

RURAL LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

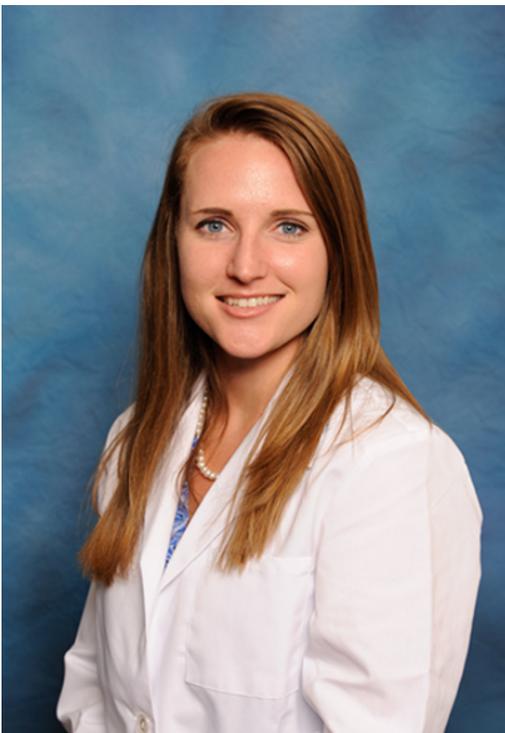
The Rural Practice Loan Forgiveness program supports more than 40 health professional students, including medical, nurse practitioner and physician assistant students who are committed to practice in rural South Carolina upon completion of their graduate program. This unique loan forgiveness opportunity affords students the ability to reduce the financial burden of education for their service commitment.

45 PARTICIPANTS

enrolled in the Rural Practice Loan Forgiveness Program for medical, physician assistant, and advance practice registered nurse students

\$4.5 MILLION

dollars committed to current program participants across the state



RECIPIENT SPOTLIGHT

Courtney VanderMeersch will be the first doctor in her family. She recently completed her 4 years of study for her Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine in May 2021 and is now completing her residency training at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center in North Carolina. During her studies, Courtney attended the Florence Regional Campus in order to gain a more hands on experience in a rural area and give back to a smaller community. She hopes to return to Florence, SC to practice in obstetrics and gynecology. The Rural Loan Forgiveness program has provided an opportunity for her to reduce the burden that medical school has on students and indicate her desire to help those in need.

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The cost of schooling is so significant and to have that financial burden lifted means so much. The chance to graduate with less debt and come back to serve in an underserved area made sense to me.

- Courtney VanderMeersch
Rural Loan Forgiveness Program Recipient

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