

OHSU Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative 2014

Frequently Asked Questions:

Who can apply to the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative? Anyone who has applied to OHSU in the Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Dental Medicine, Master of Nursing (in Nurse Midwifery, Family Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Anesthesia, and Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner only) or Master of Physician Assistant Studies programs may apply for the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative funding.

When can I apply? Applicants may apply at any time after completing their application to an OHSU School. Your application will not be reviewed by the selection committee, however, until you are officially accepted into the OHSU program to which you applied.

When will funding be awarded? Once an applicant has been admitted to OHSU, funding will be awarded within approximately 3 weeks of an applicant completing the Scholars for Healthy Oregon Application.

What criteria are used to award the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative funding? The criteria for eligibility and funding preference can be found at the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative webpage www.ohsu.edu/healthyoregon

If I receive Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative funding, what am I obligated to do? Students receiving Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative funds will be required to practice in an underserved community, as defined by OHSU, for a number of years equal to the years of support received, plus one. For example, a student receiving 2 years of funding for the PA program would have a service obligation of 3 years. Additional details can be found in the program summary at www.ohsu.edu/healthyoregon

When would my practice obligation begin? Practice obligation begins within 3 months following degree completion for programs that do not require residency training. Medical students will begin their practice obligation within 3 months following completion of their residency. Pursuing additional fellowship training will generally not be allowed.

If I receive the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative funding, do I have to choose to practice in primary care? No, there is no specific specialty obligation required. Keep in mind, however, that many of the job opportunities in underserved communities and locations will be in primary care fields. Highly specialized positions will be limited.

Do I choose my own practice site or is it selected for me? Scholars will be able to apply to a variety of eligible underserved sites in both rural and urban settings. An inventory of eligible sites will be maintained by OHSU. Sites will generally be in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs), Medically Underserved Areas, or have similar designations. These designations change annually, so we cannot tell you at this time which sites will be available at the time your service obligation starts.

Can I also apply to the National Health Service Corp Scholars program if I have an application pending with the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative? Yes, you may apply to the National Health Service

Corp or other obligated scholarship programs in addition to the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative. You **may not**, however, receive more than one scholarship with a service obligation.

Does my application to the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative have any effect on the admissions process at OHSU schools? No, the admissions committee makes their decision independently of the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative process. The Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative selection is made only after the school's admissions process is completed.

How many Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative scholarships are available? The number of scholarships varies depending on the funding provided through the state legislature. We anticipate awarding approximately 21 full scholarships for incoming students in 2014 across all eligible programs.

Are there other benefits to participating in the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative? Students selected for the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative funding will become part of a select group of inter-professional students preparing for a career caring for underrepresented populations. This cohort of students will receive additional inter-professional mentoring and support from their faculty and peers throughout their education at OHSU.