



Behavioral Health Scholarship Program (BHSP)

Grant Guide For Fiscal Year 2025-26

All applicants must agree to the terms and conditions prior to receiving funds. The Department of Health Care Access and Information will not make changes to the terms and conditions specified in this Grant Guide.

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
Eligibility Requirements	3
Eligible Behavioral Health Professions	4
Eligible Geographic and Site Designations for a Service Obligation.....	5
Eligible Cost of Attendance	5
Award Amounts and Available Funding Available Funding.....	6
Award Amount	6
Service Obligation	6
Initiating an Application	7
Worksite Absences.....	8
Communication Requirements	8
Evaluation and Scoring Procedures.....	9
Award Process.....	9
Grant Agreement Deliverables.....	9
Required Grant Documentation.....	9
Post Award and Payment Provisions.....	10
Breach Policy	10
Key Dates	11
Grant Questions and Answers.....	11
Contact Us.....	11
Section II: HCAI funding portal Technical Assistance Guide.....	12
Registration and Login	12
Submitting an Application	12
BHSP Application Components.....	12
Attachment A: Evaluation and Scoring Criteria Grantee Selection Information.....	14
Scoring Criteria for Behavioral Health Scholarship Program (BH Scholarship).....	15
Attachment B: Sample Grant Agreement	16
A. Definitions	16
B. Terms of the Agreement.....	17
C. Scope of Work.....	17
D. Payment Provisions and Reporting Requirements.....	19
E. Tax Implications on Award	20
F. Budget Contingency Clause	20
G. Breach.....	21
H. Provisions for Suspension, Waiver, Cancellation or Voluntary Termination of Service.....	21
I. Executive Order N-6-22 – Russia Sanctions	22
J. General Terms and Conditions.....	23
K. HCAI and Grantee Contact Information	25
L. Parties’ Acknowledgement:	25

Section I: Behavioral Health Scholarship Program (BHSP) Grant Information

Background and Mission

The Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) administers and supports health workforce programs that expand the quality and diversity of health professionals. One avenue by which HCAI provides support is through individual financial aid, such as scholarships to those seeking training and education in the healthcare workforce.

The purpose of the Behavioral Health Scholarship Program (BHSP) is to increase the number of trained behavioral health professionals providing direct care to individuals and groups with behavioral health needs in underserved communities.

BHSP provides scholarships to behavioral health trainees and students seeking to become behavioral health practitioners through a certificate, associate, bachelor, master and/or doctoral degree program. These awards carry with them a 12-month service obligation to provide direct care in an eligible facility and/or agency that delivers services in an underserved community.

- Associate and bachelor level undergraduate students are eligible for scholarships of up to **\$35,000**.
- Certificate and graduate students are eligible for scholarships of up to **\$25,000**.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicant Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for a BHSP award, each applicant must:

1. Start training and/ or education by September 30, 2025.
 2. Be enrolled in a minimum of six (6) semester units, or its equivalent, from the start of their program until program completion
 - This requirement does not apply to those enrolled in a Peer Personnel Program certificate that leads to DHCS certification
 3. Be enrolled in a degree or certificate program that leads to employment in an eligible behavioral health profession.
 4. Hold a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 or greater for the most recent academic performance or its equivalent.
 5. Maintain a GPA of 2.0 or greater throughout the year for which a scholarship would support the prospective grantee's training or education.
 - a. This requirement does not apply to Peer Support Specialists in an authorized training program.
 6. Be scheduled to graduate after August 15, 2025.
 7. Not have any other service obligations outside of the Behavioral Health Scholarship Program or the Golden State Social Opportunities Program
 8. Not be in breach of any other HCAI service obligation.
 9. Can commit to working (paid or unpaid) for 12 months in an underserved area or
-

qualifying program.

- a. As a part of the 12-month service obligation, provide 32 hours or more per week of direct client care.
 - b. Work towards this service obligation must begin within 6 months after graduation.
 - c. For purposes of this program, employment in a school or school-linked setting for an academic year is the equivalent of 12 months.
10. Attend an educational institution within the state of California (online and/or in-person).
 11. Be physically present and reside in California while attending courses.
 12. Complete and submit the application through the [HCAI Funding Portal](#) by the deadline.
 13. Must complete an HCAI Cost of Attendance (CoA) form provided within the application, in its entirety, including a signature, and submit it with the application. If incomplete or missing the application will be rejected.
 14. The amount on your Cost of Attendance (CoA) form must match the amount you entered on your application. If it does not match, HCAI will award the smaller amount (assuming all other eligibility conditions are met).
 15. Must submit a completed and signed Scholarship Program Verification (SPV) form derived from your currently enrolled institution by the required deadline. If incomplete, or missing, HCAI reserves the right to terminate the grant and not make a payment.

Eligible Behavioral Health Professions

BHSP applicants must be accepted or enrolled in an accredited academic or certificate program that prepares them to become one of the following professionals:

- Applied Behavior Analysis Therapist
 - Assistant Psychologist
 - Associate, Bachelor or Master Degreed Social Worker
 - Bachelor Level Mental Health Worker
 - Behavioral Health Case Managers
 - Certified Peer Specialist
 - Behavioral Disorder Counselor
 - Behavioral Health Assistant
 - Board Certified Behavior Analyst
 - Community Health Worker/Promotor
 - Community Response Counselor
 - Licensed Applied Behavioral Analyst
 - Licensed Clinical Psychologist
 - Licensed or Associate Clinical Social Worker
 - Licensed or Associate Marriage and Family Therapist
 - Licensed or Associate Professional Clinical Counselor
 - Licensed Psychiatric Technician
 - Mental/Behavioral Health Services Specialist
 - Mental Health Care Specialist
 - Mental Health Counselor
 - Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist
 - Occupational Therapist
-

- Occupational Therapist Assistant
- Peer Personnel Specialist
- Psychiatric Aid
- Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Psychiatric Registered Nurse
- Psychiatric Technician
- Registered Psychological Associate
- School Psychologist

Eligible Geographic and Site Designations for a Service Obligation

- Children's hospital
- Community-based behavioral health organization (501(c)(3))
- Correctional facility
- County-operated health facility
- County-operated behavioral health clinic or program
- Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)
- FQHC Look-Alike
- Health Professional Shortage Area – Mental Health
- Health Professional Shortage Area – Primary Care
- Medically Underserved Area
- Native American Health Center
- Non-profit behavioral health settings
- Primary Care Shortage Area
- Local Education Agency (public K-12 school setting)
- County Office of Education
- California public or private non-profit college or university
- Public or private non-profit childcare organizations
- Rural Healthcare Center
- State-operated health program and/or facility
- Substance use disorder services program and/or facility
- Tribal community
- Veteran's services program and/or facility

Eligible Cost of Attendance

You must indicate that you have costs associated with schooling to be eligible for an award. The cost of attendance (COA) is the total amount it will cost for you to attend your program for one year. The COA may include the following expenses:

- Tuition and fees
- On-campus room and board (or a housing and food allowance for off-campus students).
- Allowances for books, supplies, transportation, loan fees, and, if applicable, dependent care.

The COA must reflect the costs associated for one year only and not the entire program.

Applicants are required to submit the COA document as part of the online application. Please include your estimate of all qualified costs as listed above.

Award Amounts and Available Funding Available Funding

Up to **\$16 million** is available to support students enrolled in eligible degree programs. In the event there is additional state funding available, HCAI has the discretion to make additional awards.

Award Amount

The maximum award amount for one full year of attendance of the Behavioral Health Scholarship Program (BHSP) is **\$35,000** for undergraduate applicants, and **\$25,000** for certificate and graduate applicants. Applicants will not be awarded more than their actual cost of attendance for one year of the program. Applicants not enrolled for a full year, must cite their actual and final remaining expenses.

HCAI may award full, partial, or no funding to an applicant based on the applicant's success in meeting the selection criteria and the amount of available funds.

Applicants may apply for more than one HCAI scholarship or loan repayment program at a time. However, successful applicants will receive only one award per year.

Future Scholarship Funding

As funding permits, a Grantee may apply each year for an additional award. For each award, the Grantee will be required to serve an additional one-year service obligation. To remain eligible, the individual must still be enrolled in an eligible behavioral health certificate, associate, bachelor, master, and/or doctoral degree program, and meet all other BHSP eligibility requirements.

A new application must be submitted annually to be considered for additional awards. Each service obligation requires a separate contract and will not be considered as a continuation of a previous agreement.

Applicant's applying for other scholarship or training opportunities, must provide their BHSP application ID to those entities. Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of your BHSP grant agreement.

Service Obligation

Grantees must, within six (6) months after graduation from an accredited college or career institution or training program, provide full-time service in direct care for a term of at least 12 months at a qualified worksite (the "Service Obligation").

Individuals may only incur one award with a service obligation at any given time. If the applicant accepts an award from the BHSP program, they may not also receive an award with a service obligation from another HCAI or HCAI-funded program.

You cannot receive a BHSP award if you will be accepting and/or currently receive funds from: Wellness Coach Scholarship Program (WCSP), the Social Work Public Behavioral Health Training and Fellowship Program (SWPBH), Peer Personnel Program certificate, the Title IV-E Child Welfare Stipend, or year two of the Golden State Social Opportunity Program (GSSOP). Applicants for multiple programs will be also required to prioritize among applications for BHSP and/or WCSP programs.

If planning to attend graduate school, successful applicants may submit a deferral request for up to 30 months as they pursue their graduate degree in clinical studies that will result in registration with and subsequent licensure by the Board of Behavioral Sciences or the Board of Psychology.

Definitions

“Full-time Service” is defined as a minimum of 32 hours of direct care per week.

“Direct Care” means the provision of behavioral health care services provided directly to individuals being treated for or suspected of having behavioral health needs including mental health conditions and/or substance use disorders. Direct care includes both face-to-face and telehealth-based care, as well as first-line supervision of individuals delivering direct care.

“First-line supervision” is defined as supervising agency employees and students who are enrolled in an organized postgraduate training and/or education program that provide direct care.

Initiating an Application

The applicant is responsible for providing all necessary information and ensuring that the information contained in the application is complete and accurate.

Applicants must register and submit all applications (including all required forms, documents, and/or attachments) through the HCAI funding portal <https://funding.hcai.ca.gov/>.

New applicants must first register as a user to access the application materials. Returning applicants must use their previous email and password to login. Please see BHSP Technical Assistance Guide to assist with the application process. You can find this on the page linked here: <https://hcai.ca.gov/workforce/financial-assistance/grants/bhp/>.

Worksite Absences

Grantees can take up to four weeks per calendar year away from their BHSP approved practice site for any leave of absence approved by their worksite, or otherwise as required to comply with applicable federal and state laws. HCAI will execute a contract amendment to extend the grantee's obligation end date for each day of absence over the allowable four weeks. This provision does not apply to summer break when employed in a school-based or school-linked setting.

Communication Requirements for Grantees

Grantees must email HCAI within these specified timeframes for the following reasons:

15 calendar days if you:

Experience any change in full-time status, including but not limited to, a decrease in the number of hours providing direct services (falling below 32 hours), termination, resignation, or leave of absence in excess of the time permitted outlined under Section I: Worksite Absences.

30 calendar days if you:

- Experience any changes in the worksite. Submit to the HCAI Program Officer an Employment Verification Form (EVF) reflecting your new employer. HCAI will verify if the worksite is eligible.
- Change in name, residential address, phone number, and/or email address.
- Have a problem of a personal nature, such as physical or mental disabilities, or terminal illness in the immediate family, which so intrudes on the Grantee's present and future ability to perform, and which raises a presumption that the individual will be unable to fulfill the obligation incurred. HCAI may request a doctor/health care provider note for verification.

60 Calendar days if you:

- Submit any request to defer, for 30 months, service obligations in order for the grantee to attend a graduate level degree that would lead to a licensure as a clinician practitioner.

90 calendar days if you:

File a petition with HCAI for modification of the amount to be paid or repaid, and/or the time of repayment regarding a potential breach in contract.

Evaluation and Scoring Procedures

HCAI may make multiple awards. Please refer to Attachment A: Evaluation and Scoring Criteria. Final awards include consideration of the following elements:

1. At the time of application closing, HCAI will review each application for the presence or absence of required information in conformance with the submission requirements.
2. HCAI may reject applications that contain false or misleading information.
3. HCAI will use the evaluation criteria in Attachment A: Evaluation and Scoring Criteria to score applications.

Award Process

HCAI may award full, partial, or no funding to an applicant based on the applicant's evaluation score and the amount of available funds. HCAI will notify selected applicants after finalizing all award decisions. The award process time can vary depending upon the number of applications received. HCAI will use DocuSign to send contract documents to each Grantee for review and signature.

Grant Agreement Deliverables

The Grantee shall submit a valid Scholarship Program Verification (SPV) form on or before August 1, 2025. Failure to do so will result in non-payment and termination of the Grant Agreement at the discretion of HCAI.

The Grantee shall submit two Progress Reports through to the HCAI funding portal during the 12-month service obligation. The schedule of these reports starts after you have completed your education or training. Report due dates are based on when you begin working at your approved worksite.

Required Grant Documentation

- Request and submit Payee Data Record form (STD204) anytime there is a change in your name and/or residential address.
 - Once planning to graduate, the grantee may access the Graduation Date Verification (GDV) form on the HCAI funding portal **within 30 days** after graduating from program.
 - Once employed, the grantee may access the Employment Verification (EVF) form on the HCAI funding portal **within 60 days** after graduating and **anytime** there is a change in practice site.
 - No later than 60 days after fulfilling the service obligation, the grantee must submit a final
-

Employment Verification Form (EVF) in the HCAI Funding Portal.

Post Award and Payment Provisions

1. HCAI expects the Grantee will begin performance of the grant agreement on the start date listed on the grant documents.
2. The State Controller's Office mails a paper check directly to the Grantee's address on file.
Note: To avoid delay in payment, please ensure HCAI has your most recent residential address on file by updating your address in the HCAI Funding Portal <https://funding.hcai.ca.gov> and afterward, emailing BHprograms@hcai.ca.gov
3. HCAI cannot provide tax advice to Grantees. HCAI are not tax professionals and tax consequences may vary depending on the Grantee. For this reason, Grantees should seek professional tax advice.

Breach Policy

HCAI reserves the right to recover monies for the Grantee's failure to perform the obligations set forth in the grant agreement. Refer to Attachment B: Sample Grant Agreement – Section G: Breach for detailed information.

Key Dates

The key dates for the program year are as follows:

Event	Date	Time
Application Available	January 2, 2025	3:00 p.m.
Informational Webinar	January 16, 2025	1:30 p.m.
Application Submission Deadline	February 13, 2025	3:00 p.m.
Anticipated Award Notice Date	April 1, 2025	N/A
Grant Agreement Execution Date	May 15, 2025	N/A
Due Date of Scholarship Program Verification (SPV) form	August 1, 2025	N/A
Grant Agreement Start Date	September 1, 2025	N/A
Anticipate Release of Funds	November 1, 2025	N/A

Grant Questions and Answers

You can find answers to most questions in this Grant Guide. Prospective applicants may submit questions to HCAI at BHPrograms@HCAI.ca.gov at any time during the application cycle.

Contact Us

For questions related to BHSP and the HCAI funding portal please email HCAI staff at BHPrograms@HCAI.ca.gov.

Section II: HCAI funding portal Technical Assistance Guide

Accessing the Application System

HCAI uses a web-based application called the “HCAI funding portal” to allow healthcare providers and students to submit applications. This Grant Guide contains information you need to complete and submit an application in HCAI funding portal. There is also a separate technical assistance guide available on the [HCAI website](#).

To access the HCAI funding portal, go to <https://funding.hcai.ca.gov/>. To ensure proper functionality in the HCAI funding portal, use Chrome or Microsoft Edge, as Internet Explorer is no longer supported.

Registration and Login

All applicants must register in the HCAI funding portal system before beginning an application. To register as a new user, click the “Create Account” button on the home page and follow the instructions.

After submitting your email address and creating a password, you will receive an email with an account activation link. Click the link in the email to return to the HCAI funding portal and complete your user account.

Submitting an Application

- By submitting the application, you agree to the grant Terms and Conditions.
- HCAI will not consider late and/or incomplete applications. For more detailed information, refer to Section I: Key Dates in this Grant Guide.
- Once you click the “Submit” button, you cannot go back to revise the application.
- The HCAI funding portal will email you a confirmation of submission.

BHSP Application Components

A submitted application must contain all required information and conform to the Grant Guide format. The BHSP application has nine sections for applicants to fill out:

1. General Information
 2. Profile Information
 3. Contact Information (**one contact required**)
 4. Educational Information
 5. Professional Information
 6. Scholarship Program Verification (SPV)
 7. Employment History
 8. Required Documents
 - **Ensure you use an acceptable file format, or your application will be rejected. Examples of acceptable formats are .jpg, .doc, .docx, and .pdf.**
-

9. Application Certification

Where applicable, each page displays instructions. You can also click the “Help” button located next to your username in the upper right corner of your browser window for additional assistance or explanation. If you need additional assistance, contact BHSP staff BHPrograms@HCAI.ca.gov.

Attachment A: Evaluation and Scoring Criteria Grantee Selection Information

HCAI may award full, partial, or no funding to an applicant based on the applicant's success in meeting the scoring criteria, the amount of available funds, and the size of the eligible applicant pool. HCAI will use the Evaluation and Scoring Criteria below to score applications and will grant awards to the highest scored applications. HCAI also intends for the BHSP program to support a geographic distribution in California. Additional preference may be given to an applicant from a geographic region which is not represented by the highest scored applications.

Priority consideration will be given to applicants who:

- Are economically disadvantaged.
 - Have volunteered or worked with the underserved.
 - Have experienced homelessness and/or involvement in child welfare/ foster youth.
 - Are a first-generation college student.
 - Speak one or more languages other than English.
 - Attend a public college or university.
-

Scoring Criteria for Behavioral Health Scholarship Program (BHSP)

SCORING CRITERIA		
Core Categories	Guideline	Max Points Possible
Economically Disadvantaged	Have you ever received an income-based financial aid award at any college or university where enrolled? 12 points: Yes 0 points: No	12
Experience Underserved Areas/Groups	Have you volunteered or worked in an underserved area or with underserved groups in the United States or overseas? 4 points: Yes 0 points: No	4
Experience with Homelessness	Are you a current or former homeless youth? 10 points: Yes 0 points: No	10
Experience with Foster/ Child Welfare System	Are you a current or former foster youth? 10 points: Yes 0 points: No	10
First-Generation College Student	Are you a first-generation college student? 6 points: Yes 0 points: No	6
Languages Spoken	Do you speak one or more listed languages fluently/well enough to be able to provide direct care services to clients? 5 points for each of the listed languages spoken	30
Prior Grantee for the Same Program	Have you previously been awarded through the Behavioral Health Scholarship Program (BHSP)? 75 points: Yes 0 points: No	75
Public Academic Setting	Will you be attending one of the following during the Fall 2024 term: California Community College California State University University of California 3 points: Yes 0 points: No	3
	Total Points	150 total points

Attachment B: Sample Grant Agreement

GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND INFORMATION
AND
[GRANTEE NAME]
GRANT AGREEMENT NUMBER **[GRANT AGREEMENT NUMBER]**

THIS GRANT AGREEMENT (“Agreement”) is entered into on **[Grant Start Date]** by and between the State of California, Department of Health Care Access and Information (hereinafter “HCAI”) and **[Provider Name]** (“hereinafter “Grantee”)

WHEREAS, HCAI supports healthcare accessibility through the promotion of a diverse and competent workforce while providing analysis of California’s healthcare infrastructure and coordinating healthcare workforce issues.

WHEREAS, HCAI seeks to accomplish its mission by encouraging healthcare students to practice in underserved communities throughout California through the **[Program Cycle Name]**.

WHEREAS, **[Program Acronym]** provides support to healthcare students by providing scholarship incentives for healthcare educational programs.

WHEREAS, Grantee applied to participate in the **[Program Cycle Name]**, by submitting an electronic application in response to the **[Program Cycle Name]** Application.

WHEREAS, Grantee was selected by HCAI through duly adopted procedures to receive grant funds from **[Program Acronym]**.

NOW THEREFORE, HCAI and the Grantee agree as follows:

A. Definitions

1. “Program Application” means the grant application submitted by Grantee and approved by HCAI.
 2. “Director” means the Director of the Department of Health Care Access and Information or their designee.
 3. “Deputy Director” means the Deputy Director of the Office of Health Workforce Development (OHWD) or their designee.
 4. “Grant Agreement/Grant Number” means this Agreement, **[Grant Agreement Number]**, between HCAI and Grantee.
 5. “Provider” means the Grantee.
-

6. "Grant Funds" means the money provided by HCAI to Grantee per this Agreement.
7. "Program" means the **[Program Cycle Name]**.
8. "Program Officer" means the HCAI analyst that administers and oversees the grant program.
9. "State" means the State of California and includes all its Departments, Agencies, Committees and Commissions.
10. "Direct Care" means the provision of behavioral health care services provided directly to individuals being treated for or suspected of having a behavioral health condition, including mental health issues and/or substance use disorder, including face-to-face and telehealth-based services and first-line supervision.
11. "Full-Time Service" is defined as a minimum of 32 hours per week.
12. "Qualified Facility/Worksite" see section I: "Eligible Geographic and Site Designations for a Service Obligation" of the grant guide.

B. Terms of the Agreement

This Agreement shall take effect on **[Agreement Start Date]** and shall end on **[Agreement End Date]**.

C. Scope of Work

Grantee agrees to the following Scope of Work as set forth herein. In the event of a conflict between the provisions of this Agreement and the Grantee's Program Application, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail:

Grantee Shall:

1. For the period of **[Agreement Start Date]** through **[Agreement End Date]** be enrolled in a(n) eligible health educational program with a minimum of six semester units, or its equivalent, maintain a 2.0 GPA or better in the educational program listed on the approved Program Application for the duration of the program until a degree/certification is conferred, and completing service obligation in a qualifying facility.
 - a. Take not more than four weeks of leave in a calendar year from their approved worksite for any leave of absence approved by their worksite, unless required by federal and state laws, without affecting their service obligation.
-

- b. Obtain approval from HCAI for more than four weeks of leave and agree to amend the term of this Agreement to extend the service obligation for each day of absence over the four weeks. Summer break, when employed at a school-based or school-linked site is not subject to this provision.
 - c. The 2.0 GPA requirement does not apply if enrolled in a peer support specialist certificate program.
 2. Within 30 days following graduation:

Submit a Graduation Date Verification (GDV) Form certifying Grantee was in good standing and graduated from the educational program listed on the approved Program Application.
 3. Within 60 days following graduation

Submit any request to defer, for 30 months, service obligations in order for the grantee to attend a graduate level degree that would lead to a licensure as a clinician practitioner.
 4. Within a six-month period following graduation from the educational program listed on the approved Program Application:
 - a. Begin full-time (not less than 32 hours of direct care per week) in a qualified facility in California for a period of not less than 12 months.
 - b. For purposes of this program, employment for an academic year in a school setting is equivalent to 12 months.
 - c. Provide proof of full-time employment to HCAI, including hire date, position, and hours worked per week. HCAI will provide forms as needed to the Grantee.
 - d. Provide a copy of licensure, registration or certificate including the license number issued by the appropriate California licensing board and/or certifying organization, if requested.
 - e. If planning to attend graduate school for clinical studies that will result in, upon graduation, registration with the Board of Behavioral Sciences or the Board of Psychology, applicants may submit a deferral request for up to 30 months as they pursue their higher education.
 5. Notify HCAI, in writing, of any changes to name, mailing address, phone number, or e-mail address changes within 30 days of the change.
 6. Notify HCAI within 30 days of any change in the place of employment. HCAI will verify if

the new place of employment is a qualified facility. Grantees shall contact their Program Officer (identified under Section K. HCAI and Grantee Contact Information) to verify eligibility of a potential new employer before switching places of employment.

7. No later than 60 days after fulfilling the service obligation, the grantee must submit a final Employment Verification Form (EVF) in the HCAI Funding Portal.
8. Submit to HCAI all requested information during the duration of this Agreement, **[Agreement Start Date]** through **[Agreement End Date]**. HCAI may request information including, Scholarship Program Verification Form (SPV), Graduation Date Verification Form, Employment Verification Form, and Progress Reports.
9. During fiscal year (FY) 2025-26, not receive any scholarship or stipend funds from HCAI or one of its grantees, including a university.
10. Not contract with another entity to practice professionally for a period during the term of this Agreement for financial benefit, including tuition reimbursement, scholarships, loans, or loan repayment. Grantee shall be ineligible to receive a loan repayment under this Agreement until the conflicting obligation with any entity has been fulfilled.
11. Apply all Grant Funds to the qualifying educational expense(s) associated with the cost of attendance as listed in the approved Program Application, during the term of this Agreement. Work performed, and payments made before the grant agreement start date, will not count towards the requirements.
12. HCAI intends to evaluate the effectiveness of this Program through periodic surveys of past participants. Grantee hereby acknowledges that HCAI may contact Grantee during the immediate five (5) years after the service obligation concludes for Program evaluation purposes

D. Payment Provisions and Reporting Requirements

1. HCAI shall make a **one-time payment** of Grant Funds within the Service Term, from **[Grant Agreement Start Date]** to **[Grant Agreement End Date]**, payable directly to the Grantee. HCAI reserves the right to change payment provisions within the Agreement term, if needed.
 2. Payments will be made pursuant to Government Code, Title 1, Division 3.6, Part 3, Chapter 4.5, commencing with Section 927 et seq.
 3. HCAI will monitor the service obligation via the bi-annual submission of Progress Reports by the Grantee. HCAI reserves the right to increase or decrease the number of Progress Reports required to be submitted within the Agreement term, if needed.
 4. Grantee shall make any required payments on all outstanding student loans.
-

Nothing in this Agreement relieves the Grantee of the primary responsibility to repay the educational debts listed in the approved Program Application.

5. The total obligation of HCAI under this Agreement shall not exceed **[\$Award Amount]** and shall be payable as follows:

[\$PAYMENT] once this Grant Agreement is executed on **[Grant Agreement Start Date]**.

6. Payments are conditioned upon HCAI's receipt of documentation of the Grantee's provision of the service obligation, and other documents as required by HCAI. The initial payment may take up to 120 days, excluding weekends and State holidays.

Payments under this Agreement are issued independent of any loan payment due date and may be made at any time within the term of this Agreement.

7. Grantees are required to collect and provide HCAI/OHWD with any requested data and/or information, using metrics and instruments developed by HCAI/OHWD, that may include, but is not limited to, the following:
 - a. Program characteristics, activities, and outcomes
 - b. Participant characteristics (including race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, and languages spoken), activities, and outcomes.
 - c. Participant educational, professional, and employment information.
8. As a Grantee, HCAI may reach out to you periodically during and after your service commitment and ask you to complete a survey. Your participation is vital to our ability to demonstrate the effectiveness of programs such as this one and advocate for future funding to participants such as you. If you receive a survey from us, it will likely contain questions about your education/training status and employment. We hope that you will take the time to complete such surveys - typically not more than one or two per year and not for more than five (5) years after your service commitment concludes.

E. Tax Implications on Award

HCAI does not provide tax advice, and this section may not be construed as tax advice from HCAI. Grantee should seek advice from an independent tax consultant on the financial implication(s) of any financial incentive award received from HCAI. HCAI does not withhold any tax from the award.

F. Budget Contingency Clause

1. Parties agree that if the Budget Act of the current year and/or any subsequent years covered under this Agreement does not appropriate sufficient funds for the Program, this
-

Agreement shall be void. In this event, HCAI shall have no liability to pay any funds to Grantee or to furnish any other consideration under this Agreement and Grantee shall not be obligated to perform any provisions of this Agreement.

2. If funding for any fiscal year is reduced or deleted by the Budget Act for purposes of the Program, HCAI shall have the option to either cancel this Agreement with no liability occurring to HCAI or offer an amendment to Grantee to reflect the reduced amount.

G. Breach

1. HCAI expressly reserves the right to pursue all legal and equitable remedies in the event of a breach by Grantee.
2. Grantee's failure to complete their Service Obligation is a material breach of this Agreement. HCAI shall recover the following penalty for the Grantee's failure to complete their Service Obligation unless Grantee obtains relief under Section H:
 - a. The amounts paid by HCAI to, or on behalf of, the Grantee for any portion of the Service Obligation not actually completed.
3. Breach shall occur if the Grantee's fails to provide all the following:
 - a. Scholarship Program Verification form
 - b. A copy of licensure, registration, or certificate including the license number issued by the appropriate California licensing board before the grant agreement expiration date.
 - c. Graduate Date Verification Form
 - d. Employment Verification Form

HCAI shall recover the entire amount paid by HCAI to, or on behalf of, the Grantee.

4. Any breach penalty shall be paid within six (6) months of the date of HCAI's written notification to the Grantee of the breach unless HCAI agrees to another arrangement in writing.
5. Grantee shall be ineligible to apply for any HCAI Programs in the future if they materially breach their contract unless Grantee obtains relief under Section H.

By signing below, the Grantee has reviewed and acknowledged the terms under Section G: Breach.

[Grantee's Full Name]

Date

H. Provisions for Suspension, Waiver, Cancellation or Voluntary Termination of Service

1. Any service or payment obligation incurred by the Grantee will be canceled upon the Grantee's death.
2. Grantee may seek a modification, waiver, suspension, reduction, or delay of the service or payment obligations under this Agreement by written request to HCAI setting forth the basis, circumstances, and causes which support the requested action. HCAI may approve a request for a suspension for a period up to one year. A renewal of this suspension may also be granted on a case-by-case basis.
3. Grantee may delay the start of their service obligation by means of providing a completed HCAI deferment letter affording up to a 30-month delay until they have completed a graduate program leading to a degree required for a behavioral health profession
4. HCAI may modify, waive, suspend, reduce, or delay any service or payment obligation incurred by a Grantee whenever compliance by the Grantee is impossible, or would involve extreme hardship to the Grantee, and if the enforcement of the service or payment obligation would be against equity and good conscience.
5. Compliance by a Grantee with a service or payment obligation shall be considered impossible if HCAI determines, on the basis of information and documentation, that the Grantee suffers from a physical or mental disability resulting in the permanent (or near-permanent) inability of the Grantee to perform the service or other activities which would be necessary to comply with the obligation.
6. When determining if to waive, suspend, reduce, or delay any or all of the service or payment obligations of a Grantee due to an undue hardship and being against equity and good conscience, HCAI may consider the following:
 - a. The Grantee's present financial resources and obligations.
 - b. The Grantee's estimated future financial resources and obligations.
 - c. The extent to which the Grantee has problems of a personal nature, such as physical or mental disabilities, or terminal illness in the immediate family, which so intrude on the Grantee's present and future ability to perform as to raise a presumption that the individual will be unable to perform the obligation incurred. HCAI may request a doctor/health care provider note for verification.
7. Grantee shall provide documentation to substantiate any request made under this section.

I. Executive Order N-6-22 – Russia Sanctions

On March 4, 2022, Governor Gavin Newsome issued Executive Order N-2-22 (the EO) regarding Economic Sanctions against Russia and Russian entities and individuals.

“Economic Sanctions” refers to sanctions imposed by the U.S. government in response to Russia’s actions in Ukraine, as well as any sanctions imposed under state law. The EO directs state agencies to terminate contracts with, and to refrain from entering any new contracts with, individuals or entities that are determined to be a target of Economic Sanctions. Accordingly, should the State determine Contractor is a target of Economic Sanctions or is conducting prohibited transactions with sanctioned individuals or entities, that shall be grounds for termination of this agreement. The State shall provide Contractor advance written notice of such termination, allowing Contractor at least 30 calendar days to provide a written response. Termination shall be at the sole discretion of the State.

J. General Terms and Conditions

1. **Timeliness:** Time is of the essence in this Agreement. The grantee will submit required documentation by the deadlines set by HCAI. Anticipating potential overlaps, conflicts, and scheduling issues, to adhere to the terms of the Agreement is the sole responsibility of the Grantee.
 2. **Final Agreement:** This Agreement, along with the Program Application, constitutes the entire and final agreement between the parties and supersedes all prior oral or written agreements or discussions. Any conflict between the provisions of this Agreement and the Program Application, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.
 3. **Cumulative Remedies:** HCAI’s failure to exercise or a delay in exercising any right, remedy, power or privilege shall not operate as a waiver thereof; nor shall any single or partial exercise by HCAI of any right, remedy, power, or privilege preclude any other or further exercise any other right, remedy, power or privilege. The rights, remedies, powers, and privileges provided are cumulative and not exclusive of any rights, remedies, powers, and privileges provided by law.
 4. **Ownership and Public Records Act:** All reports and the supporting documentation and data, which are embodied in those documents, collected from Grantee pursuant to this Agreement, shall become the property of the State and subject to the California Public Records Act (Gov. Code §§ 6250 et seq.).
 5. **Independence from the State:** Grantee, in the performance of this Agreement, shall act in an independent capacity and not as officers or employees or agents of the State.
 6. **Waiver:** The waiver by HCAI of a breach of any provision of this Agreement by the Grantee will not operate or be construed as a waiver of any other breach. HCAI expressly reserves the right to disqualify Grantee from any future grant awards for failure to comply with the terms of this Agreement.
 7. **Approval:** This Agreement is of no effect until signed by both parties. The Grantee may not commence performance until such approval has been obtained.
 8. **Amendment:** No amendment or variation of the terms of this Agreement shall be valid
-

unless made in writing, signed by the parties and approved as required. No oral understanding or Agreement not incorporated in the Agreement is binding on any of the parties.

9. Assignment: This Agreement is not assignable by Grantee, either in whole or in part, without the consent of HCAI in the form of a formal written amendment.
10. Indemnification: Grantee agrees to indemnify, defend and save harmless the State, its officers, agents, and employees from any and all claims and losses accruing or resulting

to any person, firm, or corporation who may be injured or damaged by Grantee in the performance of this Agreement.

Disputes: Grantee shall continue with the responsibilities under this Agreement during any dispute. Any dispute arising under this Agreement shall be resolved as follows:

- a. Grantee will discuss the dispute informally with the HCAI Program Manager. If unresolved the dispute shall be presented, in writing, to the Deputy Director stating the issues in dispute, the basis for Grantee's position, and the remedy sought. Grantee shall include copies of any documentary evidence and describe any other evidence that supports their position with its submission to the Deputy Director.
- b. Within ten working days after receipt of the written grievance from the Grantee, the Deputy Director or their designee shall make a determination and shall respond in writing to the Grantee indicating the decision and reasons for it.
- c. Within ten working days of receipt of the Deputy Director's decision, the Grantee may appeal the decision of the Deputy Director by submitting a written appeal to the Chief Deputy Director stating why the Grantee does not agree with the Deputy Director's Decision
- d. Within ten working days, the Chief Deputy Director or their designee shall respond in writing to the Grantee with their decision. The Chief Deputy Director's decision will be final.

11. Governing Law: This Agreement is governed by and shall be interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of California.

12. Unenforceable Provision: In the event that any provision of this Agreement is unenforceable or held to be unenforceable, then the parties agree that all other provisions of this Agreement have force and effect and shall not be affected thereby.
-

K. HCAI and Grantee Contact Information

The representatives of HCAI and the contact information for each party during the term of this agreement are listed below. Direct all inquiries to:

State Agency: Department of Health Care Access and Information	HCAI Program Awarded Under [Name of Program]
Section/Unit: Office of Health Workforce Development	Grantee's First Name, Last Name: [Grantee's Full Name]
Program Officer Name: [Program Officer Full Name]	Address: [Address 1]
Address: 2020 West El Camino Avenue, Suite 1222 Sacramento, CA 95833	Phone Number 1: [Phone 1]
Phone: [Program Officer Main Phone]	Phone Number 2: [Phone 2]
Email: [Program Officer Primary Email]	Email: [Email Address]

L. Parties' Acknowledgement:

By signing below, the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) and Grantee acknowledge that this Agreement accurately reflects the understanding of HCAI and Grantee with respect to the rights and obligations under this Agreement.

[Grantee's Full Name]

Date

For the Department of Health Care Access and Information:

[Procurement and Contract Services Manager]

Date