

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Dr. Fred Ende Fund for Allied Health

BACKGROUND

In an effort to ensure financial assistance is available for students pursuing careers in allied health, SHEF establishes the Working Title: Fund for Allied Health. Allied health professionals work collaboratively with physicians, nurses, dentists, and pharmacists and generally include, but are not limited to, dental hygienists, diagnostic medical sonographers, dietitians, medical technologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, radiographers, respiratory therapists, and speech language pathologists. Allied health professionals comprise nearly 60% of the healthcare workforce and the demand for their specialized expertise is growing.

Working Title: Fund for Allied Health is specifically targeted to those students affiliated with SHEF's service region who are pursuing a bachelor's degree or graduate degree in an allied health profession and who demonstrate financial need. An award from the fund will be in the form of a forgivable loan. To be eligible to receive an award, students must have earned the minimum of an associate's degree (or will earn an associate's degree at the conclusion of the current semester during which the student is being considered for an award). Students who accept an award and successfully maintain employment following graduation in the geographic area surrounding Petersburg will receive credit for their time worked against the outstanding balance of the loan. In establishing the Fund as a forgivable loan Program, SHEF aims to connect this financial assistance to the healthcare workforce needs in its service region.

The Fund honors the legacy of SHEF's second board chair and his advocacy to provide financial support to students affiliated with the SHEF service region who wish to become allied health professionals serving the needs of residents of SHEF's service region.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM

1. A student accepted into an accredited post-secondary program may apply to receive an award of financial assistance from the Fund. SHEF will select qualified applicants and will administer the awards under the Program for each semester of study.
2. The financial award is distributed in the form of a forgivable loan, and the recipient must enter into a work commitment agreement with SHEF and promise to repay the loan if the conditions of the Program are not satisfied.
3. A student who has received funds under the Program must enter the workforce in a position consistent with his or her academic discipline within one hundred eighty days (180) days following completion of their degree program. A description of the allowable geographic area is attached. Students are responsible for obtaining employment, and SHEF has no responsibility to provide or offer employment to any student.
4. A student who has received funds under the Program but is unable to successfully find required employment in Petersburg or the surrounding geographic area within one hundred eighty (180) days following completion of their degree program must commence repayment of the loan on the 181st day. The SHEF Board may, in its discretion, delay repayment if compelling reasons exist.
5. Six (6) months of continual full-time or permanent part-time employment as an allied health professional in the approved geographic area will be credited for forgiveness of one (1) semester for which the student receives financial assistance under the Program.
6. SHEF retains the authority to set any additional conditions or requirements for the Program to preserve the intention of the Fund.

Working Title: Fund for Allied Health

Petersburg Locality

The Petersburg and surrounding areas consist of the following zip codes, generally as shown on the map below: 23803, 23804, 23805, 23806, 23860, 23801, 23830, 23842, 23875, 23881, 23847, 23888, 23897, 23846, 23868, 23831, 23836, 23829, 23838, 23834, 23147, 23837, 23867, 23878, 23884, 23890, 23839, 23883, 23844, and 23851.

