



UNE Dental Education Loan Repayment Program for Maine

generously sponsored by Delta Dental Plan of Maine

Delta Dental Plan of Maine has generously committed over \$1 Million to the University of New England College of Dental Medicine to establish a scholarship and loan repayment program. This is a demonstration of their belief that building a pipeline of dentists to Maine's rural and underserved areas is essential to improve the oral health of Maine residents. Delta Dental Plan of Maine is also uniquely dedicated to the College of Dental Medicine and was the founding corporate partner in the effort to establish UNE's CDM, the first dental college for Maine and all of northern New England. Candidates with a disadvantaged background and identities that are underrepresented in dentistry are strongly encouraged to apply.

Program Information

- UNE-graduated dentists must practice dental medicine in a Maine dental care facility in a Dental Health Professions Shortage Area (HPSA) as defined by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
- For the purposes of this loan repayment program, an eligible dentist could be
 - Practicing in their own private practice;
 - Practicing as a partner in a private practice;
 - Practicing as an associate in a private practice; or
 - Practicing as an employee in a Federally Qualified Health Center or Community Health Center.
- For each completed and verified year of service in the two-year program, graduates will receive \$25,000 to be paid directly to their loan servicer.
- Participating dentists could be eligible for a total of \$50,000 in loan repayment over two years.
- The dentist must agree to maintain a full-time clinical practice, defined as 32 hours of clinical practice and eight hours of administrative work, performed in no less than four days per week.
- Within six months of signing the loan repayment agreement, the dentist must provide their personal or employer/organization's MaineCare billing number to the UNE College of Dental Medicine.
- The dentist must agree to designate, at a minimum, 5% of her/his patient panel for MaineCare patients and enroll these patients within 12 months of signing of the loan repayment agreement.
- The UNE College of Dental Medicine will establish a rubric to prioritize and score applications for this competitive program. Priority will be given to applicants who demonstrate a commitment to remain in Maine and practice in an underserved area.
- Applicants will be required to provide verification of employment.
- Applications must be received by **Sunday, May 7, 2023**.
- If selected, awardees will attend a celebratory event with Delta Dental and UNE College of Dental Medicine leadership at a time to be determined, with ample advance notice for the awardee.
- Participation in this loan repayment program may have tax implications to the loan repayment participant. Please consult a tax professional to discuss possible implications.

This information sheet offers a program overview only. For more information, to obtain an application, or to obtain or a copy of the contract agreement, please email cdm-studentaffairs@une.edu.