

Pediatric Specialty Loan Repayment Program

	FY 2012 Enacted	FY 2013 Annualized CR	FY 2014 President's Budget	FY 2014 +/- FY 2012
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Authorizing Legislation: Public Health Service Act, Section 775, as added by sec. 5401, P.L. 111-148

FY 2014 Authorization\$30,000,000

Allocation Method Competitive Awards to Individuals

Program Description

The Pediatric Specialty Loan Repayment Program (PSLRP) was created in the Affordable Care Act (Sec. 5203) to provide loan repayment to individuals in return for delivering pediatric medical subspecialty, pediatric surgical specialty, or child and adolescent mental and behavioral health care, including substance abuse prevention and treatment services, in an area with a shortage of the specified pediatric subspecialty that has a sufficient pediatric population to support such pediatric subspecialty. Maximum loan repayment award is \$35,000 per year with a minimum length of service of two years and a maximum of three years participation in the program; service may be in either a HPSA or medically-underserved area/population (MUA/P). Funding priorities are to be given to applicants who “(1) are or will be working in a school or other pre-kindergarten, elementary, or secondary education setting; (2) have familiarity with evidence-based methods and cultural and linguistic competence health care services; and (3) demonstrate financial need.”

Funding History

FY	Amount
FY 2010	---
FY 2011	---
FY 2012	---
FY 2013	---
FY 2014	\$5,000,000

Budget Request

The FY 2014 Budget Request is \$5,000,000. The FY 2014 Request is \$5,000,000 above the FY 2012 Enacted level.

Research has indicated that there is a significant shortage of pediatric subspecialists, resulting in children with serious illnesses being forced to travel long distances – or wait for several months – to see a pediatric specialist. In order to strengthen the pediatric workforce, the FY 2014 budget provides \$5 million for the Pediatric Specialty Loan Repayment Program (PSLRP).

The PSLRP anticipates making 64 initial two-year awards in FY 2014, without projecting the distribution of awards across the eligible specialties in the first few years of implementation. The PSLRP will evaluate the interest generated in this Program from both the eligible disciplines and the underserved communities in an effort to establish guidelines for making awards in future years.