



April 14, 2023

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am pleased to share that the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) will soon launch its 2023 [Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Loan Repayment Program](#) (STAR LRP) application cycle.

HRSA's STAR LRP allows substance use disorder (SUD) workers to focus on helping their communities fight epidemics like the opioid crisis without the burden of having to worry about their student loan debt.

The STAR LRP provides up to \$250,000 to eligible health professionals in exchange for a 6-year, full-time service commitment at a STAR-approved facility. The STAR LRP program:

- Supports interdisciplinary SUD treatment teams;
- Complements other SUD loan repayment programs, including National Health Service Corps programs;
- Includes multiple SUD treatment provider disciplines working at a range of eligible SUD treatment facility types; and
- Accepts eligible U.S. citizens, nationals, and permanent residents with a nonconditional Permanent Resident Card (green card).

STAR LRP funding recipients will be able to repay their educational loans while working in a full-time SUD treatment position that involves direct patient care either in:

- A Mental Health Health Professional Shortage Area, or
- A county (or a municipality, if not contained within any county) where the drug overdose death rate is above the most current national average. This is defined as the rate per 100,000 people over the past three years, as reported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Additional information, including application and discipline and facility eligibility details, will be available on our [website](#).

Last year, HRSA awarded more than \$22 million for 208 loan repayments to all eligible providers.

**I ask for your help in sharing this opportunity widely** with the health care facilities in your communities; many of them are automatically STAR LRP-approved facilities and others are [eligible for approval](#). As approved facilities, their eligible SUD treatment providers can apply for this funding opportunity.

If you have questions, please reach out to your [HRSA regional points-of-contact](#). Thank you very much for your consideration of this program.

Sincerely,

/s/

Luis Padilla, M.D.  
Associate Administrator, Bureau of Health Workforce