyst
- Participant inventory

-- Council Feedback and Guidance --

# 2024 Application Cycle

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2024 Application Cycle: 3/1 – 4/15/2024

- Application contents
- **Application format**
- **Technical assistance opportunities**
- Review process

-- Council Feedback and Guidance --

# Regulations Development

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i. [Article - Health – General §24–1706](#)

The Department shall adopt regulations to implement the provisions of this subtitle, including:

- (1) Establishing the maximum number of participants in the Program each year in each priority area described under § 24–1705 of this subtitle; and
- (2) Establishing the minimum and maximum amount of loan repayment assistance awarded under this subtitle in each priority area described under § 24–1705 of this subtitle.

# Regulations Development

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§24–1705.

(2) (b) The Department shall prioritize funding for the repayment of education loans through the Program in the following order:

(1) Physicians and physician assistants that meet the requirements under § 24–1704(b) of this subtitle;

(2) Physicians and physician assistants practicing primary care in a geographic area where the Department has identified a shortage of primary care physicians or physician assistants; and

(3) Physicians and physician assistants practicing a medical specialty other than primary care in a geographic area where the Department has identified a shortage of that specialty.

-- Council Feedback and Guidance --



# Recommendation Development

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2024 Council Report:

Any draft recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on any necessary changes to the Program at this time?

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# Next Steps

## Next Steps

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- Meeting Schedule
  - Wednesday, May 1, 2024; 11:00 a.m.
  - Discussion: Revenue source development
    - Seek permanent and diverse revenue sources to aid in the stability and further development of the Program
    - **Homework to prepare?**
    - Member action steps toward 10/1/24 report?
- Action Steps
  - Members: Homework from above
  - MDH staff: Conducting updated review of program offerings in other states

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# Open Discussion

*Questions: [sara.seitz@Maryland.gov](mailto:sara.seitz@Maryland.gov)*

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# Adjournment