

Subject: Health Care Access Committee Recommendations

State taxpayer support for medical and dental education should be leveraged in order to encourage practice in Wisconsin. My proposal would require Medical and Dental students who receive the stipend, or pay in-state tuition at UW, to engage in full-time clinical practice in Wisconsin for each year that they get the stipend, or pay in-state tuition. Wisconsin residents who know they will not practice in the state can choose not to receive the stipend or pay out-of-state tuition at UW. Students who choose not to return to Wisconsin after a residency or fellowship would be required to pay back the total amount of stipend plus interest, or the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition plus interest. Students who return to Wisconsin but do not complete 4 years of full time practice would be required to pay back a percentage corresponding to the amount of time they did practice in Wisconsin. As an example, a practitioner who returns, but leaves Wisconsin after only two years would be required to pay ½ of the amount they would have had to pay if they had not returned.

Any repayments would be used to subsidize loan forgiveness programs for practitioners who agree to serve in Wisconsin's federally-designated Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs).

From,
Sheldon Wasserman