



Podiatric Scholarship Program Frequently Asked Questions

What is the application period?

Applications will be accepted June 15, 2017 through July 31, 2017.

How do I obtain an application?

The application form can be downloaded at: <http://dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/forms/formsoppspodiatric-scholarship-application-fy18.pdf>

What can I expect after the Center for Rural Health receives my application?

Applicants will be notified in August 2017 if they will (or will not) be a scholarship recipient.

Who is eligible for the scholarship?

An applicant must: 1) reside in Illinois; 2) be enrolled in or accepted for admission to a podiatric medical school in Illinois; 3) exhibit financial need; and 4) agree to fulfill the service obligation.

How are the payments disbursed and when can I expect payments if I am selected?

Scholarship funds are sent to the podiatric medical school's financial aid office. The school will disburse the living stipend to you. Payments should occur in October 2017.

I received the scholarship last year, what do I need to do this year to continue receiving the scholarship?

If you are a previous recipient in good academic standing, you will receive a renewal contract for the upcoming academic year. Recipients can renew their scholarship for a maximum of four years.

If I am a recipient, what is my obligation?

You must work full-time as a podiatric physician at a medical facility in Illinois that is located in a health professional shortage area (HPSA). You must work one year for each year of scholarship assistance received. To see if a medical facility is in a HPSA, go to: <https://datawarehouse.hrsa.gov/tools/analyzers/geo/ShortageArea.aspx>

What if I do not complete podiatric medical school or if I do not fulfill my obligation?

You default on the scholarship if you do not: 1) complete podiatric medical school (through academic failure or voluntary actions); 2) become licensed as a podiatrist in Illinois; or 3) fulfill your service obligation. Should you default, you must reimburse the State of Illinois three times the total amount of scholarship assistance received for each unfulfilled year of the obligation.

What can I expect once I complete my obligation?

Once you fulfill your obligation, you will receive a letter from the Illinois Department of Public Health stating your service commitment is complete.