

# **Doctors Across New York**

## **Physician Loan Repayment Program and Physician Practice Support Program**

Preview - CHCANYS Clinical Forum & Statewide Conference  
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Information contained in this slide presentation is for summary purposes only. For complete, final information refer to the two Request for Applications (RFAs) when released.

# Overview

- Background of Doctors Across New York
- Features for both programs
- Highlights of Practice Support Program
- Highlights of Loan Repayment Tracks
- Highlights of Loan Repayment
- Underserved Areas
- Application process

# Doctors Across New York

- A State-funded initiative enacted in 2008 to help reform Graduate Medical Education and place physicians in underserved communities in a variety of settings and specialties to care for New York's diverse population
- Reflects the policy recommendations of the New York State Council on Graduate Medical Education (COGME) and endorsed by the New York State Rural Health Council

# Doctors Across New York

- Five initiatives to improve access to quality health care and address health disparities in New York State
  - Physician Loan Repayment Program
  - Physician Practice Support Program
  - Ambulatory Training – RFA to be released later this year
  - Physician Studies – RFA to be released later this year
  - Diversity in Medicine/Post-Baccalaureate Program

# Physician Loan Repayment and Practice Support

- 2010-11 budget provides \$1.7 M for Loan Repayment and \$4.3M for Practice Support
- Funds allocated Regionally
  - One-third of funds for New York City region
  - Two-thirds of funds for Rest of State
- 50% of funds will be distributed to general hospitals (or in loan repayment program to physicians identified by general hospitals)

# Physician Loan Repayment and Practice Support

- Physicians and other health care providers eligible to apply for either program;
- Primary care and specialty physicians eligible.
- Target underserved areas and populations;

# Requirements for Physicians

- U.S. citizen or permanent resident; and
- Licensed to practice in New York State; and
- Not currently working in, or serving, an underserved area;
- In good standing with the NYSDOH Office of Professional Medical Conduct; and
- Not currently serving in a loan repayment obligation.



# Physician Practice Support

- Physician Practice Support provides up to \$100,000 in practice support funding over 2 years for providing medical services in an underserved area
- Two applicant types:
  - Physicians
    - Funds used to establish or join practices
  - General hospitals and other health care providers
    - Funds used to recruit new physicians

# Eligible Expenditures for Practice Support (physician applicants only)

Examples include:

- Land/Building Acquisition
- Renovation/Construction
- Equipment/Furniture
- Staff Salaries
- Educational Loan repayment

# Eligible Expenditures for Practice Support (health care provider or physicians joining an existing practice)

Limited to:

- Educational Loan Repayment
- Income Guarantees
- Investment In Partnership
- Other Direct Payments To Physicians

# Obligation and Default (PPS)

- 2 consecutive years providing full-time medical services in, or to populations in, underserved areas;
- Obligation begins when NYS contract is executed or the start date of the contracted service, whichever is later;
- Obligated physician who defaults will repay some or all of amounts distributed

# Residency Program Loan Repayment Tracks

- Awards to teaching hospitals that develop curricula to train residents in a primary care or specialty track to serve underserved areas;
- A resident identified by the teaching hospital would automatically qualify for loan repayment after completing training and securing employment in an underserved area;
- Only teaching hospitals eligible to apply;
- Up to 25 total track awards annually;
- One application per teaching hospital.

# Physician Loan Repayment

- Physician Loan Repayment provides up to \$150,000 in repayment of qualified educational debt in exchange for a 5-year service obligation in an underserved area.

- Two components

Physician Loan Repayment - for hospitals, other health care facilities, physician practice organizations and individual physicians

Residency Program Loan Repayment Tracks - for teaching hospitals only

# Loan Repayment Awards

- Successful applicants receive award letters for a loan repayment contract;
- Funding contracts will be between DOH and the physician, NOT the facility;
- Award rescinded if no contract executed between MD and DOH by April 15;
- MDs must begin service by September 30.

# Loan Repayment Awards

- Up to \$150,000 over 5 years as follows:
  - Y1: 15% of debt up to \$20K;
  - Y2: 15% of debt up to \$25K;
  - Y3: 20% of debt up to \$35K;
  - Y4: 25% of debt up to \$35K; and
  - Y5: The remainder of the debt, not to exceed the five-year award.
- One-half the annual award will be paid after verification of each six months of obligated service
- Payments may be federally tax-exempt.



# Obligation and Default (LRP)

- 5 consecutive years providing full-time medical services in, or to populations in, underserved areas.
- Obligation begins when contract is executed or the start date of the contracted service, whichever is later.
- Obligated physician who defaults will repay:
  - Service of less than 2 years - repayment of 100% of funds received;
  - 2-3 years - 50% of total funds received;
  - 3-4 years - 25%, of total funds received; and
  - 4-5 years - 10%.

# New Application Process

- We anticipate changes from the 2008 cycle

# Evaluation Criteria

- These have changed as well from the 2008 cycle

# Underserved Areas

Can be any combination of the below:

- HPSAs/MUAs,
- SED specialty county shortage areas,
- Rural hospitals;
- Additional criteria related to:
  - Level to service to indigent patients;
  - scarcity of specialty;
  - overutilization of requested services, including PQI issues; and
  - distance to requested services.

# Important Dates

- Tentative for now, pending approval of RFA

# Formatting Requirements

- **No emails or faxes will be accepted**
- Applications may be delivered by hand, by the U.S Postal Service, UPS, FedEx, or any other courier or delivery service that provides the date and time stamp for the delivery.