

1. I am a medical doctor but not a psychiatrist. Am I eligible for the DANY OMH Psychiatrist Loan Repayment Program (DANY OMH PLRP)?

No. Only psychiatrists working at OMH facilities are eligible for the DANY OMH PLRP.

2. Is there a due date for applications to be submitted?

No, applications will be accepted continuously and are reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis.

3. What if I am already working in an OMH facility, am I eligible to apply?

It depends: If your employment began on or after March 30, 2013, you are eligible.

4. Are Resident Physicians eligible to apply if still in a residency or fellowship program?

Yes, however, your service obligation and loan repayment period will not begin until you are appointed to a full-time psychiatrist position at an OMH facility.

5. Are part-time psychiatrists eligible to participate in DANY OMH PLRP?

No. To be eligible, psychiatrists must work at least 40 hours per week, which must include at least 32 clinical hours.

6. Is an electronic signature acceptable?

Yes.

7. Are funds received from DANY OMH PLRP taxable?

No. Loan repayment funds under the DANY OMH PLRP are exempt from Federal and State Taxes.

8. Does OMH directly pay off student loan creditors?

No. You still have to make your own payments to your student loan creditors.

9. Do funds go directly to the psychiatrist?

Yes, DANY OMH PLRP funds are issued directly to the psychiatrist.

10. What is the payment schedule?

Awardees may receive up to \$120,000 over three years, payable upon execution of the contract between the psychiatrist and DOH; verification of the psychiatrist's qualifying educational debt; and semi-annual employment verification reports showing the psychiatrist has completed the minimum service obligation at the awarded site. Payments will be processed through the New York State Office of the Comptroller. Payments will be made every six months, subject to available funding, as follows:

Payment 1 (Year 1): 1/6 of total qualified debt not to exceed \$20,000;
Payment 2 (Year 1): 1/6 of total qualified debt not to exceed \$20,000;
Payment 3 (Year 2): 1/6 of total qualified debt not to exceed \$20,000 ;
Payment 4 (Year 2): 1/6 of total qualified debt not to exceed \$20,000;
Payment 5 (Year 3): 1/6 of total qualified debt not to exceed \$20,000;
Payment 6 (Year 3): 1/6 of total qualified debt not to exceed \$20,000.

11. Can awards be applied retroactively?

No

12. Is the psychiatrist required to remain in the same OMH facility for their entire service obligation period?

Generally, yes. Under certain circumstances, reassignments to other OMH facilities are possible at the Commissioner's discretion.

13. Can I qualify if I have already paid my student loans in full?

No. You must be able to provide current student loan debt information.

14. How will I know if my application has been received?

You will be notified by email from OMH that your application has been received.

15. How will I know if my application has been approved?

All applicants awarded DANY OMH PLRP funds will be notified by email and/or U.S. mail.

16. What happens if I cannot fulfill my service obligation to OMH as required by the program?

Significant penalties may be imposed in the event the applicant cannot fulfill their service obligation.

Obligated psychiatrists who need to defer their service obligations (e.g., for maternity/paternity leave, military service, etc.) must request permission from OMH in writing 30 days prior to the requested date of deferral. The decision to permit a deferral will be solely at the discretion of OMH; any deferral periods granted by OMH will be added to the obligated clinician's term of obligation.



17. Can I withdraw my application?

Yes, an applicant may withdraw an application at any time by notifying OMH in writing. An applicant who receives an award but is subsequently unable to fulfill the requirements of the award or resulting contract also must notify OMH in writing.

18. Who do I contact if I have additional questions?

You can email DANY@omh.ny.gov for DANY OMH PLRP questions only.