

CHAPTER 35. COMMUNITY MATCH INTERN RESIDENT PROGRAM

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540:35-1-1. Purpose

The Community Matching Intern/Resident Program (AKA Physician Community Match Program) provides financial assistance to physicians establishing practice in selected Oklahoma communities. *A community may enter into a contract with a physician who is a graduate from an accredited medical school and who is licensed by the State of Oklahoma, whereby such physician agrees to establish a practice in that community.*
[70:697.18]

[**Source:** Added at 15 Ok Reg 1780, eff 5-11-98]

540:35-1-2. Statutory administration

The Community Match Intern Resident Program, also known as the Physician Community Match Program, shall be administered by the Physician Manpower Training Commission under the provisions of Section 625.13 of 70 O.S. 1992. The Physician Manpower Training Commission shall have the authority to receive funds direct from that community for the purpose of paying the physician involved to the extent of the contractual arrangement.

[**Source:** Added at 15 Ok Reg 1780, eff 5-11-98]

540:35-1-3. Power to grant loans

The Physician Manpower Training Commission shall be authorized and empowered to grant loans to qualified individuals who have completed a degree of Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, and who have completed an intern/residency program in a primary care specialty (Family Practice, General Practice, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, OB/GYN, Emergency Medicine, or General Surgery), or other specialty as approved by the Commission on an individual basis. The loans shall be provided through participation with communities considered by

the Physician Manpower Training Commission to be medically underserved. Priority shall be given to underserved rural communities with a population of less than 10,000, which qualify under the current rules approved by the Commission and State Legislature. Assistance shall be on a matching basis between state and community (50%-50%). The Physician Manpower Training Commission shall reserve the right to disapprove an application.

[Source: Added at 15 Ok Reg 1780, eff 5-11-98]

540:35-1-4. Terms and conditions of loans

(a) Recipients shall agree to practice medicine in the specific community for a minimum of three years for a \$40,000 loan, or two years for a \$20,000 loan. Communities shall deposit the funds with the Physician Manpower Training Commission to be administered and matched by the Commission.

(b) The procedures, terms and conditions governing the loans and how they are administered shall be as prescribed and formulated by the Physician Manpower Training Commission but shall include the following:

(1) Eligible communities desiring to participate in the Oklahoma Community Match Intern Resident Program, shall select an individual who meets the requirements for participating and give notice to the Commission.

(2) The Commission shall aid and advise communities in the selection of qualified individuals to participate in a given community loan program.

(3) The communities shall deposit their total share, 50%, of the loan with the Commission a minimum of 30 days prior to the participating physician's initial practice date in the community.

(4) The Commission shall review and approve the selection of a given individual and then (based on availability of funds) match community funds with the state funds from the Oklahoma Community Match Intern Resident Program in the amount agreed upon by the participating physician, the Commission, and the community in each particular case, within limits prescribed by the Commission.

(c) The Contract shall provide that in the event the recipient breaches the terms of the contract by not serving the designated community for the specified period of time, he/she shall pay liquidated damages in an amount determined by the Commission and representing a reasonable estimate of the damage or loss to the community or the state. Said damages shall not exceed one hundred percent (100%) of the principal. After payment of the liquidated damages, repayment of the principal and interest shall be made as agreed upon by the Commission and the recipient.

[Source: Added at 15 Ok Reg 1780, eff 5-11-98]

540:35-1-5. Eligibility and amount

(a) An applicant may be eligible for the Community Match Intern Resident Program when the following conditions are met:

- (1) That the physician has not previously received Physician Manpower Training Commission money, either through the Oklahoma Rural Medical Education Scholarship Loan Program, the Community Match Intern Resident Program, the Community Physician Education Scholarship Loan Program, or the Family Practice/General Practice Resident Rural Scholarship Program.
- (2) That he/she has successfully completed an accredited medical or osteopathic college and an approved internship or residency program in a primary care specialty (Family Practice, General Practice, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, OB/GYN, General Surgery or Emergency Medicine) or other specialties as approved by the Commission on an individual basis.
- (3) That he/she desires to practice medicine in a specific Oklahoma community which participates in the "matching" program.
- (4) That he/she submits proof which states that he/she has not accepted or will not accept any other assistance which has a conflicting service obligation requirement.
- (5) That the physician possesses a valid license to practice medicine in the State of Oklahoma at the time he/she actually receives the matching funds.
- (6) That the physician has conformed to requirements stipulated in the contract.

(b) The amount of each loan shall not exceed Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000).

(c) The method of payment of funds to each recipient will be in lump sum by the Commission, payable upon the recipient's beginning his/her practice in the applicable community, providing that said recipient has met requirements stipulated in the contract.

[Source: Added at 15 Ok Reg 1780, eff 5-11-98]

540:35-1-6. Procedures for administering loans

The Commission shall promulgate and adopt procedures as may be necessary to carry out the administration of the program. The Commission shall delineate the following procedures:

- (1) **Promulgation of information concerning loans.** Each medical and osteopathic physician enrolled in a primary care intern residency program in the State of Oklahoma shall be notified concerning the loans by the Physician Manpower Training Commission.

- (2) **Applications.** All interested individuals shall file an application with the Physician Manpower Training Commission. This application can be submitted at any time during the year. A copy of the application is available in the office of the Physician Manpower Training Commission.
- (3) **Matching with a town.** The Physician Manpower Training Commission shall work with the eligible physician who has submitted an application to find an eligible community which desires to fund monies for that particular individual on a cost sharing basis with the State of Oklahoma.
- (4) **Approval of loan by the Commission.** The Oklahoma Community Match Intern Resident Program may be awarded at any Commission meeting throughout the year. The individual and spouse along with representatives from the community, may appear before the Commission to be interviewed.

[Source: Added at 15 Ok Reg 1780, eff 5-11-98]

540:35-1-7. Repayment of loans

(a) Each recipient shall repay the loan to the state and to the community by practicing medicine in the community in Oklahoma providing the initial funds at a minimum of two years for Twenty Thousand Dollars or three years for Forty Thousand Dollars which the community and the state have jointly financed for the recipient; provided, however, that the recipient will be given no credit for payment, repayment and reduction of said obligation to the community and the state by serving the given community for a period of less than one year.

(b) Repayment of the total amount of the loan, plus principal, interest, litigation charges, and liquidated damages as assessed by the Physician Manpower Training Commission, upon failure of the recipient to fulfill his/her contractual obligations, shall be made to the state fund. This loan repayment will be shared with the participating community in accordance with the percentage and total amounts contributed by the state and by the community to the matching fund program and in accordance with the provisions of the contract requirements delineated by the Physician Manpower Training Commission.

(c) Monies received by the Commission in repayment of loans granted from appropriated funds shall be deposited with the State Treasurer who shall place the same to the credit of the Commission in a depository fund. All monies so collected and deposited in the State Treasury as aforesaid shall not be subject to fiscal limitations, and the unexpended balance shall at all times be available for expenditures for the purposes and in the manner and form provided by this act. All funds and property, and income therefrom, received by the Commission through the acceptance of gifts, grants, bequests, or devise shall be held by the Commission in trust and may be sold,

transferred, invested and reinvested by the Commission in accordance with the provisions of the Oklahoma Trust Act, and all such funds and property and income therefrom shall be used by the Commission in fulfilling and accomplishing the conditions and purposes of the program.

[Source: Added at 15 Ok Reg 1780, eff 5-11-98]

540:35-1-8. Annual reports to Governor and Legislature

The Commission shall make an annual report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House and the Senate Pro Tempore on the activities of the Commission. This report shall include the names of the recipients of the loans, the amount of the loans awarded, an accounting of the funds expended on loans and on the administration of the program and a budget requesting the funds necessary for the operation of the Commission. The report shall also include an accounting of repayments by recipients whether by services or in cash including principal, interest and liquidated damages.

[Source: Added at 15 Ok Reg 1780, eff 5-11-98]

540:35-1-9. Applicant contracts

Each applicant, before being granted a loan, shall enter into a contract with the Commission agreeing to the terms and conditions upon which the loan shall be granted to him/her. Said contract shall include such terms and provisions as will carry out the full purpose and intent of the Oklahoma Community Matching Intern Resident Program; the form, therefore, shall be prepared and approved by the Attorney General. Said contracts shall be signed by the Executive Director on behalf of the Commission and by the applicant. The Commission is vested with full and complete authority and power to sue in its own name any applicant for any balance due the Commission on any contract. The Commission shall have authority to cancel any contract made between it and any recipient upon cause deemed sufficient by the Commission. Copies of the Oklahoma Community Matching Intern Resident Program contracts are available in the office of the Physician Manpower Training Commission.

[Source: Added at 15 Ok Reg 1780, eff 5-11-98]

