

This document contains an unofficial version of the new rules in 9 A.A.C. 15, effective April 1, 2016.

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL

Section

R9-15-101. Definitions

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In addition to the definitions in A.R.S. §§ 36-401 and 36-2171, the following definitions apply in this Chapter unless otherwise stated:

1. "Administrative completeness review time-frame" has the same meaning as in A.R.S. § 41-1072.
2. "Application" means the information and documents submitted to the Department by a primary care provider requesting to participate in the Loan Repayment Program.
3. "Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System" or "AHCCCS" means the Arizona state agency established by A.R.S. Title 36, Chapter 29 to administer 42 U.S.C. 1396-1, Title XIX health care programs.
4. "Arizona medically underserved area" or "AzMUA" means a primary care area where access to primary care service is limited as designated according to A.R.S. § 36-2352.
5. "Calendar day" means each day, not excluding the day of the act, event, or default from which a designated period of time begins to run and including the last day of the period unless it is a Saturday, Sunday, statewide furlough day, or legal holiday, in which case the period runs until the end of the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, statewide furlough day, or legal holiday.
6. "Calendar year" means the period of 365 days starting from the first day of January.
7. "Cancellation" means the discharge of a primary care provider's loan repayment contract based on one of the following:
 - a. A primary care provider requests a discharge of the primary care provider's loan repayment contract as allowed by this Chapter; or
 - b. The Department determines:
 - i. There are no loan repayment funds available;
 - ii. A primary care provider is not complying with the requirements in A.R.S. Title 36, Chapter 21 or this Chapter;
 - iii. A primary care provider's service site is not complying with the requirements in A.R.S. Title 36, Chapter 21 or this Chapter; or
 - iv. A primary care provider fails to meet the terms of the primary care provider's loan repayment contract with the Department.
8. "Certified nurse midwife" means a registered nurse practitioner approved by the Arizona State Board of Nursing to provide primary care services during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period.

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9. "Clinical social worker" means an individual licensed under A.R.S. § 32-3293.
10. "Critical access hospital" means a facility certified by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services under Section 1820 of the Social Security Act.
11. "Denial" means the Department's determination that a primary care provider is not approved to:
 - a. Participate in the LRP,
 - b. Renew a loan repayment contract,
 - c. Suspend or cancel a loan repayment contract, or
 - d. Waive liquidated damages owed by the primary care provider for failure to comply with A.R.S. Title 36, Chapter 21 and this Chapter.
12. "Dental services" means the same as "dentistry" in A.R.S. § 32-1201.
13. "Dentist" means an individual licensed under A.R.S. Title 32, Chapter 11, Article 2.
14. "Direct patient care" means medical services, dental services, pharmaceutical services, or behavioral health services provided to a specific individual by a primary care provider and for services provided by the primary care provider to or for the specific individual including:
 - a. Documenting the services in the specific individual's medical records,
 - b. Consulting with other health care professionals about the specific individual's need for services, and
 - c. Researching information specific to the individual's need for services.
15. "Educational expenses" has the same meaning as in 42 C.F.R. § 62.22.
16. "Encounter" means a face-to-face visit, which may include a visit using telemedicine, between a patient and a primary care provider during which primary care services are provided.
17. "Family unit" means a group of individuals residing together who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption or an individual who does not reside with another individual to whom the individual is related by birth, marriage, or adoption.
18. "Federal prison" means a secure facility managed and run by the Federal Bureau of Prisons that confines an individual convicted of a crime.
19. "Full-time" means working at least 40 hours per week for at least 45 weeks per service year.
20. "Free-clinic" means a facility that provides primary care services, on an outpatient basis, to individuals at no charge.

21. "Government student loan" means an advance of money made by a federal, state, county, or city agency that is authorized by law to make the advance of money.
22. "Half-time" means working at least 20 hours per week, but not more than 39 hours per week, for at least 45 weeks per service year.
23. "Health professional school" has the same meaning as "school" in 42 C.F.R. § 62.2.
24. "Health professional service obligation" means a legal commitment in which a primary care provider agrees to provide primary care services for a specified period of time in a designated area or through a designated service site.
25. "Health professional shortage area" or "HPSA" means a geographic region, population group, or public or non-profit private medical facility or other public facility determined by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to have an inadequate number of primary care providers under 42 U.S.C. § 254e.
26. "Health service experience to a medically underserved population" means at least 500 clock hours of medical services, dental services, pharmaceutical services, or behavioral health services provided by a primary care provider, including clock hours completed during the primary care provider's residency or graduate education:
 - a. Under the direction of a governmental agency, an accredited educational institution, or a non-profit organization; and
 - b. At a service site located in:
 - i. A medically underserved area designated by a federal or state agency, or
 - ii. A HPSA designated by a federal agency.
27. "Health service priority" means the number assigned by the Department to an initial application or renewal application and used to determine whether loan repayment funds are allocated to a primary care provider requesting approval to participate in the LRP.
28. "Immediate family" means an individual in any of the following relationships to a primary care provider:
 - a. Spouse;
 - b. Natural, adopted, foster, or stepchild;
 - c. Natural, adoptive, or stepparent;
 - d. Brother or sister;
 - e. Stepbrother or stepsister;
 - f. Grandparent or spouse of grandparent;
 - g. Grandchild or spouse of grandchild;
 - h. Father-in-law or mother-in-law;

- i. Brother-in-law or sister-in-law; or
 - j. Son-in-law or daughter-in-law.
29. "Licensee" means:
- a. An owner approved by the Department to operate a health care institution, or
 - b. An individual licensed under A.R.S. Title 32.
30. "Living expenses" has the same meaning as in 42 C.F.R. § 62.22.
31. "Loan repayment funds" means:
- a. State loan repayment funds,
 - b. State-appropriated funds, or
 - c. Monies donated to the Department and designated for use by the LRP.
32. "Loan Repayment Program" or "LRP" means the unit in the Department that implements the Primary Care Provider Loan Repayment Program, established according to A.R.S. § 36-2172, and the Rural Private Primary Care Provider Loan Repayment Program, established according to A.R.S. § 36-2174.
33. "Marriage and family therapist" means an individual licensed under A.R.S. § 32-3311.
34. "Newly employed" means when a primary care provider's first-time employee start date with a service site or employer identified in an initial application occurred within 12 months before the primary care provider's initial application submission date.
35. "Non-government student loan" means an advance of money made by a bank, credit union, savings and loan association, insurance company, school, or other financial or credit institution that is subject to examination and supervision in its capacity as a lender by an agency of the federal government or of the state in which the lender has its principle place of business.
36. "Overall time-frame" has the same meaning as in A.R.S. § 41-1072.
37. "Pharmaceutical services" means the same as "practice of pharmacy" in A.R.S. § 32-1901.
38. "Pharmacist" has the same meaning as in A.R.S. § 32-1901.
39. "Physician" has the same meaning as in A.R.S. § 36-2351.
40. "Physician assistant" has the same meaning as in A.R.S. § 32-2501.
41. "Population" means the total number of permanent residents according to the most recent decennial census published by the U.S. Census Bureau or according to the most recent Population Estimates for Arizona's Counties and Incorporated Places published by the Arizona Department of Economic Security.

42. "Poverty level" means a measure of income, issued annually by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and published in the Federal Register.
43. "Primary care area" has the same meaning as in A.A.C. R9-24-201.
44. "Primary care loan" means a long-term, low-interest-rate financial contract between the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration and a full-time student pursuing a degree in allopathic or osteopathic medicine.
45. "Primary care provider" means one of the following providing direct patient care:
 - a. A physician practicing:
 - i. Family medicine,
 - ii. Internal medicine,
 - iii. Pediatrics,
 - iv. Geriatrics,
 - v. Obstetrics-gynecology, or
 - vi. Psychiatry;
 - b. A physician assistant practicing:
 - i. Adult medicine,
 - ii. Family medicine,
 - iii. Pediatrics,
 - iv. Geriatrics,
 - v. Women's health, or
 - vi. Behavioral health;
 - c. A registered nurse practitioner practicing:
 - i. Adult medicine,
 - ii. Family medicine,
 - iii. Pediatrics,
 - iv. Geriatrics,
 - v. Women's health, or
 - vi. Behavioral health;
 - d. A certified nurse midwife;
 - e. A dentist practicing:
 - i. General dentistry,
 - ii. Geriatric dentistry, or
 - iii. Pediatric dentistry;

- f. A pharmacist; or
 - g. A behavioral health provider practicing as:
 - i. A psychologist,
 - ii. A clinical social worker,
 - iii. A marriage and family therapist, or
 - iv. A professional counselor.
46. "Primary care service" means medical services, dental services, pharmaceutical services, or behavioral health services provided on an outpatient basis by a primary care provider.
47. "Private practice" means an individual or entity in which:
 - a. One or more primary care providers provide primary care services; and
 - b. Each primary care provider is an owner who can be held personally responsible for the primary care services provided by any of the primary care providers.
48. "Professional counselor" means an individual licensed under A.R.S. § 32-3301.
49. "Psychiatrist" means a physician who is board certified or board eligible to provide behavioral health services.
50. "Psychologist" has the same meaning as in A.R.S. § 32-2061.
51. "Public" means any:
 - a. State or local government; or
 - b. Department, agency, special purpose district, or other unit of a state or local government, including the legislature.
52. "Qualifying educational loan" means a government or a non-government student loan:
 - a. Used for the actual costs paid for educational expenses and living expenses that occurred during the undergraduate or graduate education of a primary care provider, and
 - b. Obtained before the submission of an initial application.
53. "Qualifying health plan" means health insurance coverage provided to a consumer through the Arizona State Health Insurance Marketplace established by 42 U.S.C.A. § 18001 (2010).
54. "Registered nurse practitioner" has the same meaning as in A.R.S. § 32-1601.
55. "Service site" means a health care institution that provides primary care services at a specific location.
56. "Service verification form" means a document confirming a primary care provider's full-time or half-time continuous employment at the primary care provider's approved service site.

57. "Sliding-fee schedule" has the same meaning as in A.A.C. R9-1-501.
58. "State-appropriated funds" means monies provided to the Department for the Primary Care Provider Loan Repayment Program, established according to A.R.S. § 36-2172, and the Rural Private Primary Care Provider Loan Repayment Program, established according to A.R.S. § 36-2174.
59. "State loan repayment funds" means monies provided to the Department from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration.
60. "State prison" means a secure facility managed and run by a state in which an individual convicted of a crime is confined.
61. "Student" means an individual pursuing a course of study at a health professional school.
62. "Substantive review time-frame" has the same meaning as in A.R.S. § 41-1072.
63. "Suspend" means to temporarily interrupt a primary care provider's loan repayment contract for a specified period of time, based on a request submitted by the primary care provider.
64. "Telemedicine" has the same meaning as:
 - a. "Telemedicine" as defined in A.R.S. § 36-3601,
 - b. "Teledentistry" as defined in A.R.S. § 36-3611, or
 - c. "Telepractice" as defined in A.R.S. §32-3251.
65. "Working day" means a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday that is not a federal and state holiday or a statewide furlough day.