Loan Repayment Programs

Supporting Scientific Discovery

RESEARCHERS: NIH will repay your qualified student loan debt

Reduce your educational debt:

As a qualified researcher, you may be eligible to apply to one of the NIH Loan Repayment Programs (LRPs). By accepting an LRP award, you will join efforts to enhance the quality and diversity of the scientific community. An LRP award can also provide you significant relief from your financial burden and allow you to focus on your career as a research scientist.

Approximately 1,500 researchers benefit from the more than $70 million the NIH invests in the LRPs each year. Undergraduate, graduate, medical, and other health professional school loans qualify for repayment. NIH funding for your research is not required to participate.
Apply to one of five NIH Loan Repayment Programs:

- Clinical Research
- Pediatric Research
- Health Disparities Research
- Contraception & Infertility Research
- Clinical Research for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds

Why apply?

- NIH will repay up to $70,000 of your qualified educational debt with a two-year award
- Build a solid foundation for your research career with a reduced educational debt burden
- Stay focused on a career in a nonprofit research environment
- An average of 40% of new LRP applications are funded for two-year awards
- All LRP applications are competitively evaluated

LRP basic* eligibility:

- U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or permanent resident
- Doctoral degree (except Contraception & Infertility Research LRP)
- Domestic, nonprofit research funding (e.g., university or government)
- Qualified research for at least 20 hours/week

*Visit our website to learn more about eligibility