Board of Governors’ Dental Scholarship-Loan Program (BGDSL)

Frequently Asked Questions

*Board of Governors’ Dental Scholarship-Loan Program (BGDSL) is a scholarship-loan program which means funds received through this program must be repaid either through service or cash.*

For questions about any unfamiliar terms used with the documentations on this site, please visit our [Financial Aid Definitions](#).

**NEW AND RENEWAL APPLICANT QUESTIONS:**

**Q1.** How can I apply for a BGDSL?
- Applicant must sign and submit a completed application to the Dental School at UNC-CH to be forwarded to SEAA with supporting documentation
- Complete the FAFSA, listing UNC-CH Dental School, and submit it to the Central Processing System in a timely manner
- Submit additional documentation or information in support of the application in order to substantiate information presented in the application before the Dental School considers the application for a Scholarship-Loan or before SEAA approves a Scholarship-Loan for disbursement. The supporting documentation may include information about income and assets of the student’s parents.

**Q2.** How many scholarship-loans are available?
- A maximum of eight recipients will be selected each year.

**Q3.** When may I apply?
- The application period usually opens in February with a May 15 deadline.

**Q4.** What are the eligibility criteria?
- Recipients are selected based on financial need, merit, North Carolina residency and must fulfill the following:
  - Comply with the application procedures set forth in the Program Policies
  - Enroll or be accepted for enrollment, on a full-time basis in the Dental Program at UNC-CH
  - Qualify as a North Carolina resident for tuition purposes
  - Meet or exceed the Program Standards
  - Comply with the registration requirement of the Military Selective Service Act or be exempt from the registration requirements
  - Not be in default, nor owe a refund, under any federal or State loan or grant program and
  - Agree to be licensed to practice dentistry in North Carolina.

**Q5.** Is the scholarship-loan renewable?
- Yes. The scholarship is renewable for a maximum of four years, provided the recipient
  - Has continued financial need
  - Maintains satisfactory academic progress
  - Remains interested in dental practice in North Carolina
  - Is honoring the terms of the recipients Promissory Note
  - Remains eligible under the Program Policies and
  - Is continuously enrolled as a full-time student in the Dental Program.
Q6. **What is the value of the scholarship-loan?**
   - The scholarship-loan provides an annual stipend of $5,000 plus tuition, mandatory fees, medical insurance, a laptop computer and required dental equipment. The scholarship-loan amount is established by the General Assembly or set by SEAA based on the total appropriation for the Program.

Q7. **Am I required to sign a Promissory Note?**
   - Yes. A scholarship-loan must be evidenced by a Promissory Note, properly executed by the student and the notary public who witnesses the student’s signature.

Q8. **When will I receive my scholarship-loan funds?**
   - SEAA will disburse the proceeds of the scholarship-loan by electronic funds transfer to the Dental School.

Q9. **May I use the proceeds of the scholarship-loan for purposes other than the cost of attendance at the Dental School?**
   - No. Proceeds may only be used for payment towards the cost of attendance at the Dental School.

Q10. **May I take a leave of absence?**
    - Should you take a leave of absence during your training period, you forfeit that year’s funding. If you received funds for your 1st and 2nd years, then take a leave of absence in your 3rd year, you have only one year of eligibility remaining.

Q11. **May I postpone receiving my award?**
    - No. If you are approved and do not accept the funds, you lose your chance to reapply. Only 1st year students may be considered.