



Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce

AWARD REPORT FOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

Fiscal Year 2022

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The Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce (GBHCW) strives to identify the physician, physician assistant, advanced practice, registered nurse, and dentist workforce needs of Georgia communities, and to meet those needs through the support and development of medical education programs.

Introduction

The Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce (Board) members and staff are pleased to present the Award Report for the Scholarship Program for the Fiscal Year 2022.

Beginning in Fiscal Year 2015, funds for this program were realigned through the budgetary process to the Physicians for Rural Areas (PRAA) program of the Board. The realignment of funds provided additional loan repayment awards to physicians electing to practice in a Board approved rural Georgia county. Although the final scholarship award was made in FY2018, there are 14 former scholarship recipients that are still under the program – 2 former recipients are still in training in the graduate medical education phase of the program and 12 former recipients are now in the practice obligation phase of the program. Not included in these numbers is any former recipient currently in the deferral, repayment, or default process. All recipients should complete the Scholarship Program and its service obligation in FY2025.

The administrative costs to carry out these loan repayment programs is paid for with funds provided in the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce: Board Administration program of the Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) section of the state budget, while the awards were funded through the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce: Physicians for Rural Areas program of DCH.

Would you or someone you know want to know more about the Board and the important work we do to better the health care needs of rural Georgia? Then, please visit us online at <https://healthcareworkforce.georgia.gov/>. The website is an invaluable resource for both health care professionals and interested consumers.

Chet Bhasin
Chet Bhasin FACHE
Executive Director

Scholarship (GME)

The Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce Scholarship Program was an annual award for Georgia students who were accepted in an accredited four-year medical school in the U.S. leading to a Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree. This scholarship was designed to furnish \$20,000 in financial aid to deserving medical students who could not afford the cost of medical school while also bringing needed medical attention to smaller, rural communities in Georgia. Upon graduation from medical school and a residency program, recipients must be licensed to practice in Georgia and must practice medicine in a community of 50,000 or less for one year after completing graduate medical education for each year of scholarship funding received. The scholarship was renewable for up to four years for a maximum of \$80,000. No new scholarship awards are being made due to the realignment of funding. However, the following individuals were awarded the scholarship in previous fiscal years and are still training in graduate medical education programs.

| Name | Award Years | Specialty | Post Grad Year Status |
|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Evan Fountain, M.D. | 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 | Internal Medicine | Fellowship |
| Jasmine Shell, M.D. | 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 | Addiction Medicine | Fellowship |

Scholarship (Practice)

The following individuals were awarded the scholarship in previous fiscal years, have completed a graduate medical education program, and are now practicing in a rural area as part of their contract obligation of the Scholarship Program.

| Name | Award Years | Specialty | County |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Rachel Anderson, D.O. | 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 | Family Medicine | Thomas |
| Ito Daniels, M.D. | 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 | Internal Medicine, Pediatrics | Green |
| Timothy Fuller, M.D. | 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 | General Surgery | Tift |
| Elizabeth Garcia-Cardenas, M.D. | 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 | OB/GYN | Oconee |
| Jacob Holley, III, M.D. | 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 | General Surgery | Seminole |
| Katie Hudgens, M.D. | 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 | Internal Medicine, Pediatrics | Cook/Tift |
| Chris Kiker, M.D. | 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 | Family Medicine | Stephens |
| Brittany Lord, M.D. | 2015, 2016, 2017 | Pediatrics | Dodge |
| Justin Peterson, M.D. | 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 | OB/GYN | Coffee |
| Jontu Solomon, M.D. | 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 | Family Medicine | Marion |
| Kaitlyn Vann, D.O. | 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 | Family Medicine | White |



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Feedback?

Feel free to reach out!

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