

## September 2025 Newsletter

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Dear Partners & Awardees,

We are pleased to announce that the first service year of the Connecticut Student Loan Repayment Program (CT SLRP) has come to a close, and we are very excited for the second year to kick off.

Thank you to all our awardees who took the time to complete two CME credits before the service year 1 deadline. Looking ahead, **the service year 2 CME requirements will be due September 30, 2026.**

As many of you are probably aware, we have recently introduced updated versions of the CT SLRP and “My Portal” websites. By focusing on simplicity and availability, we at CT SLRP are focused on guiding awardees to find the information that they need in an easier manner. As of now, “My Portal” is being utilized by 99.5% of our awardees!

We are eager to share our recent professional partnerships, including new CME modules (see page 2). We will continue to monitor the CMEs that our awardees have completed and listen to feedback on the coursework we currently have available on “My Portal.”

In terms of advocacy, our team has been fortuitous in spreading the word about our amazing program and the fantastic work that each one of you do on a daily basis. The CT Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Program, which oversees CT SLRP, recently co-hosted a “town hall” webinar with Florida AHEC as part of a joint effort to further discussions about health career pipeline programs, health professional student training opportunities, and continuing medical education activities. It was invigorating to listen to first-hand accounts of how our program has impacted local communities.

Sincerely,  
The CT SLRP Team





## Continuing Medical Education (CME)

### ► CME Data Following Service Year 1

Out of our 188 CT SLRP awardees as of September 30, 2025:

- **173** have completed CMEs
- **97%** of those who have completed CMEs have participated in multiple training sessions
- **465.5** CME units have been completed in total by our awardees
- **41%** of our awardees completed CMEs related to mental well-being and burnout

### ► NEW CME MODULES

We are very excited to announce new CME modules from the **following**



### ► SUBMISSION & COMMUNICATION

Thank you for submitting your CME documentation. Once your file has been successfully uploaded, the CT SLRP Team will send you a confirmation email with the subject line "Confirmed CME Submission." After we review and verify the certificate you submitted, you will receive a follow-up email with the subject line "CME Requirement Fulfilled - [Course Name]" confirming that you have met the CME requirement for that specific coursework.

### ► FAQs for CMEs

- *Do I have enough CME credits?*
  - **Answer:** If you have completed 2 CME credits (**PER SERVICE YEAR**) then you have met the requirement.
- *If I take 3 CMEs in service year 1, can I carry over 1 CME credit to service year 2?*
  - **Answer:** Unfortunately, no - only 2 CMEs can be counted towards your requirement **PER SERVICE YEAR**.
- *How do I submit CMEs properly to make sure I receive credit?*
  - **Answer:** Awardees must download a certificate after completing the course, and then either submit the certificate via "**My Portal**" (see page 4) or by emailing the CT SLRP team at **ctslrp@uchc.edu**.





## Professional Development

▶ As we move into service year 2 of our first CT SLRP cohort, we want to remind our awardees to **PLEASE UTILIZE OUR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TOOLS:**

- Financial Coaching
- ★ **Mental Health Coaching**
  - Continuing Medical Education (CMEs)
  - Professional Job Opportunities

### ★ Mental Health Coaching

We are happy to announce our newest coaching partner, **Tend Health**, with whom we are working to host sessions in group and 1-on-1 settings to address burnout, well-being, work-life balance and other related issues that go hand-in-hand with clinical practice. Awardees can sign up for any related events on our “My Portal” under the “Coaching Sessions” page.



Gabriela Ramirez, PsyD - Tend Health



CT SLRP's 1<sup>st</sup> mental health coaching partner: Tend Health





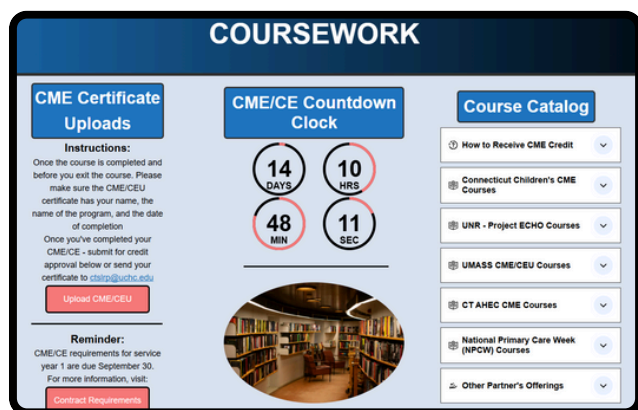
# CT SLRP

## Not just a student loan repayment program.

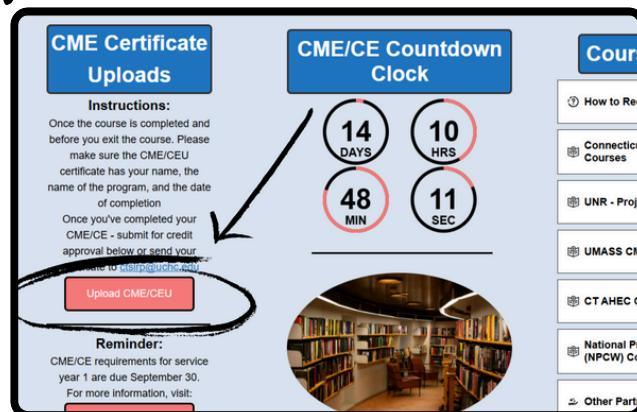
CONNECTICUT  
**SLRP**  
STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

## “My Portal”

- ▶ We have introduced a brand new **“My Portal”** redesign for our awardees to utilize! Below, we have highlighted some updated features that are available to all our awardees.
- ▶ **Contractual Requirements:**
  - Find all awardee requirements for the CT SLRP, including CME guidelines.
- ▶ **Coursework:**
  - **ALL THINGS CME RELATED** → modules, as well as the upload file location to submit your CME certificates! (See images below.)



“Coursework” page



Upload CME certificates as seen here

- ▶ **Coaching Sessions:**
  - Find all financial and mental wellness seminars and 1-on-1 sessions.
  - Includes upcoming sessions and a subpage to show past Lunch & Learn recordings.



ctslrp.org





## Public Advocacy

### SB 1450 (Public Act 25-162, 2025)



The CT Department of Public Health has been tasked to establish a health care provider loan reimbursement program with >20% to full-time primary care providers and >20% to full-time providers in rural communities or FQHCs.

We advocate to educate legislators and organizations about the **IMPORTANCE** of loan repayment programs in terms of retaining clinical staff working with underserved communities.

If you are interested in advocating for the continuation of **CT SLRP**, please contact your state and local representatives. You may also reach out to our team if you would like to participate in future town hall events.



[ctslrp.org](https://ctslrp.org)





## National AHEC Organization (NAO) Town Hall

📍 UConn Health

- ▶ On August 27, legislators and community members gathered at the UConn Health campus in Farmington, CT to advocate for the Connecticut Area Health Education Center (CT AHEC), alongside colleagues from Florida AHEC. Several medical professionals from both organizations shared powerful testimonies about the impact AHEC has had on their development.



UConn Health -  
Farmington, CT



Caleb Peck, PsyD, ABPP-CN

- ▶ One of our CT SLRP awardees, Caleb Peck, PsyD, ABPP-CN, delivered remarks on behalf of the program. Dr. Peck did an outstanding job highlighting key features of CT SLRP, and shared how the continuing medical education (CME) resources available through "My Portal" have been especially valuable for him and his colleagues.





## ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

📍 CT General Assembly

- ▶ On September 10, Sean Scanlon, the state comptroller, hosted a roundtable discussion at the Connecticut General Assembly (CGA). The event was designed to bring students and organizations together to discuss the challenges of student loans and highlight the state's efforts to ease financial burden.



Connecticut State Capitol Building



[From left to right]: Urban Health/AHEC Scholar Fabio Saccomanno, Marketing Associate Ben Schaedler & Administrative Officer Karen Pasquale

- ▶ Our colleagues engaged in meaningful dialogue around student indebtedness and the financial burdens faced by aspiring healthcare professionals. Their advocacy highlights the urgent need for sustainable solutions to support the next generation of providers, especially those committed to serving underserved communities across Connecticut.





## Looking Ahead

We **HIGHLY ENCOURAGE** all awardees to take full advantage of the resources now available through “My Portal” and our expanded CME offerings. Whether you’re exploring new modules or reflecting on the impact of your service, we hope this information empowers you to continue growing professionally and make a difference in your communities. We will continue to share more updates, opportunities, and stories from our program. We cannot express how much appreciation we have for each and every one of our 188 awardees. Not only are you making a difference in the workplace, you are also improving the overall quality of life for Connecticut residents.

Sincerely,  
The CT SLRP Team

## Upcoming Lunch & Learn Sessions

All sessions found in **My Portal** → **Coaching Sessions** → **Upcoming Sessions**

October 8, 12:00pm-12:30pm:  
**"Interpersonal Effectiveness, Part 1"**  
Tend Health  
[Zoom Link](#)

October 15, 12:00pm-12:30pm:  
**"Interpersonal Effectiveness, Part 2"**  
Tend Health  
[Zoom Link](#)

November 3, 12:00pm-12:30pm:  
**"Deferment and Forbearance, How to Keep Your Loan in CT"**  
CHESLA/RISLA  
[Zoom Link](#)

November 12, 12:00pm-12:30pm:  
**"Chair Yoga"**  
Tend Health  
[Zoom Link](#)

December 10, 12:00pm-12:30pm:  
**"Mindfulness/Techniques/Breathing Exercises"**  
Tend Health  
[Zoom Link](#)

