The National Institutes of Health will repay up to $35,000 in student loans each year when an M.D., Ph.D., or other postdoctoral scientist agrees to conduct qualified biomedical, behavioral, social, and clinical research. In 2010 NIH received 3,217 applications (new and renewal) with 38% of new applications and 69% of renewal applications receiving funding. 77% of 2010 awardees had educational debt greater than $50,000 and the average debt was $97,891. More information on the NIH LRP program can be found at: http://www.lrp.nih.gov/index.aspx

1. General eligibility requirements are
   a. you must be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or permanent resident of the U.S.
   b. you must have a health professional doctoral degree (M.D., Ph.D., Psy.D., Pharm. D., D.O., D.D.S., D.M.D., D.P.M., D.C., N.D., D.V.M., or equivalent doctoral degree) from an accredited institution.
   c. you must have total qualified educational debt equal to or in excess of 20 percent of your institutional base salary.
   d. your research must be supported by a domestic nonprofit foundation, university, professional association, or other nonprofit institution, or a U.S. government agency (federal, state, or local). THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOU HAVE TO HAVE EXTERNAL OR INSTITUTIONAL FUNDING FOR YOUR RESEARCH. The institutional salary provided by UNH (a nonprofit organization) is consistent with this requirement.
   e. LRP participants are legally bound to a service obligation to conduct qualifying research for 50 percent of their time (at least 20 hours per week based on a 40-hour week) for two years. THIS DOES NOT MEAN YOU NEED TO HAVE A RESEARCH APPOINTMENT OR 50% RESEARCH APPOINTMENT. This requirement is satisfied simply by performing research activities 20 or more hours per week.

2. Extramural (non-NIH employee) applicants can apply to one of five areas:
   a. Clinical Research (broadly defined)
   b. Pediatric Research
   c. Health Disparities Research
   d. Contraception and Infertility Research
   e. Clinical Research for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds
   f. More information can be found at: http://www.lrp.nih.gov/about_the_programs/index.aspx

3. You can apply as a mentored researcher or as an independent researcher. If you apply as a mentored researcher you and your mentor will have to provide a mentorship plan. If you apply as an independent researcher, you will have to provide a career development plan.

4. The application deadline is November 15, 2012 and is submitted by the applicant (not SPA) at: http://www.lrp.nih.gov/apply_here/index.aspx. You will need to provide:
   a. Biosketch
   b. Brief Dissertation Abstract
   c. Mentorship or Career Development Plan
   d. Personal Statement
e. Proposed Research Activities
f. Research Environment
g. Documentation of outstanding school loans
h. Institutional official (e.g. Dean or Associate Dean) and three individuals to provide references

5. If funded, NIH will make quarterly loan payments for you as well as provide income tax payments to the IRS to offset the additional taxable income encumbered. Funding is generally for two years, and if funded, the awardee can apply for renewal funding during the second year.

6. If you have any questions please contact either:

   Kathryn Cataneo  
   Director of Research Development & Communications  
   Office of the Senior Vice Provost for Research  
   603-862-0357  
   k.cataneo@unh.edu

   or

   Dain P. LaRoche  
   NIH Loan Repayment Program recipient and ambassador  
   Assistant Professor - Exercise Science  
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