

FAQs- Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program

What is the site eligibility criteria?

Eligible sites must be located in an underserved area and agree to match 20% of the total award amount. Many sites are already approved by Primary Care and Rural Health (PCRH), but any new site is eligible to apply. We recommend that you confirm the site's ability to match 20% of your total award amount before applying.

How long is the contract period?

It is a three-year contract and service obligation to the state of Utah.

When will I receive the award amount?

You will receive one-third of the total award amount 90 days after the start of the contract.

What if I don't stay at this job for the duration of the contract?

Awards are prorated. You will pay back the portion of the award that you received but did not earn as stated in your contract.

When do I need to apply?

Within 18 months of starting at an approved site.

Am I allowed to switch sites during the 3-year contract period?

Yes. Individuals must advise PCRH of their intention to switch sites. PCRH will need to be notified in advance to determine if the new site is approved or not. If they are not already approved, the new site will need to apply to PCRH. The new site must also send PCRH a letter stating that they are willing and able to take over the 20% site match for the rest of a provider's contract period.

What are the licensing requirements?

You must be licensed to practice in Utah and have an unrestricted license.

What if a site is not already approved?

The site must apply to PCRH for approval. The site must be approved in order for a provider to be approved and receive funds from PCRH.

What is a HPSA?

A Health Professional Shortage Area is an area that has been determined to have too few primary care, dental care, and/or mental health care providers to meet the needs of the population.

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Is the contract with the site or the provider?

DHHS initiates a contract with the provider.

Does a site's approval ever expire?

Yes. A site's approval expires after four years. All sites must apply to be re-approved if they want to remain an eligible site.

When is the application deadline?

The application is open-year-round and applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.

What are the hour requirements for a provider to be eligible?

A provider must work at least 20 hours per week to be eligible. If you work fewer than 40 hours per week, it is considered half time, and you will receive half of the total award amount.

For more information about the specifics of the program, please refer to our website:

<https://ruralhealth.utah.gov/health-care-workforce/>