

OVERVIEW

Loan Repayment Programs

Loan repayment programs are authorized by the Texas Legislature to provide educational loan repayment assistance after a specific service is provided. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board administers seven loan repayment programs to recruit and retain individuals into certain professions the state determines are critical to fill or incentivize. Repayments are paid annually upon completion of the eligible service, contingent upon availability of funds. The seven loan repayment programs are:

- ✓ Physician Education Loan Repayment Program
- ✓ Dental Education Loan Repayment Program
- ✓ Children’s Medicaid Loan Repayment Program
- ✓ Border County Doctoral Faculty Education Loan Repayment Program
- ✓ Doctoral Incentive Loan Repayment Program
- ✓ Teach for Texas Loan Repayment Program
- ✓ Educational Loan Repayment Program for Attorneys Employed by the Office of the Attorney General

Physician Education Loan Repayment Program (PELRP)

Purpose

To encourage qualified physicians to practice medicine in a federally designated Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) of Texas and provide healthcare services to recipients enrolled in Medicaid, and the Texas Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible to receive loan repayment assistance, a physician must:

- ✓ Have completed one, two, three, or four consecutive service periods in a HPSA;
- ✓ During the service period, have provided direct patient care to Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program enrollees.
- ✓ For loan repayment based on the fourth service period, have earned certification from an American Specialty Board recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties or the Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists in a primary care specialty, or in a specialty other than primary care if the Department of State Health Services has determined a critical need for the applicant’s specialty in the HPSA where the practice is located.

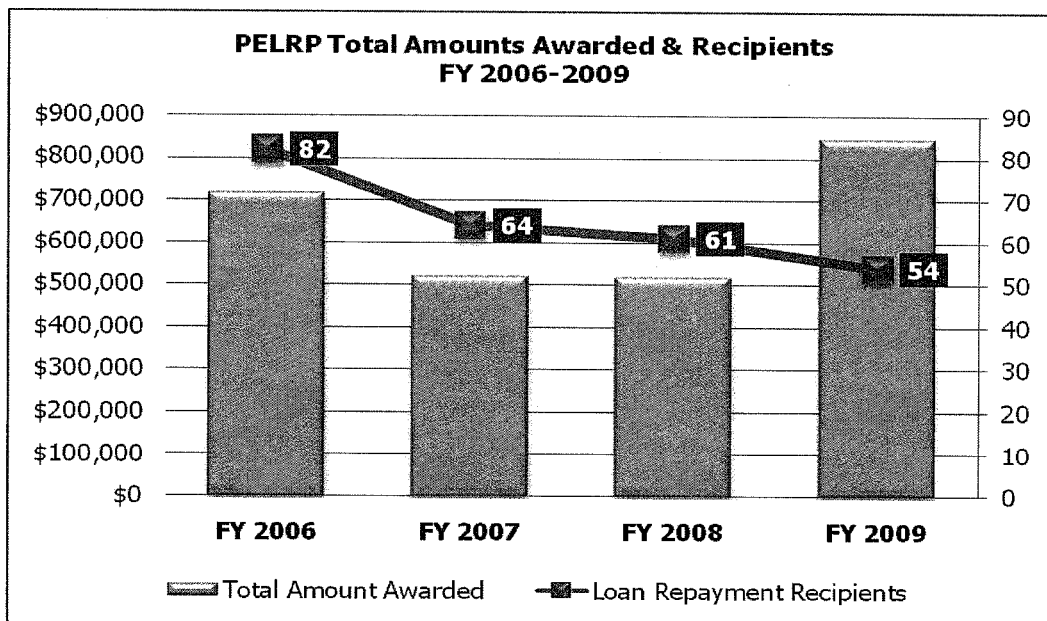
Award Amount

The maximum aggregate award amount is \$160,000. The PELRP is funded through a combination of state general revenue, tuition set-asides, and tobacco tax. Repayment amounts are based on the total eligible student loan debt at the time of acceptance into the program.

PELRP Repayment Amounts

Year	% of Total Eligible Debt	Maximum Award
First	16%	\$25,000
Second	22%	\$35,000
Third	28%	\$45,000
Fourth	34%	\$55,000

The total amounts awarded in each fiscal year from 2006 thru 2009 are shown in the bar chart included below. The increase in total amounts awarded is tied to the increase in tuition set-asides and other receipts, not increases in general appropriations. In 2009, 54 of the 65 applicants received PELRP awards. The number of recipients who received repayment assistance from FY 2006-2009 and the total amounts awarded are displayed below. In 2007, all applications were funded. In 2008 and 2009 an estimated 11 applications were unfunded, which included ineligible applicants.



Dental Education Loan Repayment Program (DELRP)

Purpose

The purpose of the DELRP is to recruit and retain qualified dentists to provide dental services in the areas of the state that are underserved with respect to dental care.

Eligibility Requirements

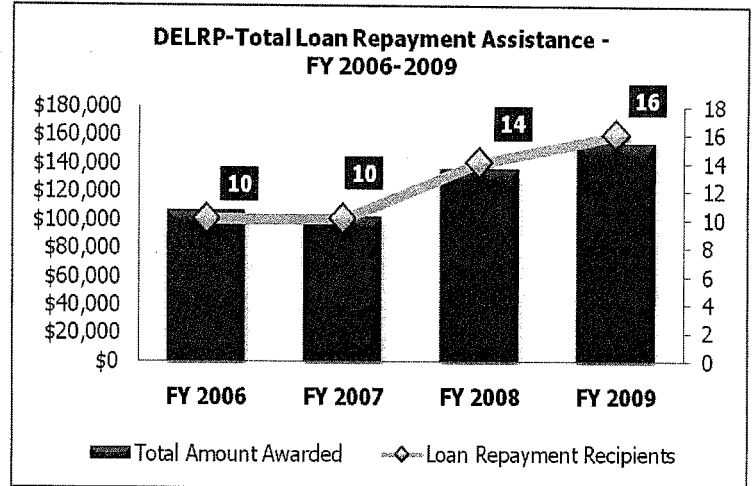
To be eligible for a DELRP, individuals must:

- ✓ Have a current license with no disciplinary action from the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners;
- ✓ Practice general or pediatric dentistry;
- ✓ Work at an approved practice site;
- ✓ Accept Medicaid assignments as full payment for services and not deny services based on a patient's inability to pay.

Dentists must practice in federally designated Dental Care Health Professional Shortage Areas (DHPSA) in Texas or federally funded community health centers for at least 12 consecutive months to be eligible for DELRP.

Award Amounts

The maximum annual loan repayment for an eligible dentist providing full-time service is \$10,000. A total of \$154,000 was awarded to 16 applicants in 2009. All eligible applicants received loan repayment assistance. The amount of available funding for the DELRP has met demand. The program is funded by state general revenue and tuition set-asides. Funding for the DELRP from the Legislature remained constant at \$106,477 each year from fiscal year 2006 through 2009. General revenue appropriation increased to \$216,477 for each year of the 2010-2011 biennium.



Children’s Medicaid Loan Repayment Program (CMLRP)

Purpose

The purpose of the CMLRP is to increase access to healthcare for Medicare-enrolled beneficiaries under the age of 21 by encouraging qualified primary care, specialty, and subspecialty physicians and dentists to participate in the Medicaid program.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the CMLRP, an applicant must:

- ✓ Have a license from the appropriate licensing board before applying. Subspecialists must have board certification or be eligible to sit for the applicable subspecialty board
- ✓ Have a Medicaid number before applying
- ✓ Have eligible outstanding loans
- ✓ Provide services for four continuous years and meet the appropriate target number of Medicaid visits to children under the age of 21 as listed in chart below for each 12-month service period

Target Number of Medicaid Visits for Children Under the Age of 21 (Average per month over a 2 month period)

Specialty/Subspecialty	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Family Physician, Internal Medicine and Ob/GYNs	50	80	150	150
Pediatrician	50	80	150	150
Subspecialists	15	24	45	45
General Dentists	50	75	100	100
Pediatric Dentists	50	75	100	100

Award Amounts

The maximum aggregate award per recipient is \$140,000. The CMLRP is funded by general revenue appropriation made to the Health and Human Services Commission. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board distributes the loan repayments to selected eligible applicants. A total of \$12 million will be available for approximately 300 awards for the first cohort in fall 2010.

**CMLRP Loan
Repayment by
Year**

Year 1: **\$40,000**

Year 2: **\$30,000**

Year 3: **\$40,000**

Year 4: **\$30,000**

Border County Doctoral Faculty Education Loan Repayment Program (BCDFELRP)

Purpose

The purpose of the BCDFELRP is to recruit and retain persons holding the doctorate as full-time faculty with instructional duties at Texas institutions of higher education located in counties that border Mexico.

Eligibility Requirements

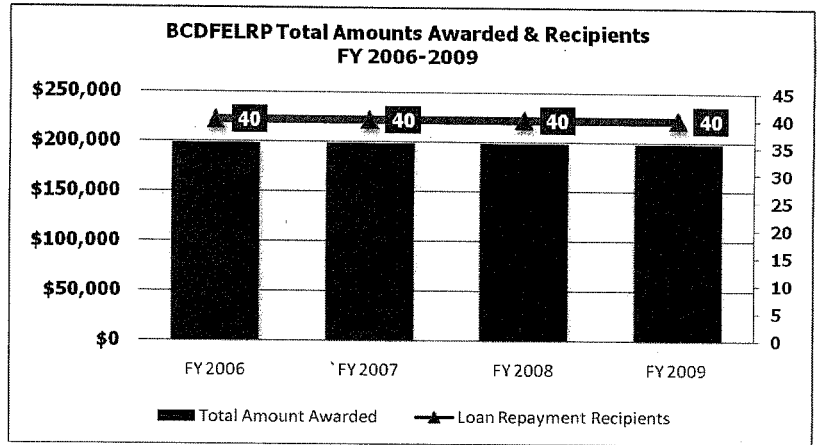
To be eligible for the BCDFELRP, an individual must meet the following requirements:

- ✓ Have received a doctoral degree on or after September 1, 1994, from a public or private independent institution of higher education or from an out-of-state institution that is accredited by a recognized accrediting agency
- ✓ Work full-time as a doctoral faculty member with instructional duties at an eligible institution located in a Texas county that borders Mexico (list of eligible institutions below)
- ✓ Work full-time as doctoral faculty with instructional duties in the approved institution for one academic year

Eligible Institutions Located in Counties that Border Mexico		
El Paso Community College	El Paso, TX	El Paso County
Laredo Community College	Laredo, TX	Webb County
South Texas College	McAllen, TX	Hidalgo County
Sul Ross State University	Alpine, TX	Brewster County
Texas State Technical College-Harlingen	Harlingen, TX	Cameron County
Texas Southmost College	Brownsville, TX	Cameron County
Texas A&M International University	Laredo, TX	Webb County
The University of Texas – Brownsville	Brownsville, TX	Cameron County
The University of Texas – El Paso	El Paso, Texas	El Paso County
The University of Texas – Pan American	Edinburg, TX	Hidalgo County

Award Amounts

The maximum annual state funded loan repayment for an eligible faculty member is \$5,000 for up to 10 years. In 2009, 40 of the 48 applicants received loan repayment assistance totaling \$197,813. The BCDELRP is funded through state general revenue.



Doctoral Incentive Loan Repayment Program (DILRP)

Purpose

The purpose of the DILRP is to attract members of underrepresented groups to full-time service on the faculties or administrations of public and private or independent institutions of higher education in Texas.

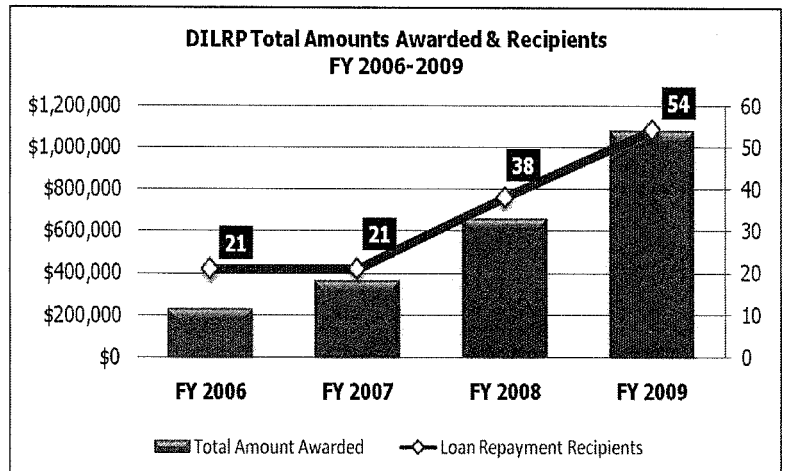
Eligibility Requirements

An individual must meet the following eligibility requirements to receive repayment assistance through the DILRP:

- ✓ Received a doctoral degree from a college or university that is accredited by a recognized accrediting agency
- ✓ Either graduated from or resided in an area in which the nearest high school was one from which only 50 percent or less of the graduating class enrolled in an institution of higher education following graduation or was classified as a low-income school.
- ✓ Qualify for need-based financial assistance while enrolled in a graduate-level degree program
- ✓ Have not been employed full-time as a faculty member or administrator with supervisory duties in an eligible institution for more than 12 months
- ✓ Have a full-time job offer as a faculty member or an administrator with supervisory duties from, or be negotiating a contract with, an eligible institution

Award Amounts

The maximum annual repayment amount is \$20,000 for the DILRP, with a \$100,000 lifetime total. Participation in the program is limited to five years. Annual loan repayments are disbursed after verification of eligible service for a complete academic year and are made co-payable to the participant and the holder of the loan. The DILRP is funded by tuition set-asides and general revenue appropriations.



Teach for Texas Loan Repayment Program (TFTLRP)

Purpose

The purpose of the TFTLRP is to recruit and retain classroom teachers in communities and subjects for which there is an acute shortage of teachers in Texas. The TFTLRP was first created by the Texas Legislature as the Teach for Texas Conditional Grant Program (2000) and the Teach for Texas Alternative Certification Conditional Grant Program (2002). Both programs were phased out by FY 2005 and converted to the TFTLRP. After the Coordinating Board underwent revision by the Sunset Advisory Commission in 2003, the Coordinating Board was directed to restructure conditional grant programs (also known as loan forgiveness programs) administered by the agency into loan repayment programs.

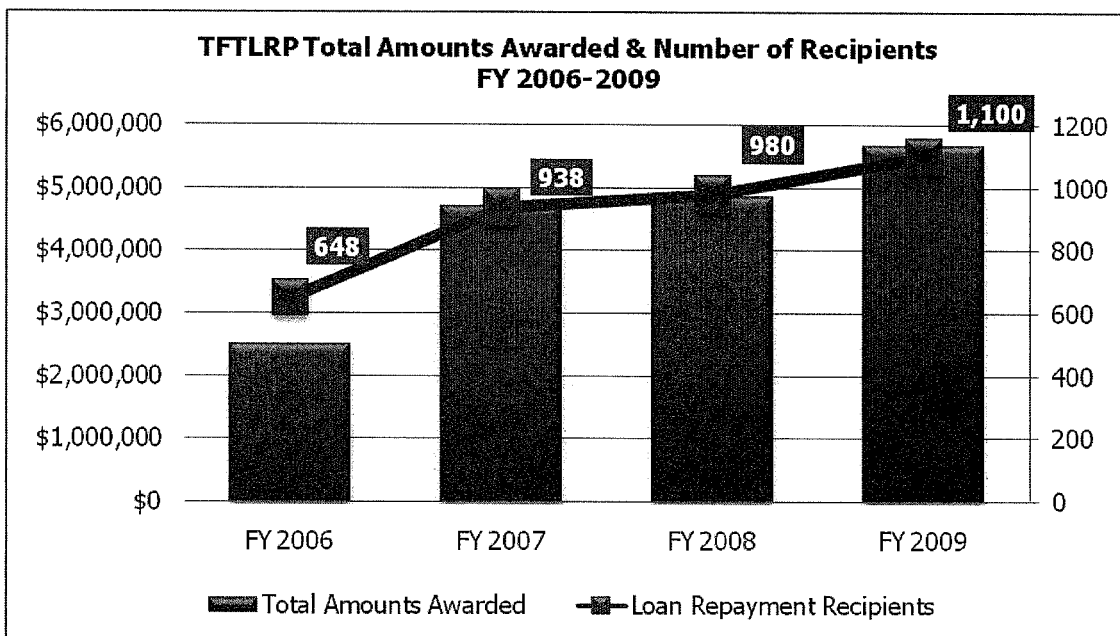
Eligibility Requirements

To receive repayment assistance through the TFTLRP, an individual must:

- ✓ Be currently teaching full-time at the preschool, primary, or secondary level in a Texas public school;
- ✓ Be certified in and teach full-time in a field identified by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) as experiencing a teacher shortage during the academic year for which the application is submitted; or
- ✓ Be certified and teach full-time at a campus identified by TEA as having a teacher shortage during the academic year for which the application is submitted.

Award Amounts

The maximum annual repayment amount is \$5,000, and the aggregate maximum is \$20,000. Participants are limited to five years of repayment assistance. Currently, the TFTLRP is funded by state general revenue and receipts from the TFT Conditional Grant Program. Amounts shown below include funds from these receipts.



Shortage campuses are determined upon receipt of application. Currently, TEA has identified the following as designated shortage fields:

- ✓ Mathematics
- ✓ Science
- ✓ Special Education
- ✓ Languages other than English
- ✓ Bilingual/English as a Second Language
- ✓ Technology Applications
- ✓ Digital Graphics
- ✓ Multimedia
- ✓ Video Technology
- ✓ Web Mastering
- ✓ Independent Study in Technology Applications
- ✓ Computer Science I and II
- ✓ Desktop Publishing

In 2009, 1,000 of 4,823 applicants received loan repayment assistance through the TFLRP. The total amount awarded was \$5,675,047. This program is oversubscribed and many eligible applicants are denied repayment assistance due to insufficient funds.

Educational Loan Repayment Program for Attorneys Employed by the Office of the Attorney General

Purpose

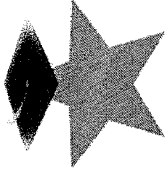
The purpose of this loan repayment program is to recruit and retain attorneys in the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) of the State of Texas.

Award Amounts

The maximum annual award for this program is \$6,000, and \$18,000 is the maximum aggregate award. In 2009, over \$321,000 was awarded to 95 of the 104 applicants. The first awards for this program were made in 2008. During the initial year, there were 104 repayment recipients and an estimated nine unfunded applications. The applications are accepted and recipients selected by the OAG. This program is funded through tuition set-asides and general revenue appropriations.

For more information:

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Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Loan Repayment Programs – Funding & Recipients 2009 & 2010

Authority	Physician Education Loan Repayment Program (PELRP)	Dental Education Loan Repayment Program (DELRP)	Children's Medicaid Loan Repayment Program (CMLRP)	Border County Doctoral Faculty Education Loan Repayment Program (BCDFELRP)	Doctoral Incentive Loan Repayment Program (DILRP)	Teach for Texas Loan Repayment Assistance Program (TFLRAP)	Education Loan Repayment Program for Attorneys Employed by the Office of the Attorney General (OAGLRP)
	Texas Education Code, §§61.531 - 61.540	Texas Education Code, §§61.901 - 61.910	HB 15, §19 and §20, 80th Legislature, Regular Session, 2007	Texas Education Code, §§61.701 - 61.708	Texas Education Code, §§56.091 - 56.096	Texas Education Code, §56.352	Texas Education Code, §§61.9721 - 61.9732
	<p>Repayment amounts are based on total eligible student loan debt at the time of acceptance into the program:</p> <p>Year 1 - 16% of total eligible debt with a maximum award of \$25,000</p> <p>Year 2 - 22% of total eligible debt with a maximum award of \$35,000</p> <p>Year 3 - 28% of total eligible debt with a maximum award of \$45,000</p> <p>Year 4 - 34% of total eligible debt with a maximum award of \$55,000</p>		<p>Repayment amounts are based on the total number of verified Medicaid visits:</p> <p>Year 1 - \$20,000 or \$40,000</p> <p>Year 2 - \$15,000 or \$30,000</p> <p>Year 3 - \$20,000 or \$40,000</p> <p>Year 4 - \$15,000 or \$30,000</p>				
Maximum Annual Award Amount		\$10,000		\$5,000	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$6,000

	Physician Education Loan Repayment Program (PELRP)	Dental Education Loan Repayment Program (DELRP)	Children's Medicaid Loan Repayment Program (CMLRP)	Border County Doctoral Faculty Education Loan Repayment Program (BCDFELRP)	Doctoral Loan Repayment Program (DILRP)	Teach for Texas Loan Repayment Assistance Program (TFTLRAP)	Educational Loan Repayment Program for Attorneys Employed by the Office of the Attorney General (OAGLRP)
Maximum Aggregate Amount	\$160,000	N/A	\$140,000	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$20,000	\$18,000
Total Amount Awarded in 2009	\$845,455	\$154,000	N/A	\$202,617	\$1,078,984	5,675,047	\$321,956
Number of 2009 Applicants	65	16	527	83	75	4823	104
Number of 2009 Recipients	54	16	N/A – First Cohort to be paid Fall 2010	40	54	≈ 1,100	95
Renewals - Number and Percentage for 2009	43 (80%)	11 (69%)	N/A	30 (75%)	25 (46%)	702 (64%)	66 (69%)
Estimated Funding for FY 2010	General Revenue: \$197,047 Unexpended Balance: \$1,692,916 Estimated Tuition Set-Asides: \$640,000 Estimated Tobacco Tax: \$6,489,136 Total: \$9,019,099	General Revenue: \$216,477 Unexpended Balance: \$131,768 Estimated Tuition Set-Asides: \$110,000 Total: \$458,245	Total (Health & Human Services Commission Transfer): \$12,000,000	Total (General Revenue): \$197,813	Unexpended Balance: \$474,623 Estimated Tuition Set-Asides: \$650,000 Total: \$1,124,623	General Revenue: \$5,771,443 (Less \$150,000 for UNT Alonzo Scholars) \$500,000 (Estimated Receipt from TFT Conditional Grant Payments) Total: \$6,121,443	Unexpended Balance: \$400,407 Estimated Tuition Set-Asides: \$150,000 Total: \$550,407

	Physician Education Loan Repayment Program (PELRP)	General Revenue: \$197,047 Estimated Tuition Set-Asides: \$640,000 Estimated Tobacco Tax: \$14,655,289 Total: \$15,492,336	Dental Education Loan Repayment Program (DELRP)	Children's Medicaid Loan Repayment Program (CMLRP)	Border County Doctoral Faculty Education Loan Repayment Program (BCDFELRP)	Doctoral Loan Repayment Program (DILRP)	Teach for Texas Loan Repayment Assistance Program (TFTLRAP)	Educational Loan Repayment Program for Attorneys Employed by the Office of the Attorney General (OAGLRP)
Estimated Funding for FY 2011		General Revenue: \$216,477 Estimated Tuition Set-Asides: \$110,000 Total: \$326,477	Total (Health and Human Services Commission Transfer): \$21,000,000	Total (General Revenue): \$197,813	Total: Estimated Tuition Set-Asides \$650,000	General Revenue: \$5,771,443 (Less \$150,000 for UNT Alonzo Scholars) \$500,000 (Estimated Receipts from TFT Conditional Grant Payments.) Total: \$6,121,443	Total: Estimated Tuition Set-Asides \$150,000	