

SCHEDULE "A"

MEDICAL STUDENT/ RESIDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

NOTE:
Deadline for application is
August 15, 2012.

Applications are available at
www.manitoba.ca/health/msrfap



Manitoba's medical graduates are the foundation of the future of healthcare in this province. Recognizing the important contribution of locally trained physicians in providing high-quality health services that meet the needs of Manitobans, the Government of Manitoba established the Medical Student/Resident Financial Assistance Program (MSRFAP) for eligible medical undergraduates and medical residents in May 2001.

The MSRFAP provides financial assistance in the form of a conditional grant, to students/residents studying medicine in the Province of Manitoba, or to physicians establishing a practice in the Province upon graduation.

Introduced last year, MSRFAP offers grants to first and second year students and includes new grants for third and fourth year students in exchange for service to identified communities.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

There are two components to the MSRFAP:

- The Educational Assistance Option, which assists medical undergraduates and medical residents during their medical training; and
- The Practice Assistance Option, which assists physicians who have established a Family Medicine practice in Manitoba.

Applicants are eligible to participate in both options, providing they do not exceed the maximum grants under both program options.

NOTE: If participating in the Northern/Remote Family Medicine Residency Stream (NRFMS), formerly the NRPI, up to eight (8) grants may be allowed.

Upon completion of their training, physicians who have participated in either the Educational Assistance Option and/or the Practice Assistance Option will work the required time as outlined in the Return of Service Agreement in the Province of Manitoba for each grant they receive. Physicians who do not fulfill their return of service commitment are required to repay the full amount of the financial assistance received, plus interest accrued from the date the financial assistance was first provided.

NOTE: If participating in the NRFMS, Return of Service will be forgiven on a pro-rated basis.

Who may apply for the Educational Assistance Option (EAO)?

- First, second, third and fourth year medical students studying at the University of Manitoba Faculty of Medicine;
- Manitoba students attending medical studies in French at the University of Ottawa;
- Medical residents at the University of Manitoba enrolled in a postgraduate program approved by the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) or the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC); *NOTE: Other postgraduate medical training programs may be considered by the Review Committee;*
- MD graduates from the University of Manitoba Faculty of Medicine and Manitoba MD graduates from the University of Ottawa who are in approved postgraduate medical programs at other Canadian and American universities.

Who may apply for the Practice Assistance Option (PAO)?

Graduates of a Canadian medical residency program or Canadian medical graduates (MD) who have completed a CFPC approved postgraduate medical training program in Canada may apply for assistance under the Practice Assistance Option, providing they have not received two

(2) or more EAO grants. If the physician received an EAO grant, the return of service for that grant must be completed prior to being eligible to apply for the PAO grant.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE OPTION (EAO)

A. PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Financial assistance is available for medical undergraduates and residents in the following categories:

(a) 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th Year Undergraduates

Medical students at the Faculty of Medicine and Manitoba students attending medical studies offered in French at the University of Ottawa, may apply for \$12,000 in financial assistance. Upon completion of a residency program, they are required to return six (6) months of service in an underserved area in Manitoba as determined by the Review Committee.

(b) 3rd Year Undergraduates

Up to fifteen (15) medical students entering their third year (at the University of Manitoba, or a Manitoba student attending studies in French at the University of Ottawa, Faculty of Medicine) who are interested in practicing medicine in a rural community in Manitoba may be eligible for \$25,000 in financial assistance. Upon completion of a residency program, they are required to return one (1) full year of service in a rural community in Manitoba. This area does not include Winnipeg.

NOTE: Exceptional circumstances may be considered by the Review Committee.

UG3 (\$25,000) and UG4(\$15,000) grants with 12 months Return of Service will be offered in 2012/13 for the last time, then will be replaced by the new grants.

(c) 4th Year Undergraduates

All University of Manitoba medical undergraduates entering fourth year at the Faculty of Medicine and Manitoba students attending medical studies offered in French at the University of Ottawa, may apply for \$15,000 in financial assistance. Upon completion of a residency program, they are required to return one (1) full year of service anywhere in Manitoba.

OR

4th Year Undergraduates – Rural/Northern Initiative (RNI)

Up to fifteen (15) medical students entering fourth year at the Faculty of Medicine and Manitoba students attending medical studies offered in French at the University of Ottawa, may apply for \$25,000 in financial assistance. Upon completion of a residency program, they are required to return one (1) full year of service in a rural or northern community in Manitoba as determined by the Review Committee. Return of Service could be provided on a locum basis not to exceed four (4) years duration.

(d) Family Medicine Residents – either year

Medical residents in either year of the Family Medicine Program at the University of Manitoba or Manitoba graduates from the University of Manitoba Faculty of Medicine, in a Family Medicine residency program in another Canadian or American university, may apply for a \$20,000 grant.

Upon completion of the residency program, they are required to return one (1) full year of service in Manitoba.

**NOTE: Consideration will be given to providing a \$20,000 grant to eligible applicants enrolled in Family Medicine third year Emergency Medicine, Palliative Care or Anaesthesia. This provision will be reviewed on a yearly basis. Family Medicine residents pursuing additional postgraduate medical training following the completion of their primary residency program are ineligible for financial assistance under the MSRFAP unless taking a third year in the programs listed above or participating in the NRFMS. They may however, submit a request to the Review Committee to delay the commencement of their return of service.*

(e) Family Medicine - Northern/Remote Family Medicine Residency Stream (NRFMS)

Residents are eligible for \$50,000 financial assistance in the second year of the Family Medicine Northern Remote Residency Stream. Upon completion of the NRFMS they are required to return two (2) full years of service in a northern remote community as determined by the Review Committee. Completion of Return of Service will provide an opportunity to apply for a postgraduate medical education program at the University of Manitoba.

NOTE: NRFMS residents are also eligible to apply for a MSRFAP grant in the first year of Family Medicine.

(f) Specialist Residents - any year

Medical residents at the University of Manitoba or Manitoba graduates from the University of Manitoba Faculty of Medicine who are completing a specialist residency program in another Canadian or American university, in a specialty other than Family Medicine*, may apply for 2 grants:

- a grant of \$20,000 in any year other than the final year of postgraduate medical training, and/or
- a grant of \$20,000 in the final year of postgraduate medical training.

Upon completion of the postgraduate training program, they are required to return one (1) full year of service in Manitoba for each year they received a grant.

Residents must be enrolled in a Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) approved postgraduate medical training program, or other postgraduate medical training program as deemed appropriate by the Review Committee. Residents who elect to pursue additional postgraduate medical training immediately following the completion of a primary residency program may request a delay in the commencement of their return of service commitment by providing a letter of acceptance into the postgraduate medical training program. If available, a written offer of employment should

be provided, indicating that employment in Manitoba will begin upon completion of postgraduate medical training.

(g) Specialist Residents in sub-specialty training following completion of a primary residency program

Medical residents who will be entering sub-specialty medical training following the completion of their primary residency program in an approved specialty (not including Family Medicine unless participating in the NRFMS) may apply for financial assistance in the final year of their sub-specialty training. All decisions regarding eligibility for financial assistance during subspecialty training will be made by the Review Committee. Upon completion of the residency program, they are required to return one (1) full year of service in Manitoba.

NOTE: This option is available provided the physician has not received the maximum two awards in their postgraduate medical training unless participating in the NRFMS.

B. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th Year Undergraduates

Applicants must:

- Sign a service agreement committing to practice medicine in the Province of Manitoba upon completion of a residency program;
- Be eligible for registration in the medical undergraduate program at the University of Manitoba or in medical studies offered in French at the University of Ottawa for the upcoming academic year.

NOTE: Undergraduate 3s applying for \$25,000 grants are required to provide a separate signed letter expressing desire and commitment to return service in a rural community in the Province of Manitoba as well as a letter of support from anyone in a rural community.

Preference will be given to applicants who:

- Possess a rural background (i.e., having lived and/or worked in a rural area);

- Demonstrate a commitment to rural Manitoba through plans for residency training and medical practice in a rural area of the Province of Manitoba.

4th Year Undergraduates - Rural/Northern Initiative (RNI)

Applicants must:

- Sign a service agreement committing to practice medicine in rural or northern Manitoba upon completion of a residency program (location determined by the Review Committee and may be locum based);
- Be eligible for registration in fourth year of the medical undergraduate program at the University of Manitoba or in medical studies offered in French at the University of Ottawa for the upcoming academic year.

Preference will be given to applicants who:

- Plan to be registered in a Family Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Community Medicine, General Surgery, Anaesthesia, Psychiatry or Pediatrics residency.

Family Medicine, Specialist/Sub-Specialty Residents

Applicants must:

- Sign a service agreement committing to practice medicine in Manitoba upon completion of a medical residency program;
- Be registered in an eligible year of a residency program for the upcoming year.

Family Medicine - Northern/Remote Family Medicine Residency Stream (NRFMS)

Applicants must:

- Sign a service agreement committing to practice medicine in a northern remote community in Manitoba determined by the Review Committee upon completion of a medical residency program;
- Be registered in an eligible year of NRFMS for the upcoming year.

C. RETURN OF SERVICE

Recipients of financial assistance under the MSRFAP will return six (6) months or one (1) full year of service in the Province of Manitoba for each year in which financial assistance was received, unless participating in the NRFMS where they will return two (2) full years of service. Return of Service must commence within 90 days of completion of postgraduate training. Service must be returned without interruption.

PRACTICE ASSISTANCE OPTION (PAO)

A. Program Overview

Ten (10) new grants will be made available annually to eligible Family Medicine physicians who have set up practice in Manitoba. Should there be more than five (5) applicants for each rural and urban grant, grant money is divided equally amongst eligible applicants, up to a maximum of \$15,000 for one year of full-time work in urban Manitoba (defined as Winnipeg) and \$25,000 for one year of full-time work in rural Manitoba (everywhere else) to a maximum of one (1) grant. Applicants are eligible under the Practice Assistance Option for one (1) grant. If you received two (2) or more grants under the EAO you do not qualify under the PAO. The physician must practice medicine in that community or area in Manitoba for one (1) full year prior to receiving financial assistance under this program.

B. Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must:

- Be a graduate of a Canadian medical school.
- Have begun/established a new Family Medicine practice in the appropriate region (rural/urban) in Manitoba after June 2011.

- Have fulfilled all return of service commitments for the EAO by 2012 calendar year.
- Confirm in writing by completing the application that they did not receive two (2) or more grants for financial assistance under the Educational Assistance Option of the MSRFAP.
- Have maintained hospital privileges and participated in at least one hospital-based activity during the program year (activities include a regular ER shift, maternity service, or looking after patients in the hospital or a personal care home).
- Provide confirmation from the Medical Director of the Regional Health Authority/employer or appropriate employing authority that they have maintained a full-time Family Medicine clinical practice in the Province of Manitoba for the past twelve (12) months.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The Application Process applies to both EAO and PAO.

- Educational Assistance Option – Applications are available at the University of Manitoba Faculty of Medicine or at www.manitoba.ca/health/msrfap. Additional information is available from Manitoba Advanced Education and Literacy, Student Aid Branch at (204) 945-8509.
- Practice Assistance Option – Information and applications for the Practice Assistance Option are available from Manitoba Health at (204) 786-7179.