Scholars for a Healthy Oregon

About

To address the issues related to high tuition and the shortage of healthcare professionals in Oregon’s rural and underserved communities, legislators partnered with OHSU to create the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative.

The Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative covers tuition and fees for a limited number of eligible students entering specific clinical degree programs during the 2014-15 academic year, who also agree to certain practice requirements as a health care practitioner in an OHSU approved Oregon designated service site for set time commitment. The Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative funding is awarded annually, effective for one academic year with annual renewal if the student maintains good academic standing. The funding provides for payment of full OHSU tuition and required fees, but does not provide a living allowance.

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for funding under the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative, students must be admitted to OHSU for the 2014-15 academic year in one of the following clinical degree programs:

- Doctor of Medicine (MD)
- Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD)
- Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS)
- Master of Nursing (MN) in:
  - Nurse Anesthesia
  - Family Nurse Practitioner
  - Nurse Midwifery
  - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

All students in qualifying programs may apply for funding from the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative; however, priority will be given to those considered of Oregon Heritage under OHSU’s admission guidelines.

In addition, further priority consideration will be given to applicants who are:

- Students who lived and/or graduated high school in a rural location or underserved community or who graduated from one of the four regional Oregon University System institutions (Eastern Oregon University, Oregon Institute of Technology, Southern Oregon University or Western Oregon University)
- First generation college students
- Individuals from a diverse or underrepresented community

Service Requirements

Student must complete the planned degree program within the normal time to degree completion as specified by the academic program. For example, a medical student would need to complete the MD degree within four years.

Upon completion of the planned degree program, including residency training if required for the professional degree, the funding recipient agrees to:

- Practice, beginning within 3 months of completing their training, full-time as a healthcare practitioner, in a designated service site in Oregon that has been approved by OHSU, for one year longer than the number of years for which the student received funding under the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative.
- Practice sites may include certified rural health clinics, rural critical access hospitals, federally qualified health centers, or any geographic area, population or facility in Oregon designated by Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the United States Department of Health and Human Services as a health professional shortage area, a medically underserved area or a medically underserved population.
- While practicing at the designated service site, the practitioner must see all patients without regard for their insurance status or ability to pay for services.

For more information, go to www.ohsu.edu/healthyoregon
How to Apply

As part of their interview process, students applying to an eligible program of study at OHSU will be provided information on how to apply for funding under the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative. Information on how to apply will also be included in acceptance materials for students admitted to eligible programs. Additionally, students can apply online anytime on the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative web page at www.ohsu.edu/healthyoregon.

Application Requirements

Applicants must complete a Scholars for a Healthy Oregon funding application. If an applicant is selected to receive funding under the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative, subsequent years funding will be automatically provided as long as the student remains in good academic standing as provided by the academic program. A personal interview may be required.

Repayment and Failure to Satisfy the Service Commitment

If the recipient Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative funding:

- withdraws or is dismissed prior to completion of their planned degree program
- elects not to fulfill the conditions of the service agreement at the time of their graduation or program completion
- begins, but does not complete, the health care practice obligation

The entire amount of funding received must be repaid. Additionally, there could be a penalty due in addition to the balance owing.