

**WEST VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY COMMISSION
MEDICAL STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM**

APPLICATION

ELIGIBILITY:

In order to be eligible for this loan, an applicant must meet the following minimum requirements:

- a) Full-time enrollment in an approved state medical school in a program leading to the degree of Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) or Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O.) provided that the individual has not yet received one of these degrees.
- b) West Virginia residency as determined by the institution in accordance with the Commission rule on "Classification of Students for Admission and Fee Purposes."
- c) Financial need as determined by the institution's financial aid office.
- d) Must not be in default of any previous student loan.
- e) Must be in good academic standing in keeping with the institutional policy for awarding Title IV financial aid funds.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION:

A student must apply for the loan utilizing WVSOM's standard application process each year (FAFSA and WVSOM financial aid application along with this application). The deadline for applying for this loan for returning students is April 1.

Any student applying for a loan must use his or her social security number when submitting an application. The social security number will be used to verify a student's identity, track applications, authorize loans and verify enrollment and good student status, and track fund disbursement and loan repayment. A student who fails to provide a social security number will not be eligible for a loan.

WVSOM shall select the recipients of the loans. The number of loans will be determined by the availability of funds in the program at each school in any given academic year. Awards will be processed without regard to age, gender, race, disability, national origin, veteran's status or religion.

LOAN AMOUNTS:

Effective July 1, 2004, the maximum annual amount for an individual loan shall be \$10,000.

LOAN REPAYMENT:

The rate of interest charged on all outstanding loans awarded on or after September 7, 2002 shall be the prevailing Federal Stafford Loan interest rate at the beginning of the repayment period and shall accrue, except for periods of authorized deferment, from the beginning of the repayment period.

A borrower shall be allowed a maximum of ten (10) years to repay the loan (principal and interest). Periods of authorized deferment (approved additional medical training, including internships, residencies, or fellowships, or required military service, not to exceed five years) are not included as part of the ten-year repayment period. However, the minimum repayment amount shall be no less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) per month.

The first payment shall not be due and payable until one (1) year following the date that the borrower graduates from a school of medicine eligible to participate in the Medical Student Loan Program. Payments are not due for periods of authorized deferment.

If the borrower discontinues the study of medicine, loans made together with accrued interest thereon shall be due and payable beginning sixty (60) days from the date of last enrollment.

There shall be no penalty for early repayment of the loan.

In the event of a borrower's death, unpaid indebtedness remaining on the note (principal and interest) shall be cancelled.

MASTER PROMISSORY NOTE:

The master promissory note shall be an open ended note. All subsequent release of funds shall be recorded on this promissory note.

LOAN FORGIVENESS:

A borrower may receive cancellation and forgiveness of the outstanding principal and accumulated interest on the loan in return for the actual performance of full-time service in West Virginia as a physician (M.D. or D.O.) in an approved designated medically underserved area or in an approved designated medical specialty in which there is a shortage of physicians.

The borrower shall receive cancellation and forgiveness of the outstanding principal for sums not to exceed \$5,000 plus accumulated interest during each twelve (12) consecutive months of full-time practice. No forgiveness shall be granted for less than twelve (12) consecutive months of full-time practice.

Further details on loan forgiveness are provided on the master promissory note.

EXIT INTERVIEW:

An exit interview shall be required by the school at the time the borrower graduates or otherwise terminates enrollment. At that time, the borrower's rights and responsibilities under the loan fund shall be discussed. Borrowers shall be obligated during the period the loan is active to maintain a current address record with the financial affairs office of WVSOM.

DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS:

Loan funds in this program will be disbursed by the respective school. Typically, funds will be disbursed in two (2) installments, one-half of the annual loan at the beginning of each semester.

In order to be considered for the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission Medical Student Loan Program in 2010-2011, please complete the following information and return it to the Financial Aid Office immediately.

NAME (print please)

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS

SIGNATURE

DATE

CLASS OF: _____

PROGRAM IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE BY THE WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE