

OPTOMETRY AND OPHTHALMOLOGY

Loan Repayment Program

Program Overview

Provides up to \$50,000 in loan repayment* to **Ophthalmologists** (medical and surgical eye care specialists) and **Optometrists** (Doctor of Optometry degree holders) who commit to **at least two years of service in one of Tennessee's eligible rural counties**.

This program aims to **expand access to eye care in health professional shortage areas** across the state.



Eligibility Requirements:

To qualify, applicants must:

1. Graduate from an accredited Tennessee medical school or school of optometry.
2. Submit an application to the Tennessee Department of Health after completing accredited training.
3. Enter into a contract to provide ophthalmology or optometry services in a Tennessee health professional shortage area for at least two years after completing training and obtaining licensure.

Eligible Tennessee Counties

All 89 rural Tennessee counties are eligible. Metro counties are excluded. A minimum two-year service commitment is required.

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**Subject to funding and eligibility. Up to \$25,000 per year for a minimum of two years, not to exceed total student loan debt.*