

Iron Range Resources

Dentist Recruitment

Forgivable Loan Program

Application Manual

2009

For More Information Contact:

Roy Smith, Ed.S., Regional Workforce Development Coordinator

Iron Range Resources, Development Strategies Division

4261 Highway 53 South, P. O. Box 441, Eveleth, MN 55734-0441

218-744-7334

1-800-765-5043

218-744-7403 (Fax)

Roy.Smith@state.mn.us

**Deadline: 5/4/2009

PURPOSE

The Dentist Recruitment Forgivable Loan Program is a competitive program designed to provide an incentive to attract dentists to practice in dentist shortage areas as defined by the United States Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration within the Taconite Assistance Area (TAA) of northeastern Minnesota.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- I. Applicant must hold a D.D.S. or D.M.D. degree.
- II. Applicant must hold a license to practice dentistry in Minnesota.
- III. Applicant must not already be in practice in the TAA.

FUNDING

It is the intent of Iron Range Resources to allocate resources to fund at least two individual dentists that commit to practicing in the TAA. Forgivable loan amounts of up to \$140,000 distributed over a period of up to 4 years will be awarded determined by factors including, but not limited to: agency funding availability, the number of qualified applicants, and the dentist shortage in the area in which the applicant intends to practice. Loans will be forgiven providing that the dentist maintains a dental office in the dental shortage area for a period of five consecutive years.

EVALUATION AND CRITERIA

Applicants will be evaluated for selection based on information collected on their application and during their personal interview. The criteria will include, but not be limited to: where the applicant intends to practice, the applicant's educational history, the applicant's written statement, and the applicant's previous experience. The IRR, along with its selection consultants, reserves the right to determine the weighting of any criterion.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please submit completed letter of interest to the agency address on the front cover of this manual. All applications submitted for funding are evaluated on an individual basis.

The application should include:

- I. A completed program application cover sheet.
- II. A written statement of no more than three pages 8 ½ by 11 inches stating why the applicant wishes to practice in the TAA, and how the applicant plans their career in their TAA practice.
- III. A business plan, if applicable, to their TAA practice.
- IV. Any other letters, exhibits, or documents that support the application.