

Army Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP)

Facts for Medical School

Medical Student Debt (educationdata.org)

- The average medical school debt is \$215,900 of debt. Tuition at public medical schools is continuing to rise.
- \$223,100 was the average medical school debt owed by 2016 graduates
- The average medical student debt will **exceed \$300,000 by 2024** if debt continues to outpace the cost of attendance at the present rate.

The HPSP program offers medical students the opportunity to receive a full tuition scholarship and a generous monthly stipend in exchange for future service as an Army physician.

Benefits of the HPSP Program

- Students receive full tuition and required fees at any accredited US medical school located within the continental US, Hawaii, Alaska or Puerto Rico.
- Books and most other educational fees are also covered under the HPSP scholarship.
- An annual salary of approx. \$30,000 which includes
 - A monthly stipend of **\$2,608/monthly** for 10 ½ months
 - Second Lieutenant for the remaining 45 days, during their active duty tour (ADT).
- **\$20,000 signing bonus** for students who receive a 4 year HPSP scholarship. Likewise, 3 year scholarship participants can receive the signing bonus if they agree to a 4 year commitment.

When to Apply?

- For 4 year scholarships, the best time to apply is when you are applying to medical schools.
- Students already in medical school applying for 3 year scholarships should apply immediately.
- Scholarships are awarded on a rolling basis (throughout the year); early application maximizes opportunity for selection.

Academic Criteria

- Applicants must have a minimum 3.2 undergraduate GPA and 500 MCAT score with a minimum score of 124 on each of the subsections.

Service Obligation

- 3 year HPSP recipients have a 3 year service obligation; 4 years if elected to receive the signing bonus.
- 4 year HPSP recipients have a 4 year service obligation; no additional time is added for election of the signing bonus.
- Payback of educational commitment begins after completion of graduate medical education training/ residency.
- Time spent in a military residency or fellowship programs receive full military pay and benefits and count towards retirement.

Who Can Apply?

- Applicants must be accepted or enrolled in a medical school accredited by either the Association of American Medical Colleges (MD schools) or American Osteopathic Association (DO schools) located within the continental US, Hawaii, Alaska or Puerto Rico.
- Must be U.S. citizens; cannot have dual citizenship.
- Applicants must be able to physically qualify for commissioning as an Army officer.

Participation in the Program

- The student's #1 priority while enrolled in the HPSP program is to dedicate themselves to their studies. Students are not expected to wear their uniforms to class.
- Students who are enrolled in the HPSP program also participate in specialized military training programs designed to help orient participants to Army medicine; these are known as Active Duty Training or ADTs over summer if their program allows enough time to complete the training.
 - Students are placed on ADT orders for 45 days for each year of participation. During that 45 day period, the students may attend training programs such as Direct Commissioning Course (DCC), Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC) or training at an Army hospital.
 - DCC at Fort Sill, OK, This 4 week course is an introduction training similar to basic training aka Boot Camp.
 - BOLC at Fort Sam Houston, TX. This 6-8 week course is more Corps specific training as an Army officer and leader.

Army Graduate Medical Education (GME)

- **Largest** graduate medical educational program within all the military branches, encompassing all the medical specialties.
- The Army has training at 11 hospitals and three institutes.
 - Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Washington, D.C.
 - San Antonio Military Medical Center, San Antonio, TX
 - Darnell Army Medical Center, Killeen, TX
 - DeWitt Army Community Hospital, Alexandria, VA
 - Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Augusta, GA
 - Institute of Surgical Research, San Antonio, TX
 - Keller Army Community Hospital, West Point, NY
 - Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma, WA
 - Martin Army Community Hospital, Columbus, GA
 - Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, HI
 - Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Silver Spring, MD
 - Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Bethesda MD
 - William Beaumont Army Medical Center, El Paso, TX
 - Womack Army Medical Center, Fayetteville, NC
- All Army Hospitals are accredited by The Joint Commission, the nation's largest accrediting agency in healthcare.
- HPSP participants apply for the First Year of Graduate Medical Education (FYGME) and civilian match.
 - **Historically, about 80-90% of HPSP students will match to an Army program, and about 77-85% will match to their first or second choice program.**
- Army residency programs offer training in:
 - aerospace medicine, anesthesiology, dermatology, emergency medicine, family medicine, general surgery, internal medicine, neurology and child neurology, neurosurgery, obstetrics/ gynecology, ophthalmology, orthopedics, otolaryngology, pathology, pediatrics, physical medicine and rehabilitation, preventive medicine/ occupational medicine, psychiatry, radiation oncology, radiology, urology.

The Army does not deploy its residents or fellows, however there are opportunities to participate in humanitarian missions which have included Mongolia, Kenya, Honduras, and the Philippines, to name a few.