

Alaska SHARP Program

FAQs for SHARP-II

THINKING ABOUT APPLYING?

- 1. Q. If I am interested in applying in the second round of SHARP-II applications, does this mean I can't apply for other support for service programs?**

A: All SHARP-II applicants are welcome to apply for support-for-service benefits elsewhere, as well, and are encouraged to do so. However, no clinician is allowed to actually participate in more than one support-for-service program (e.g. loan repayment) concurrently. That is, "double-dipping" is disallowed, by SHARP, by the National Health Service Corps, and by virtually all other similar opportunities (e.g. Indian Health Service).

- 2. Q. What eligible practitioner categories are available in SHARP-II?**

A: Tier-I:

- Doctor of Allopathic Medicine (M.D.)
- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.)
- Dentist (D.D.S. or D.M.D.)
- Pharmacist

Tier-II:

- Nurse Practitioner
- Physician Assistant
- Registered Clinical Dental Hygienist
- Clinical or Counseling Psychologist (Ph.D. or equivalent)
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker (master's or doctorate in social work)
- Registered Nurse (R.N.)
- Physical Therapist

- 3. Q. What is the maximum award per year for SHARP-II loan repayment recipients?**

A: For regular positions:

- Tier I: \$35,000
- Tier II: \$20,000

For very hard-to-fill positions:

- Tier I: \$47,000

- Tier II: \$27,000

Part-time positions are calculated at 50 percent of the above amounts.

4. Q. Are chiropractors eligible clinicians in the SHARP-II program?

A: No, chiropractors are not considered a primary care occupation and thus are not eligible for either SHARP-I or SHARP-II.

5. Q. Will the SHARP Program pair up applicants with eligible practice sites?

A: No. It is the applicant's responsibility to find a job. The SHARP Website contains a link to some of those sites seeking clinicians, but it is by no means exhaustive. Here is the link to some of those sites seeking clinicians:

<http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/HealthPlanning/Pages/sharp/match.aspx>

6. Q. I am a still early in my school program for becoming a clinician and I am interested in the SHARP program! Do you have any advice for me about the best approach to "getting noticed"?

A: By far, the best approach is to begin your search now for suitable employment in Alaska. You still have considerable time to line-up your options. This means finding an (eligible) employer in Alaska, probably in rural or remote Alaska, and most likely though not necessarily, in a "safety-net" type of healthcare organization.