

Scholars for a Healthy Oregon

About

The Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative was established in 2013 by the Oregon Legislative Assembly in order to address two critical challenges in educating health providers: the high cost of tuition for students and the regional disparity of providers across the state. With an initial biennial allocation of \$2.5 million, the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative provides funding to cover tuition and fees for a limited number of eligible students entering specific clinical degree programs. Funding recipients agree to practice as a health care practitioner in an OHSU approved Oregon designated service site for one year longer than the number of years for which the student received funding.

Eligibility

To be eligible for funding under the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative, students must be admitted to OHSU for the 2026-27 academic year as an Oregon resident or considered of [Oregon Heritage](#) under OHSU admissions guidelines in one of the following clinical degree programs:

- Doctor of Medicine (MD)
- Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD)
- Master of Physician Associate Studies (MPAS)
- Doctor of Nursing (DNP) in:
 - Nurse Anesthesia
 - Family Nurse Practitioner
 - Nurse Midwifery
 - Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
 - Pediatric Nurse Practitioner
 - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.

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

- Students who live and/or graduated from an Oregon high school in a rural location or underserved community or who graduated from one of the four Technical & Regional Universities (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.

How to Apply and Application Requirements

As part of the admission application process, students applying to an eligible program of study at OHSU will be provided with 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 into eligible programs. Additionally, students can apply online anytime on the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative web page at:

www.ohsu.edu/education/scholars-healthy-oregon-shoi.

Applicants must complete a Scholars for a Healthy Oregon funding application. A selection committee tasked with authorizing funding to selected applicants has been appointed by the OHSU Provost. The selection committee is composed of OHSU faculty, staff and administration. The committee may consider the applicants commitment to and aptitude for the care of rural and underserved populations as part of its determination.

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Funding – Tuition & Fees

The Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative funding is awarded annually, effective for one academic year with automatic annual renewal if the student remains in good academic standing as defined by the academic program. The funding provides for payment of full OHSU tuition and mandatory fees as defined in the OHSU Academic Year Tuition & Fee Book, but does not provide a living allowance.

As examples of the large value of the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative funding, the approximate total tuition and required fee amounts for Oregon resident students entering in the 2025-26 academic year in the following degree programs are estimated at:

Doctor of Medicine (MD): \$240,175*

Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD): \$289,879*

Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS): \$123,861* **

**Examples are provided for information purposes only. Actual total tuition and fee amounts will differ. OHSU reserves the right to make changes in tuition charges, fee charges, and/or other costs which range from minimal to substantial without advance notice.*

*** The Master of Physician Assistant Studies will transition to the Master of Physician Associate Studies in AY 2026-27.*

Service Agreement

Upon being awarded funding under the Scholars for a Healthy Oregon Initiative, the recipient will execute a Service Agreement with the following stipulations:

- Student must demonstrate continued academic progress remaining in good academic standing in their planned degree program at OHSU.
- Upon completion of the degree program, including residency training if required for the professional degree, the funding recipient agrees to:
 - Practice, beginning within 90 days 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.
 - Designated service 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. The criteria for qualifying a “designated service site” ranges from geographic-based, population-based (specific populations within a geographic area), facility or provider-based or a combination of these factors. Please contact the OHSU Office of Rural Health for more information <https://www.ohsu.edu/oregon-office-of-rural-health/scholars-healthy-oregon-initiative-shoi>.
 - 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.

Satisfying the Service Commitment

The service commitment will be satisfied when any of the following conditions are met:

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- The funding recipient completes the required number of years in full time health care provider practice at an approved designated service site as specified in the service agreement.
- The funding recipient is deceased.
- The funding recipient is unable to practice their profession due to documented total and permanent disability.

Repayment and Failure to Satisfy the Service Commitment

If the funding recipient withdraws or is dismissed prior to completion of their academic program, the full amount of funding received must be repaid immediately, with no penalty, beginning from the time the funding recipient withdraws or is dismissed.

If the funding recipient elects not to fulfill the conditions of the service agreement at the time of graduation or program completion, the entire amount of funding received must be repaid in addition to a 25% penalty. This entire amount must be repaid to OHSU within 90 days.

If the funding recipient begins but does not complete the service commitment, they shall repay OHSU within 90 days from the time the student discontinued satisfying the service commitment, that portion of total funding in addition to a 25% penalty. The total amount to be repaid will be reduced for every full year that the recipient complied with the service agreement on a pro-rata basis, as computed by the total number of years agreed to in the service agreement. A partial year of completed service will not count as a year of service.

If the funding recipient does not repay within 90 days, OHSU will refer the balance due to the Oregon Department of Revenue for collection. For what to expect once you have breached your service agreement see [SHOI Repayment FAQ](#).



OHSU Office of the Provost

Mail code: L349

3181 S.W. Sam Jackson Park Road

Portland, OR 97239

www.ohsu.edu/education/scholars-healthy-oregon-shoi

OHSU is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution.