

## Possible Loan Forgiveness Options for Ridgewater Students

### Public Service Loan Forgiveness

- Contact Info:
  - MOHELA Loan Servicer
  - 1-855-265-4038
  - <https://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/public-service>
- PSLF forgives the remaining balance on Federal Direct Loans after 120 qualifying monthly payments have been made under a qualifying repayment plan while working full-time for a qualifying employer.
- To qualify for PSLF, you must
  - Be employed by a U.S. federal, state, local, or tribal government or not-for-profit organization (federal service includes U.S. military service);
  - Work full-time for that agency or organization;
  - Have Direct Loans (or consolidate other federal student loans into a Direct Loan);
  - Repay your loans under a qualified income-driven repayment plan; and
  - Make 120 qualifying payments
- Ridgewater Qualifying Programs: all programs, student doesn't need to have completed, can qualify if they have outstanding loan debt and meet the PSLF requirements.

### Minnesota Health Care Loan Forgiveness

- The Minnesota Office of Rural Health and Primary Care grants Loan Forgiveness to various health care professionals serving in high-need areas.
- Various Loan Forgiveness programs within Health Care Loan Forgiveness
  - MN Long Term Care Nurse Loan Forgiveness
    - Eligible Professions: Registered Nurse and Licensed Practical Nurse
    - Annual Repayment Amount: \$6,000
  - MN Hospital Registered Nurse Loan Forgiveness
    - Eligible Professions: Registered nurses at nonprofit hospitals
    - Annual Repayment Amount: \$6,000
  - MN Nurse Faculty Loan Forgiveness
    - Eligible Professions: individuals teaching in a postsecondary Nursing program.
    - Annual Repayment Amount: \$9,000
  - MN Rural Public Health Nurse Loan Forgiveness
    - Eligible Professions: Licensed Registered Nurse (RN) with certificate as public health nurse
    - Annual Repayment Amount: \$6,000
- Contact Info:
  - Office of Rural Health and Primary Care
  - [Health.loanforgiveness@state.mn.us](mailto:Health.loanforgiveness@state.mn.us)
  - 651-201-3838
  - <https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/ruralhealth/funding/loans/index.html>
- Information Sheet:  
[https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/ruralhealth/funding/repayment/docs/2022\\_23slrppin.pdf](https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/ruralhealth/funding/repayment/docs/2022_23slrppin.pdf)

## **Possible Loan Forgiveness Options for Ridgewater Students Continuing Education**

**Most of the below programs require additional education such as a bachelor's or doctorate degree**

### **Minnesota Rural Veterinarian Loan Repayment Program**

- Possibility for students continuing education at the College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Minnesota
- The Minnesota Rural Veterinarian Loan Repayment Program was established to provide student loan repayment assistance to eligible veterinarians serving in designated rural areas in Minnesota.
- Annual awards are up to \$15,000 for a total of up to \$75,000 over 5 years.
- Contact Info:
  - Minnesota Office of Higher Education
  - 800-657-3866 (option 2)
  - <https://www.ohe.state.mn.us/mPg.cfm?pageID=2329>

### **Teacher Shortage Loan Forgiveness Program**

- Possibility for students continuing education after Ridgewater
- Established to provide student loan repayment assistance to teachers providing classroom instruction in a teacher shortage area in Minnesota. The purpose of the program is to encourage teachers to teach in license shortage areas and rural school districts.
- Eligibility:
  - Hold a teaching license issued by the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board.
  - Be employed by a school district to provide classroom instruction.
  - Have outstanding qualified educational loan debt; and
  - Teach in a license field shortage area, teach in a rural school district, or belong to a racial or ethnic group underrepresented in the Minnesota teacher workforce.
- Contact Info:
  - Minnesota Office of Higher Education
  - [Info.ohe@state.mn.us](mailto:Info.ohe@state.mn.us)
  - <https://www.ohe.state.mn.us/mPg.cfm?pageID=2191>

### **Teacher Loan Forgiveness (Federal)**

- Possibility for students continuing education after Ridgewater
- Eligibility:
  - Outstanding balance on Direct Loans as of or after October 1, 1998.
  - Employed full-time, highly qualified teacher (Bachelor's degree and additional criteria) for five complete and consecutive academic years, and at least one of those years must have been after the 1997-98 academic year
  - Employed at an elementary, secondary school or educational service agency that serves low-income students.
- Contact Info:
  - <https://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/teacher>
  - Student's loan servicer (application is submitted to the loan servicer)

### **Agricultural Education Loan Forgiveness Program**

- Possibility for students continuing education after Ridgewater
- Established to provide student loan repayment assistance to teachers providing agricultural education (grades 5 through 12) at a Minnesota school during the current year.
- Eligibility:

- Completed an undergraduate or graduate program in agricultural education at a college or university by the state of Minnesota to prepare persons for teacher licensure.
- Be employed by a Minnesota school district, charter school, private school, or tribal contract school (eligible to receive aid) to provide agricultural education in any grade from grades 5 through 12.
- Have outstanding qualified educational loan debt.
- Contact Info:
  - Minnesota Office of Higher Education
  - 800-657-3866
  - <https://www.ohe.state.mn.us/mPg.cfm?pageID=2300>

### **National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program**

- Possibility for students continuing education after Ridgewater
- Licensed primary care clinicians in eligible disciplines can receive loan repayment assistance through the NHSC Loan Repayment Program. In exchange for loan repayment, you must serve at least two years of service at an NHSC-approved site in a Health Professional Shortage Area.
- Advertising Poster: <https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/nhsc/scholarships/program-poster-letter-size.pdf>
- Contact Info:
  - Ask a Question: <https://bhw.hrsa.gov/about-us/ask-question>
  - 1-800-221-9393
  - <https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/loan-repayment/nhsc-loan-repayment-program>