Cost of Living Stipend for Economically-Disadvantaged Residents

We understand that living in Boston is expensive... our hospitals want to provide financial assistance to residents with significant financial challenges who might not otherwise be able to train here.

We are delighted to announce the continuation of our 3-year pilot program:

Cash stipends (in addition to standard PGY-level salary) will be provided to physicians-in-training who match to our residency programs in 2021 and meet any of the following criteria:

- were approved for the AAMC's “Fee Assistance Program (FAP)” as an AMCAS applicant [https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/article/eligibility/]
- received a "Loan for Disadvantaged Students" (LDS) in medical school. This is defined by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (please refer to the LDS section). We are aware that, unfortunately, LDS is not offered by all schools.
- received a Pell grant

**and** affirm that they have significant ongoing financial need.

The total stipend amount of $30,000 will be distributed in 3 installments of $10,000 at the beginning of each academic year for the first 3 years of the residency program. See details below.

**Stipend Details:**

- Applies to physicians that match in 2021 to enter residency programs that are at least three years in duration, sponsored by any of the hospitals noted above and programs listed below. (See examples below illustrating eligibility.)
- After matching to one of our residency programs, eligible incoming residents will be prompted to provide documentation of at least one of the following. If you are uncertain about whether you utilized any of these programs, you are strongly encouraged to obtain the documentation now so that you will know in advance that you qualify for the stipend.
  
  - For FAP: The AAMC’s email indicating approval of their Fee Assistance Program (FAP). (We recognize this will be 4+ years old.) Applicants can obtain a copy of this documentation by emailing FAP@AAMC.org.
  - For LDS: financial aid award statements or letter(s) provided by your medical school verifying your receipt of a "loan for disadvantaged students," with the amounts received. (Most financial aid statements should include all medical school financial aid awarded.) If you did not retain a copy, you can request this from your school.
  - For Pell: Documentation can be obtained if you log into NSLDS.ed.gov using your FSA ID login to view and save a copy of your loan and grant history. The FSAID Login can be created by clicking here: https://nslds.ed.gov/nas/index.htm

  - A statement affirming that you continue to experience need will also be provided for you to submit.

Please note:

1. Stipends will be provided by the institution without involvement of individual residency programs or departments.
2. Stipends are considered taxable income.
3. This is a pilot program, but the 3-year stipend will be honored for those matching in 2021 regardless of whether the program is continued for future recruitment/match cycles.*

A "Frequently Asked Questions" page is available.

For additional questions, please contact Jean Tammaro in the Partners GME Office via email.

[https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/article/eligibility/](https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/article/eligibility/)

**Examples**

1. A student matches to a ≥3-year residency program sponsored by Spaulding Rehab, Mass Eye and Ear, BWH or MGH in 2021 and is due to start in June/July 2021. Upon receipt of the documentation outlined above, the first stipend is sent in spring 2021. Efforts will be made to send it in time to assist with moving expenses.
2. Two students, married to each other, were individually included in the FAP program as ERAS applicants and have now matched at MGH in Pediatrics and at Spaulding for PM&R. Both students will receive the stipend, as their marriage doesn’t negate their individual eligibility. (This would be the case even if they were in the same residency at the same participating hospital.)

3. A student matches in 2021 to MEEI’s Ophthalmology residency and to BWH’s preliminary surgery track. They are eligible for the stipend through the Ophthalmology residency, but can receive the first of three stipends as she begins the prelim year (in 2021).

4. A student matches to the Partners Neurology program in 2021 to start in 2022, and will be coming to Boston for a Medicine internship at another hospital (not involved in this pilot) in June 2021. The student will be eligible to receive the stipend as a Neurology resident, with distributions in July of 2022, 2023, and 2024 — but not during the prelim year at a different institution.

5. A student matching in March 2021 for one year of preliminary Internal Medicine training at the MGH (prior to Anesthesia residency out of state) is not eligible because the one-year preliminary program does not meet the duration requirements of a residency of three years or longer. (Similarly, a student matched in 2021 to a preliminary surgery track at BWH or MGH, without simultaneously matching to a MGH, BWH, MEE or Spaulding residency program, is not eligible for the stipend.)

6. An individual matches to the BWH Pathology program after initially beginning residency in another specialty at another institution. They can utilize the stipend since they have matched to an eligible residency program and received a Pell grant in college; the prior training does not disqualify them.

7. A student who received a Loan for Disadvantaged Students in medical school, has since married a financially successful hedge fund manager. As an incoming intern they determine that they cannot attest to ongoing financial need and thus does not utilize the stipend.

Lease Guaranty Description

We are pleased to announce that Partners HealthCare System is once again offering the “Lease Guaranty Program” for the GME Residents and Clinical Fellows.

Through the Lease Guaranty Program, Partners will guaranty payment to a landlord under specified circumstances. The Lease Guaranty program does not provide cash or money in any form. The benefit of this program is that instead of a trainee providing an advanced payment, a landlord will accept the Lease Guaranty document and its conditions. In return, a Resident or Clinical Fellow agrees to reimburse Partners for any payment Partners is required to make under the Guaranty.

The Guaranty has been accepted by these properties listed in the Boston area. We are optimistic that the terms of this Guaranty will be acceptable to many other landlords as well.

Eligible Residents and Clinical Fellows may offer the Guaranty to any landlord they wish. If a landlord accepts the terms, a landlord is eligible to participate.

DISCLAIMER: The list of landlords simply represents organizations that participate in the Lease Guaranty program. Any reference obtained from this list about a specific product or service does not constitute or imply an endorsement by Partners Healthcare.

Lease Guaranty Eligibility

Residents and Clinical Fellows in the Graduate Medical Education Program (GME) programs sponsored by the Partners hospitals - Brigham and Women's Hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital, McLean Hospital, Massachusetts Eye and Ear, Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, Newton-Wellesley Hospital, North Shore Medical Center are eligible for this program.

1. In order to be eligible, the Resident or Clinical Fellow must be salaried through Partners (i.e. Partners, the hospital, or a physician organization), although in some cases the Partners salary may be reimbursed by another source (foundation, outside institution, etc.). In addition, the hospital appointment must be as a “Resident” (or a “Clinical Fellow” or “Clinical and Research Fellow”).

2. The Lease Guaranty document becomes null and void if a Resident or Clinical Fellow is no longer enrolled in the Graduate Medical Education Program.

3. The term of the Lease Guaranty is for one year with annual renewal rights. The Lease Guaranty document needs to be re-executed every year that a Resident or Clinical/Research Fellow wishes to participate in the program. If the Lease Guaranty document is not renewed with partners and a Landlord annually, the guaranty no longer is valid. Specific questions regarding the program can be directed to:

Larysa Armano
Professional Staff Benefits Office
E-mail: leaseguaranty@partners.org
Tel. 617-643-3071