

# MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA) WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING (WET) DIVISION AUGUST 2016



## County of Los Angeles Department of Mental Health

Robin Kay, Ph.D.  
Acting Director of Mental Health

Dennis Murata, M.S.W.  
Acting Chief Deputy Director  
Program Support Bureau  
MHSA Administration

Contact:  
Angelita Diaz-Akahori, Psy.D.  
Program Support Bureau  
Workforce Education and  
Training Division  
695 S. Vermont Ave., 15th Fl.  
Los Angeles, CA 90005  
Phone: (213) 251-6879  
Fax: (213) 252-8775  
E-mail: [adiaz@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:adiaz@dmh.lacounty.gov)

## STATE MHSA - WET SPONSORED MENTAL HEALTH LOAN ASSUMPTION PROGRAM (MHLAP)

**MHLAP is now open and will accept online applications until October 14, 2016.** This year the County of Los Angeles public mental health system was allocated a total of \$3.6 million.

MHLAP offers loan repayment awards for mental health staff providing direct services in outpatient programs of the public mental health system (Department of Mental Health [DMH] and its DMH-funded contracted programs and their respective subcontractors). MHLAP is administered by the Health Professions Education Foundation (HPEF) and may award up to \$10,000 to eligible applicants who work in a "Hard-To-Fill/Retain" program as defined by the DMH (please see the attached document for additional information). If awarded, the applicant is obligated to remain in the identified "Hard-To-Fill/Retain" program for 12 consecutive months. Awards for MHLAP are accorded based on a competitive application process, which are reviewed and scored by a State Advisory Committee.

For additional information, including answers to frequently asked questions, please visit the MHLAP website, which can be found at <http://www.oshpd.ca.gov/documents/HPEF/Programs/MHLAP-FAQs.pdf>

Applications must be submitted online through the CalREACH system, which can be found at <http://calreach.oshpd.ca.gov> Applicants must be a registered user on the CalREACH system in order to prepare and submit an application for MHLAP consideration.

The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) will continue offering technical assistance to applicants through conference calls and webinars. Dates and times will be announced as they are scheduled. OSHPD can be reached at (800) 773-1669 or <http://www.oshpd.ca.gov/HPEF/Programs/MHLAP.html>

For additional information pertaining to the County of Los Angeles "Hard-to-Fill/Retain" criteria, please contact DMH's Workforce Education and Training Division at (213) 251-6854.

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH (LAC-DMH)  
PROGRAM SUPPORT BUREAU - WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING (WET) DIVISION**

**HARD-TO-FILL / RETAIN CRITERIA FOR COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES APPLICANTS  
HEALTH PROFESSIONS EDUCATION FOUNDATION – MENTAL HEALTH LOAN ASSUMPTION PROGRAM (MHLAP)  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 AWARD CYCLE**

<b>REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>DIRECT SERVICE STAFF</b>	<b>DIRECT SERVICE SUPERVISOR</b>
<b>Eligible Professions</b>	Eligible clinical personnel <sup>1</sup> include: licensed/registered psychologist and psychiatrist; licensed marriage and family therapist; marriage and family therapist intern; licensed/associate clinical social worker; licensed professional clinical counselor; licensed/certified/registered psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner or registered nurse; rehabilitation staff <sup>2</sup> ; and DMH public conservators.	Eligible professions include: licensed psychologist and psychiatrist; licensed marriage and family therapist; licensed clinical social worker; licensed professional clinical counselor; licensed/registered psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner or registered nurse; DMH public conservators.
<b>Employment Status</b>	Full-time, permanent employees in a public mental health program that is either directly operated by LAC-DMH, a legal entity contractor or subcontractor of a legal entity, where the program of employment is funded by LAC-DMH and Mental Health Services Act. Employment verification must be completed by <u>direct clinical supervisor or program manager only</u> . <b>Verification from HR personnel will not be accepted – no exceptions.</b>	Full-time, permanent employees in a public mental health program that are either directly operated by LAC-DMH, a legal entity contractor or subcontractor of a legal entity, where the program of employment is funded by LAC-DMH and Mental Health Services Act. Employment verification must be completed by <u>direct clinical supervisor or program manager only</u> . <b>Verification from HR personnel will not be accepted – no exceptions.</b>
<b>Total Weekly Hours of Direct Service</b>	The majority of work assignment must be allocated to providing direct services in public mental health.	The majority of work assignment must be providing direct clinical supervision in a qualifying outpatient mental health program.
<b>Previously Awarded Considerations</b>	Previously awarded individuals are eligible to apply if they meet the current “Hard-to-Fill/Retain Criteria.” However, priority is given to qualified applicants who have not received any financial incentive award.	Previously awarded individuals are eligible to apply if they meet the current “Hard-to-Fill/Retain Criteria.” However, priority is given to qualified applicants who have not received any financial incentive award.
<b>Hard to Fill/Retain Payback Commitment</b>	Awardees are obligated to remain in their original “Hard-to-Fill/Retain” designation for the 12-month commitment period or risk forfeiting their award.	Awardees are obligated to remain in their original “Hard-to-Fill/Retain” designation for the 12-month commitment period or risk forfeiting their award.
	<b>AND</b> <b>AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING</b>	<b>AND</b>
<b>Hard-to-Fill/Retain Criteria <sup>3</sup></b>	Assigned full-time to an <i>outpatient mental health program funded by the Mental Health Services Act and include services targeting:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service Area 1</li> <li>• Homeless</li> <li>• TAY</li> <li>• Veterans</li> <li>• Older Adults</li> <li>• LGBTQ</li> <li>• UREP</li> <li>• Diversion programs</li> <li>• Programs that require a work schedule inclusive of weekends or shifts outside the “normal operating hours”, i.e. 4:00pm-12:00 am; overtime excluded</li> </ul>	Assigned full-time to an outpatient mental health program funded by the Mental Health Services Act <sup>4</sup>
	<b>OR</b>	
<b>Eligible Language or Representing Underserved/Unserviced Communities</b>	<p align="center"> <input type="checkbox"/>Arabic <input type="checkbox"/>Armenian <input type="checkbox"/>Cambodian <input type="checkbox"/>Cantonese <input type="checkbox"/>Farsi <input type="checkbox"/>Korean  <input type="checkbox"/>Mandarin <input type="checkbox"/>Other Chinese <input type="checkbox"/>Russian <input type="checkbox"/>Spanish <input type="checkbox"/>Tagalog  <input type="checkbox"/>Vietnamese <input type="checkbox"/>Sign Language  OR  <b>Applicant represents an underserved/unserved community (i.e., API, African, African American, Native American, Latino, Middle Eastern or other underrepresented communities)</b> </p>	n/a

<sup>1</sup> Defined as direct services that generate units of service, opening or closing cases, crisis intervention, assessments, individual/family/group therapy, rehabilitation services, medication evaluation/consultation and EBP interventions.

<sup>2</sup> For rehabilitative services, such as case management, linkage, MAA and COS.

<sup>3</sup> To be considered for MHLAP, you need to clearly identify your qualifying program, community served or represented on the “County Employment or Volunteer Verification” section of the MHLAP Application.

<sup>4</sup> Residential, psychiatric inpatient, TBS, psychiatric emergency room, and adult correctional programs are excluded from MHLAP consideration.