

RURAL COMMUNITIES HEALTH CARE INVESTMENT PROGRAM (RCHIP)

STATE OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH



Are you a clinician, other than a physician?

Eligible health professionals include, but are not limited to, physician assistants; nurses; physical and occupational therapists; pharmacists; optometrists; emergency medical technicians; speech pathologists; dentists; and licensed non-physician mental health practitioners.

Do you have a new license?

Received license within the last 24 months prior to application submission and practice in a qualifying community.

Are you new to rural?

Changed employment within the last 12 months, prior to application submission, from a practice site in a large county (over 500,000) to a qualifying community to practice in the field for which they are licensed.

Up to **\$10,000** for student loan reimbursement or stipend

Eligibility Requirements

- 1) Not have a service obligation to any entity or participate in any educational loan reimbursement program or other incentive program;
- 2) Hold a Texas license, certificate, registration, permit, or other form of authorization required by law or a state agency to work in a health care profession (herein collectively referred to as a license), other than MD or DO, and
 - Be newly licensed in the field under which this application is submitted (received first license within the last 24 months prior to application submission); OR
 - Be a licensed health professional practicing in a county with more than 500,000 people and move to practice in a qualifying community in the field under which this application is submitted (applicant may not have been residing or practicing in the qualifying community for more than 12 months prior to application submission);
- 3) Provide services to clients that receive at least one form of indigent care in qualifying community;
- 4) Agree to practice in the qualifying community for at least 12 consecutive months;
- 5) Provide services in a county that has either MUA designation or the HPSA designation appropriate for the provider type applying to the program (i.e. dentists apply for a dental HPSA, mental health providers apply for a mental health HPSA, primary care providers for a primary care HPSA); and
- 6) Establish an office and residency in the qualifying community before receiving any portion of the stipend (applies only to health professionals participating in the stipend program).

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

For full application visit <http://www.texasagriculture.gov> or email us at RuralHealth@TexasAgriculture.Gov.