

NOSM Alternate Funding Plan (AFP) Agreement

Benefits to Participating Physicians

Physicians coming to Northern Ontario have the opportunity to work closely with an active group of physician clinical faculty who are committed to the distributed model of medical education, supporting the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM).

These physicians have the opportunity to participate in the NOSM Alternate Funding Plan Agreement which not only supports clinical teaching, but clinical innovation and faculty development.

A. What is the NOSM Alternate Funding Plan Agreement (AFP)?

The NOSM alternate funding plan, is a contractual agreement between the Physician Clinical Teachers Association (PCTA), OMA, MOHLTC, and NOSM. The agreement provides for \$7.1 million of funding.

The agreement is intended to:

- provide funding that recognizes the unique contributions of clinical physicians for academic activities at NOSM;
- increase the capacity of academic physicians to provide Clinical services and Academic activities in an integrated manner;
- ensure that the funding reaches participating physicians in an open and transparent manner.

B. PCTA

The Physician Clinical Teachers' Association (PCTA) represents the interests of approximately 800 physicians who provide clinical teaching and hold faculty appointments at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM). Representation by the PCTA is another element whereby collectively the physician clinical faculty bring forward issues and participate on NOSM committees.

Objectives:

The objectives of the PCTA are to:

- 1) unify the Physician Clinical Teachers of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine ("NOSM"), and to promote harmony and understanding amongst them and between them and the medical profession at large;
- 2) assist and encourage Physician Clinical Teachers to continually increase their professional knowledge, skills and proficiency.

C. Northern Ontario Academic Medicine Association (NOAMA)

NOAMA is an unincorporated association established to manage, distribute, and administer the AFP funding on behalf of the MOHLTC and the Members in accordance with the contractual terms of the AFP Agreement. The PCTA holds the majority of the voting membership of NOAMA.

As of December 31, 2012, approximately 800 physicians have chosen to participate in the AFP Agreement.

NOAMA Initiatives

- ✓ Distribution of Academic Enhancement Payments to Participating Physicians for academic activities – to date \$10.5 million.
- ✓ Innovation Fund Projects – to date 27 projects approved totaling approximately \$1.9 million in funding.
- ✓ Designation of funds to support an Opportunities Fund for Clinical Innovation (\$1.5 million).
- ✓ Consultation with physicians regarding implementation of and strategy for development of academic culture in Northern Ontario through annual retreats held by NOSM Faculty Affairs and the PCTA.
- ✓ Implementation of Local Education Groups (LEGS):
 - ∞ A LEG is a group of physician clinical faculty who have joined together to assume responsibility for the provision of a significant, identifiable component(s) of NOSM’s current academic mandate. LEGs work closely with the NOSM Undergraduate and Postgraduate Associate Deans to ensure the academic/curriculum needs of the learners are met.
- ✓ Designation of funds to support faculty development initiatives and/or clinical faculty scholarships (\$.5 million).

Please visit the NOAMA and PCTA websites at <http://www.noama.ca/> for additional information.