

# Loan Forgiveness for Nurses and Nurse Practitioners



The Saskatchewan Student Loan Forgiveness for Nurses and Nurse Practitioners program was introduced to attract nurses and nurse practitioners to practice in smaller communities by forgiving a portion of their student loans.

## What's important?

Up to \$20,000 of Saskatchewan Student Loan debt can be forgiven for nurses and nurse practitioners who choose to practice in a rural or remote community with a population of 10,000 or less.

To be eligible for program benefits, nursing professionals must:

- Practice in a designated rural or remote community with a population of 10,000 or less;
- Provide service for a minimum of 400 hours (over 12 consecutive months); and
- Hold a license to practice in Saskatchewan as a Registered Nurse, Registered Psychiatric Nurse, Licensed Practical Nurse, Nurse Practitioner, or Registered Practical Nurse.

The amount eligible for loan forgiveness is calculated annually and paid as a reduction to the provincial student loan. Eligible nurses and nurse practitioners receive one-fifth (20%) of their outstanding Saskatchewan Student Loan debt, up to \$4,000 annually for up to five years, to a maximum of \$20,000.

## Canada Student Loan Forgiveness Program for Family Doctors and Nurses

A similar federal initiative forgives up to \$20,000 of Canada Student Loan debt for nurses and nurse practitioners who practice in rural and remote communities.

The annual loan forgiveness under the federal program is \$4,000, which is available for up to five years. Nursing graduates can apply separately for both the federal and provincial programs if eligibility criteria is met.

Graduates can receive up to **\$40,000** in student loan forgiveness by utilizing both programs!

## How to apply

Graduates must apply within 90 days of completing 12 consecutive months of service in a designated community. Recipients must re-apply after each year of service to continue receiving the benefit.

## Did you know?

Graduates who live and work in Saskatchewan can apply for the Graduate Retention Program, which provides up to \$20,000 in tax credits for tuition fees paid. Graduates can receive benefits from the Graduate Retention Program and Student Loan Forgiveness Program at the same time.

## Where can I get more information?

For more information about Loan Forgiveness for Nurses and Nurse Practitioners or to learn more about student financial aid options, visit:

Online: [saskatchewan.ca](https://saskatchewan.ca)

Toll-free: 1-800-597-8278

Email: [studentservices@gov.sk.ca](mailto:studentservices@gov.sk.ca)

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