2021-2022 PCL Information and Guidelines

The Primary Care Loan (PCL) program strives to increase the number of primary care physicians by providing low interest loans to full-time, financially needy students to pursue a degree in allopathic or osteopathic medicine. The COM awards PCL to M4’s after Match Day. Loan amounts are based on your eligibility, the amount of PCL funds available, and other criteria. The 2021-2022 Deadline: March 23, 2022.

PCL Features

- 5% interest rate
- Interest does not accrue, and repayment is deferred, while in school and while completing a three year residency
- If you fail to meet the service requirements described below, the interest rate changes to 7%
- PCL loans cannot be consolidated with Stafford and/or Grad Plus loans

PCL Service Requirements

1) Enter and complete a primary care residency no more than four years after graduating from medical school
2) Practice in primary care for 10 years or until the loan is repaid in full, whichever comes first
3) Not enter any subspecialty training from the time of graduation until the loan is repaid in full
4) Demonstrate “need” as defined by the Department of Health and Human Services, which takes both student and parent income into consideration

Definitions

Primary Health Care: family medicine, general internal medicine, general pediatrics, preventive medicine, or osteopathic general practice
Residency in Primary Health Care: a 3-year residency program in family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, combined medicine/pediatrics, or preventive medicine

Application Requirements

All applicants must:
1) Be enrolled full time in the both fall and spring semesters
2) Submit the 2021-2022 PCL Application form along with required documentation.
3) Submit the 2021-2022 FAFSA (parental info required)
4) Submit Student and Parent 2019 federal tax returns either via the online FAFSA IRS data retrieval tool or submit signed copies of 2019 federal income tax returns and W2’s.

Exception to Parent Tax Submission Requirement

If you are at least 24 years old and can document that your parents have not claimed you as a dependent on their taxes for the last three years, you do not have to submit parental tax information. Documentation of taxes (parents’ or student’s 3 prior year tax returns (2017, 2018, 2019) and age must be provided. Documentation of age must be provided with a copy of a driver’s license, birth certificate, or a passport.