

<https://www.vacareers.va.gov/Benefits/EducationSupport/#scholarships>

Help to Pursue New Heights

>Scholarships

>Health Professional Scholarship Program (HPSP)

Health Professional Scholarship Program

Provides financial assistance to students receiving education or training in a direct or indirect health-care services discipline (Title 38 and Hybrid Title 38 occupations); and assists in providing an adequate supply of such personnel for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). HPSP helps the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) meet its need for qualified healthcare professionals for which recruitment or retention is difficult.

Each year the VA assesses the needs based off the annual workforce data. To see the specialties eligible for scholarships see the HPSP portal listed below.

HPSP now awards scholarships to Medical Officers (Medical School Students) to meet requirement introduced as part of the VA Mission Act of 2018. Program details are as follows:

- VA's Health Professionals Scholarship Program provides scholarships to medical students in exchange for service at VA.
- Includes tuition, fees, books and equipment, and a stipend for 2 to 4 years with an obligation of 18 months of service for each year of support.
- Applicants must agree to specialize in a field applicable to VA and are required to complete training leading to licensure and board eligibility. (Pediatrics is not applicable)
- Minimum number of scholarships is 50 annually, or 10% of VA's physician shortage when that number falls below 500.

Eligibility

- Eligible applicants must be enrolled in, or accepted for enrollment in, an academic program located in the United States that prepares graduates to meet the VA qualification standards for employment in the occupations listed above.
- Applicants must be citizens of the United States and pass a background investigation.

Covered Expenses

- Full-time students:
 - Tuition, authorized required fees, stipend, and annual education expense payment
 - 4 years to complete education
- Part-time students (current VA employees only):
 - Tuition, authorized required fees, stipend, and annual education expense payment (Award amounts are based on ratio of full-time attendance)
 - 6 years to complete education

Service Obligation

- Upon completing their educational program and licensure/certification, participants work as permanent, full-time VA employees in the occupations for which the scholarship was awarded
- Participant service obligation: Full-time student – 2 to 3 years; Part-time student – 1 to 3 years
- Physician - 18 month service obligation for each year of support.
- Participants sign a Mobility Agreement to relocate at their own expense if required to fulfill their service obligation

Application Process

- Visit HPSP's Scholarship Portal. The portal is open year-round, and you can find out more information about HPSP and apply to available scholarships. The portal can be found here: <https://va-ams-info.intelliworx.com/>
- If you have questions, contact us at HPSPTeam@va.gov