

**REPORT TO THE
DELAWARE HEALTH CARE COMMISSION**

**DELAWARE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH
DELAWARE INSTITUTE FOR DENTAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH
DELAWARE STATE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM**

**STUDENT PARTICIPANT AND LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM
PARTICIPANT TRACKING REPORT**

Report Excerpt: SLRP

FINDINGS

SLRP: The State Loan Repayment Program made 78 awards that were actually implemented (not declined or otherwise not begun). Of the 78, the award contract term has been completed for 60, 14 are still in progress, and 4 were terminated when the recipient left the State during the term. The completion of 60 out of the 64 that are not still in progress is a completion rate of 93.8%, which compares very favorably with the 71% completion percentage noted in one academic study.

Of the 74 awards made that were not declined or terminated, the number of awards made and implemented varied widely each year since the program beginning in FY2001. There was a low of 2 awards to a high of 15 awards. Physicians were the focus of the awards, receiving 44 (59.5%) of the 74 awards, and dentists receiving the next highest number with 14 (18.9%). Of the physicians, family practitioners and obstetrics/gynecology specialists received the most awards with 14 (18.9%) and 12 (16.2%) respectively.

Of those recipients who completed their service requirement, 81.7% remained to practice in the workforce supply shortage areas; 18.3% left the State afterward. Retention of physicians and dentists were both strong at 72.2% and 100.0%, respectively. Details of retention by category of provider are presented below. Although it is known that there are 81 loan repayment/forgiveness programs in the U.S., there are no known bases to compare the “productivity” of the Delaware SLRP with them.

Summary data follow:

DELAWARE STATE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM					
FY	LOAN AWARDS*	MD/DO	DDS/DMD	Mid-Level Practitioner	Capital
2001	1	1			
2002	1		1		
2003	3	2	1		
2004	2	1	1		
2005	3	3			
2006	5	4	1		
2007	8	4	1	2	1
2008	13	7	2	4	
2009	15	6	5	4	
2010	11	8	1	1	1
2011	8	5	1	1	1
2012	4	3		1	
TOTAL	74	44	14	13	3
* Not including awards terminated or declined or award extensions					

DELAWARE STATE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM																
FY	LOAN AWARDS*	Physicians								DDS/DMD	Mid-Level Practitioners					Capital
		Family Medicine	Internal Medicine	Med/Peds	Pediatrics	Ob/Gyn	FamMed/Ob	Oncologist	Psychiatrist		Certified Nurse Practitioner	Certified Nurse Midwife	Family Nurse Practitioner	Physician Assistant	Registered Dental Hygienist	
2001	1					1										
2002	1								1							
2003	3			1			1		1							
2004	2					1			1							
2005	3	1	1			1										
2006	5	1			1	2			1							
2007	8	2				1		1	1	2						1
2008	13	2	1			4			2	1	3					
2009	15	4	1		1				5	1	1	1	1			
2010	11	3	2		2	1			1	1						1
2011	8	2	1		2				1	1						1
2012	4	1		1											1	
TOTAL	74	16	6	2	6	11	1	1	1	14	6	4	1	1	1	3
* Not including awards terminated or declined or award extensions																

Retention of SLRP Recipients after Completion of Service, FY2001-2012					
Provider Type	Completed Service				Still in Progress
	Stayed		Left		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Physician	26	72.2%	10	27.8%	8
Dentist	13	100.0%	0	0.0%	4
Nurse Practitioner	5	83.3%	1	16.7%	1
Nurse Midwife	4	100.0%	0	0.0%	0
Physician Assistant	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	0
Dental Hygienist	0		0		1
TOTAL	49	81.7%	11	18.3%	14

CONCLUSIONS

The purpose of the SLRP program is to enhance recruitment of selected health care professionals to underserved areas of the State. The SLRP started somewhat slowly for its first several years, but has been more active in recent years. It appears to have been effective in making loan awards and doing so in a manner that has resulted in high percentage of award service commitments being completed and in achieving a high retention rate of the loan recipient health care providers after completion of the service commitment. This suggests that the SLRP is an effective and valuable component of the State's efforts to attract health care providers, especially when marketed and communicated well to potential applicants and with eligible employer organizations. Its potential to further support recruitment of health care providers to provide care in underserved areas of the State appears to be limited only by the availability of federal and State funds.