

NEBRASKA

State of the State

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Helping People Live Better Lives.

ARPA Funds

- American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
 - EMS received \$25 Million
 - Rural Health received \$5 million

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Helping People Live Better Lives.

LB1014 Ambulance Purchases

- \$20,000,000 allocated for the purchase of ambulances.
- Department working on guidance
- How will it be determined:
 - Application Process
 - Evaluation Process
- Concerns
 - Shortage of ambulances nationally

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Helping People Live Better Lives.

LB 1014 – EMS Equipment

- \$5,000,000 allocated for the purchase of EMS Equipment.
- Department working on guidance
- Equipment such as power cots, defibrillators, vents, etc.
- Priority:
 - Volunteer based EMS Service
 - Located in community with few than one hundred thousand inhabitants
 - Based on need determined by DHHS and a statewide organization
- How will it be determined:
 - Application Process
 - Evaluation Process
- Concerns: Medical equipment supply

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Helping People Live Better Lives.

Notes of Interest

- DHHS does not have many answers at this time.
- Some answers will not be shared until we are ready to release to ensure no one service has a competitive advantage.
- Will host town hall meetings to roll out the process to everyone at once.
- We will post information to our website:
 - DHHS website: <https://dhhs.ne.gov>
 - EHS website direct link: <https://dhhs.ne.gov/ehs>
 - EMS direct link: <https://dhhs.ne.gov/ems>
- Also can sign up for the EHS newsletter
- Watch the EHS Facebook and Twitter accounts

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Helping People Live Better Lives.

Emergency Health Systems Questions?

Contact:

Tim Wilson

(402)-471-0124

Tim.Wilson@Nebraska.gov

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Helping People Live Better Lives.

Changes to State Loan Repayment

- LB1014 and LB1007 are temporarily changing the State Loan Repayment program
 - \$5 million allocated for “no match” awards
 - must be obligated by December 2024 and spent by December 2026
 - awards begin in July, apply now
- Federally Funded NHSC SLRP
 - also “no match” awards for the next four year grant cycle (awards begin in September, apply now)
 - Nurses can be funded through NHSC SLRP but must be BSN-level and working at an NHSC site OR in a federal primary care shortage area at a nonprofit
- Application, searchable maps, and FAQs are available on our web site: www.dhhs.ne.gov/orh - just click on “[Loan Repayment](#)”

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Helping People Live Better Lives.

Eligible Disciplines and Shortage Areas

Nebraska Loan Repayment

Rural Health

Loan repayment awards are available to primary care, mental, dental and allied health professionals practicing in shortage areas in Nebraska. Shortage area maps are accessible via the links on the right side of the page. Find your profession or specialty and click on the link to be taken to that map. More information available through the FAQs link below. Click on the Apply button to submit an application.

Shortage Areas: Select your program or specialty from the list below.

Home Page

Primary Care: Family Medicine

Primary Care: Internal Medicine

Primary Care: General Pediatrics

Primary Care: OB GYN

Primary Care: General Surgery

Primary Care: BSN Registered Nurse

Dentistry: General

Dentistry: Pediatric

Dentistry: Oral Surgery

Dentistry: Dental Hygienist

Mental Health: Clinical Psychologist

Mental Health: Licensed Mental Health Practitioner

Mental Health: MS Alcohol & Drug Counselor

Mental Health: Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Mental Health: General Psychiatry

Allied Health: Pharmacist

Allied Health: Occupational Therapist

Rachael Wolfe, State Loan Repayment, rachael.wolfe@nebraska.gov

Jok Akech, NHSC NE State Loan Repayment, jok.akech@nebraska.gov

FAQs

Apply



State Managed Loan Repayment Programs

Application Process

NEBRASKA
Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Returning?

AAA
⊕ ⊞

Application for Health Professional

Please complete the application below.

Thank you!


Read through the Frequently Asked Questions - [Frequently Asked Questions](#) before completing this application or submitting questions regarding these programs.

Note: Once you begin to fill out this form, a record is created. Please fill it out in one setting or use the "returning" button in the top right hand corner if you need to come back later and complete your application. Email DHHS.LoanRepaymentPrgMgr@nebraska.gov if you need assistance with the access code, but DO NOT CREATE MULTIPLE RECORDS.

All fields are required unless otherwise specified.

APPLICATION FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONAL

Personal Information:

First Name:	<input type="text"/>
Middle Name:	<input type="text"/>
Last Name:	<input type="text"/>
Maiden Name:	<input type="text"/>
Date of Birth:	<input type="text"/>  Today M-D-Y

- We use redcap to track applications and contracts
- Application is available 24/7
- Health professional initiates the process, then employer received an email link from “DHHS DO NOT REPLY” and completes their portion

Frequently Asked Questions on our Website

Nebraska Loan Repayment Program Frequently Asked Questions




Below you will find answers to frequently asked questions about the Nebraska Loan Repayment Program.

How do I determine if a site or health professional is eligible to participate in the programs? 

Do health professionals need to have an employer lined up before applying for loan repayment? 

Does the health professional need to be fully licensed to fill out an application? 

Who fills out the application? 

What's the maximum a recipient can receive in loan repayment? 

What's the maximum the local entity will pay in matching funds? 

...etc

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Helping People Live Better Lives.

Loan Repayment Questions? Contact:

Rachael Wolfe (state program)
(402)-314-4733
Rachael.Wolfe@Nebraska.gov

Jok Akech (NHSC SLRP)
(531) 530-7087
Jok.Akech@Nebraska.gov

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Helping People Live Better Lives.

Thomas Rauner

Primary Care Office Director

The basics of a state and federal designation and its utility to qualify for loan repayment

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Helping People Live Better Lives.

- State and Federal Shortage Area Designations are based on a general concept of primary care, dental and behavioral health providers to a service area population.
- The geopolitical boundary of a county is the primary foundation of designations
 - Data is widely available for population and high need indicator data points
 - Data for point of service is not publicly available
- For Primary Care designations only physicians are included in the count of health care providers
 - Attempts have been made to include non-physician providers but without consensus
- For Dental designations only dentists are included in the count of health care providers
 - For federal designations a dentists age and number of hygienists have minimal impact
- For Behavioral Health only Psychiatrists are included in the count of health care providers
 - For federal designations non-psychiatric physicians may be utilized, but has a minimal impact and data on non-psychiatric physicians is limited in many states

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Helping People Live Better Lives.

- Ensuring access to health care providers and services to rural and underserved populations is essential
- Ability to make an assessment of areas of need in a timely manner
- Providing incentives to assist in the recruitment and retention of health care providers
 - A review in 2019 showed that 40% of family medicine/practice provider in Medicare
 - Certified rural health clinics either are or have participated in a loan repayment program
- In 2018 we found statistically significant evidence that state and federal incentive programs positively influence the retention of family medicine providers in rural and small town areas of Nebraska versus those not participating in loan repayment programs

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Helping People Live Better Lives.

- Rural Health Advisory Commission and Office of Rural Health provide a public process to designate state shortage areas
 - Statewide review every three years, with potential for quarterly updates
- Federal shortage areas are determined by the Health Resources and Services Administration; Bureau of Health Workforce; Shortage Designation Branch and the Nebraska Primary Care Office
 - Updated on an on-going basis with national update reviews every couple of years
- Nebraska utilizes data collected by the UNMC Health Professions Tracking Service one of the top 5 workforce data collection systems in the U.S.
 - Health care provider licensure data is analyzed through annual surveys of providers and clinics. Local input on changes is followed up by the Office of Rural Health and UNMC
 - Health Professions Tracking Service

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Helping People Live Better Lives.

Contact Info:

Tom Rauner
Thomas.Rauner@Nebraska.gov
(402) 471-0148

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Helping People Live Better Lives.