WASHINGTON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL

EDUCATION · OPPORTUNITY · RESULTS

WASHINGTON HEALTH CORPS

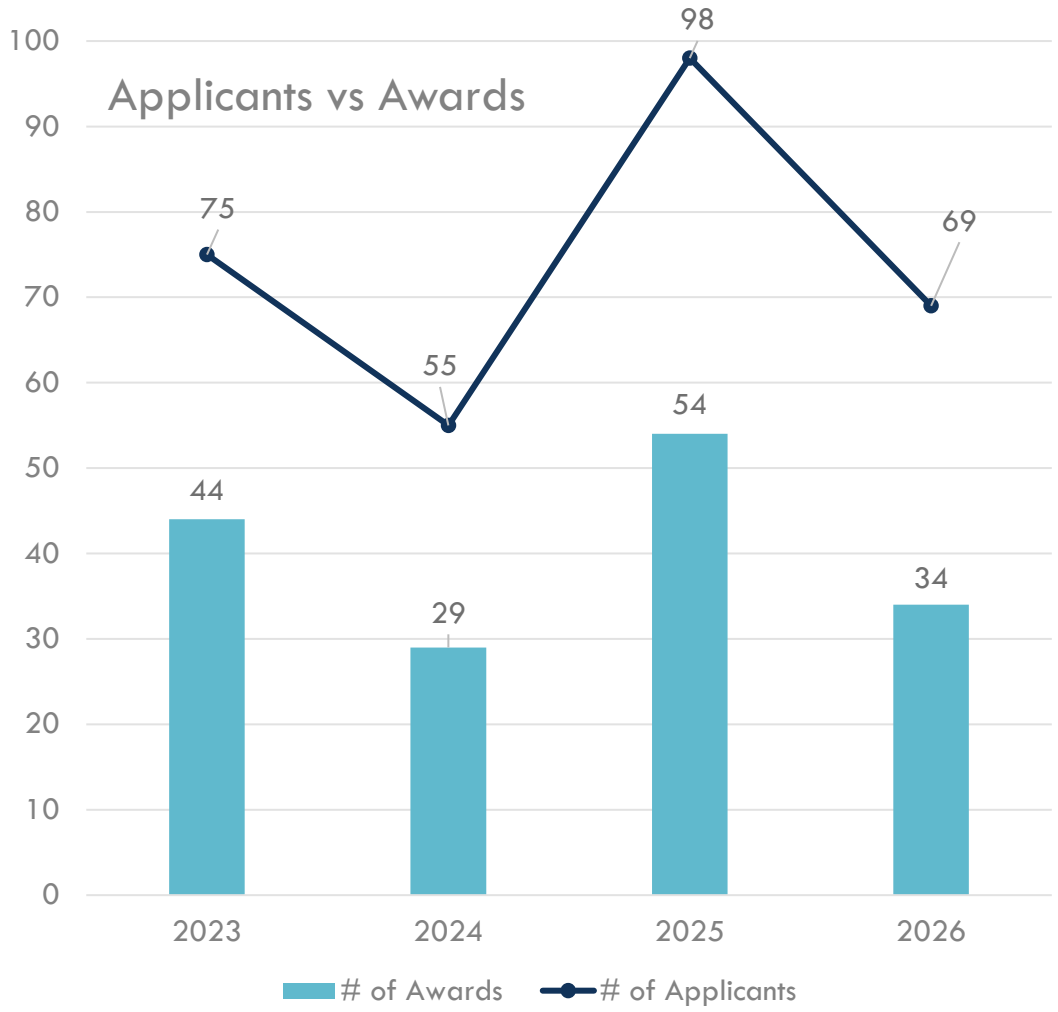
2026 Student Loan Repayment Overview





Nurse Educator Student Loan Repayment Program

NELR Application Awarding Rates



2026 Cycle Highlights:

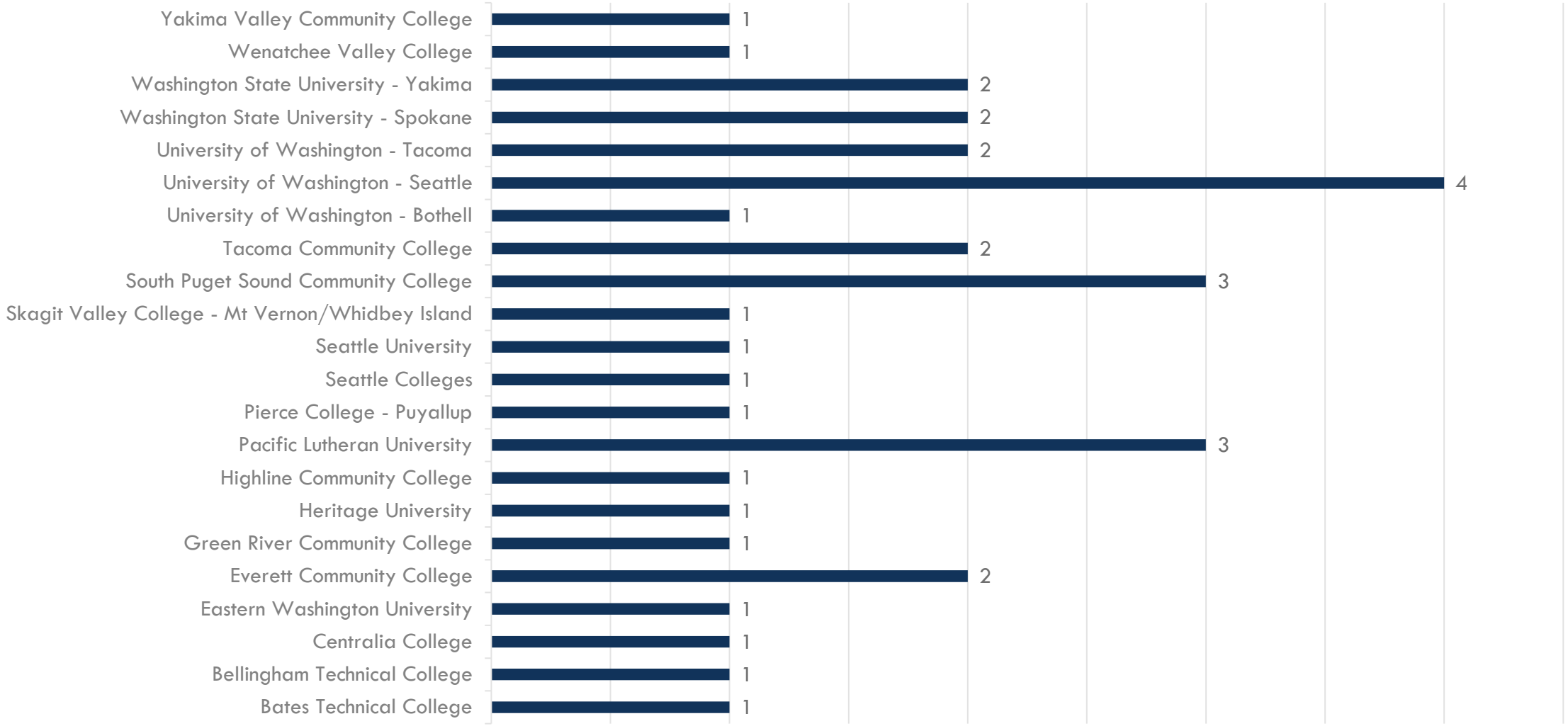
- 37 eligible applicants
- 32 started but did not submit

2026 Cycle Highlights:

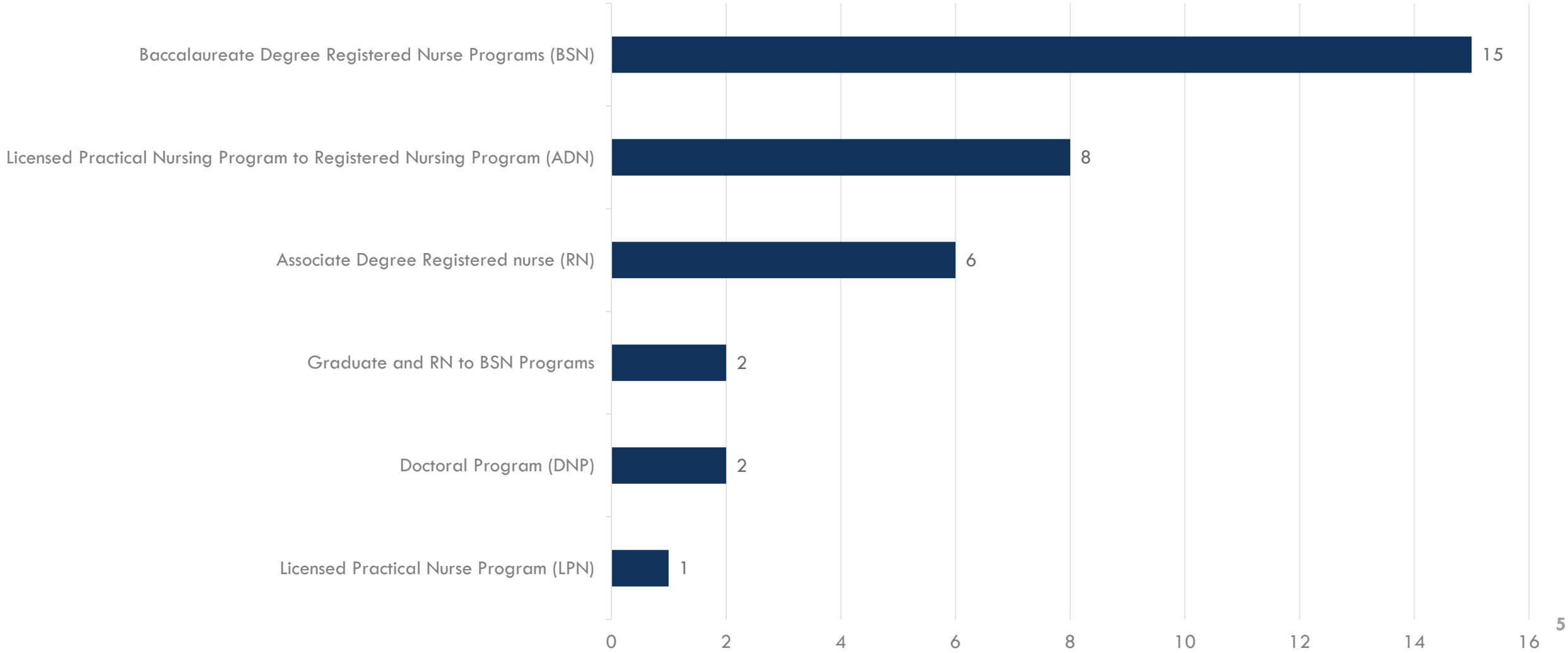
- 34 applicants accepted their award
- $1,866,070 in new awards

Note: Application numbers include submitted and incomplete applications. [Started but not submitted applications make up a majority of those not awarded.]

Nurse Educator 2026 Awarding



2026 Nurse Educator Awardees – Programs Taught



Nurse Educator 2023-2026 Total Overview & Closing

Since the creation of this program WSAC has supported 155 Nurse Educators across 39 institutions with eight different programs.

We have $586,142 in remaining funds that we plan to use in a final cycle for NELR with awards going out later this year. This new cycle opened on October 5th and will accept applications through November 6th.



Student Loan Repayment Program for Healthcare Providers

2026 Median Applicant Debt By Profession

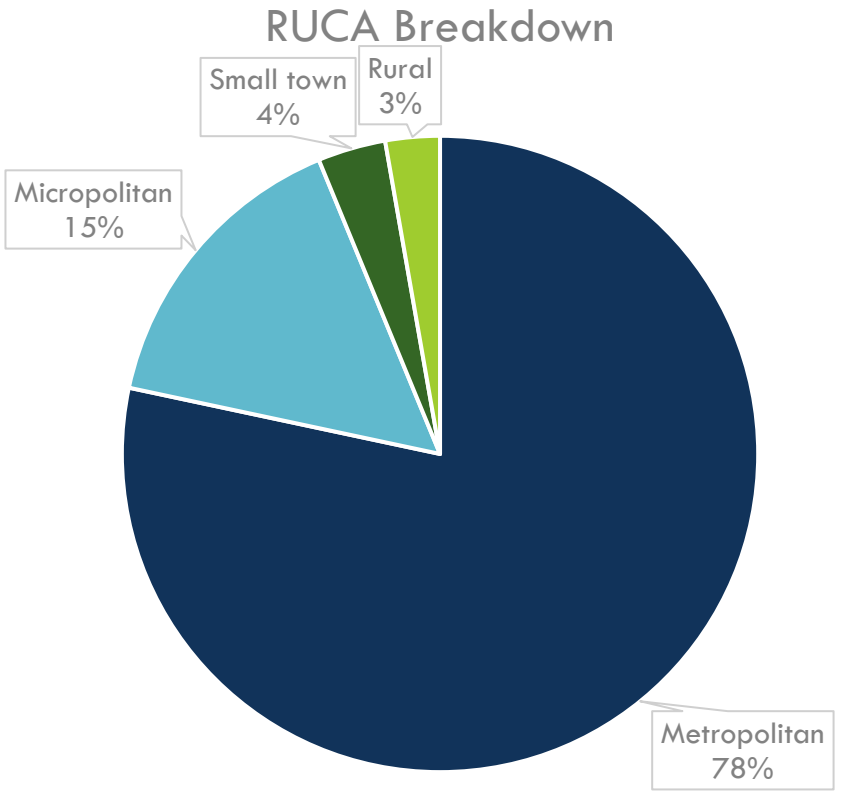
Profession	Median Debt	Count
Certified Nurse Midwife	$74,252	5
Chiropractor	$353,657	1
Doctor of Dental Surgery	$280,742	17
Doctor of Medical Dentistry	$284,185	6
Doctor of Medicine	$168,212	23
Doctor of Osteopathy	$359,989	9
Forensic Pathologist	$0	0
Naturopathic Doctor	$216,168	3
Pharmacist	$126,658	29
Physician Assistant	$173,925	32
Registered Dental Hygienist	$55,092	6

Profession	Median Debt	Count
Lic. Clinical Psychologist	$126,085	8
Lic. Ind. Clinical Social Worker	$80,273	91
Lic. Marriage & Family Therapist	$96,418	11
Lic. Mental Health Counselor	$91,215	75
Lic. Midwife	$218,168	1
Licensed Practical Nurse	$47,414	4
Nurse Practitioner	$101,937	52
Registered Nurse	$34,723	52
Substance Use Disorder Professional	$60,942	11

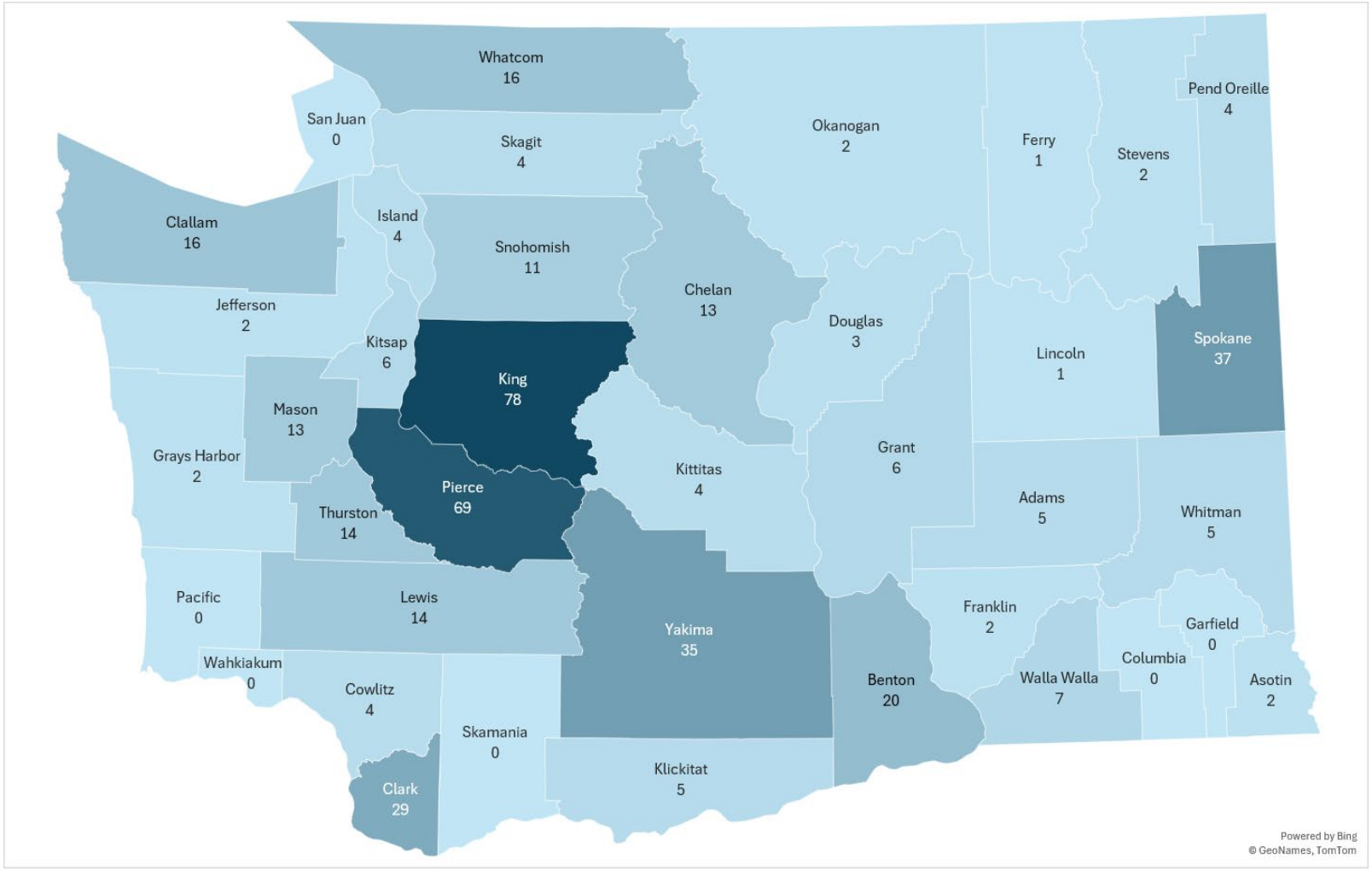
Note: Application count only includes eligible completed applications

2026 Applicant Pool by County Type

- 435 Total Eligible Applicants
- 33 of WA's 39 Counties represented



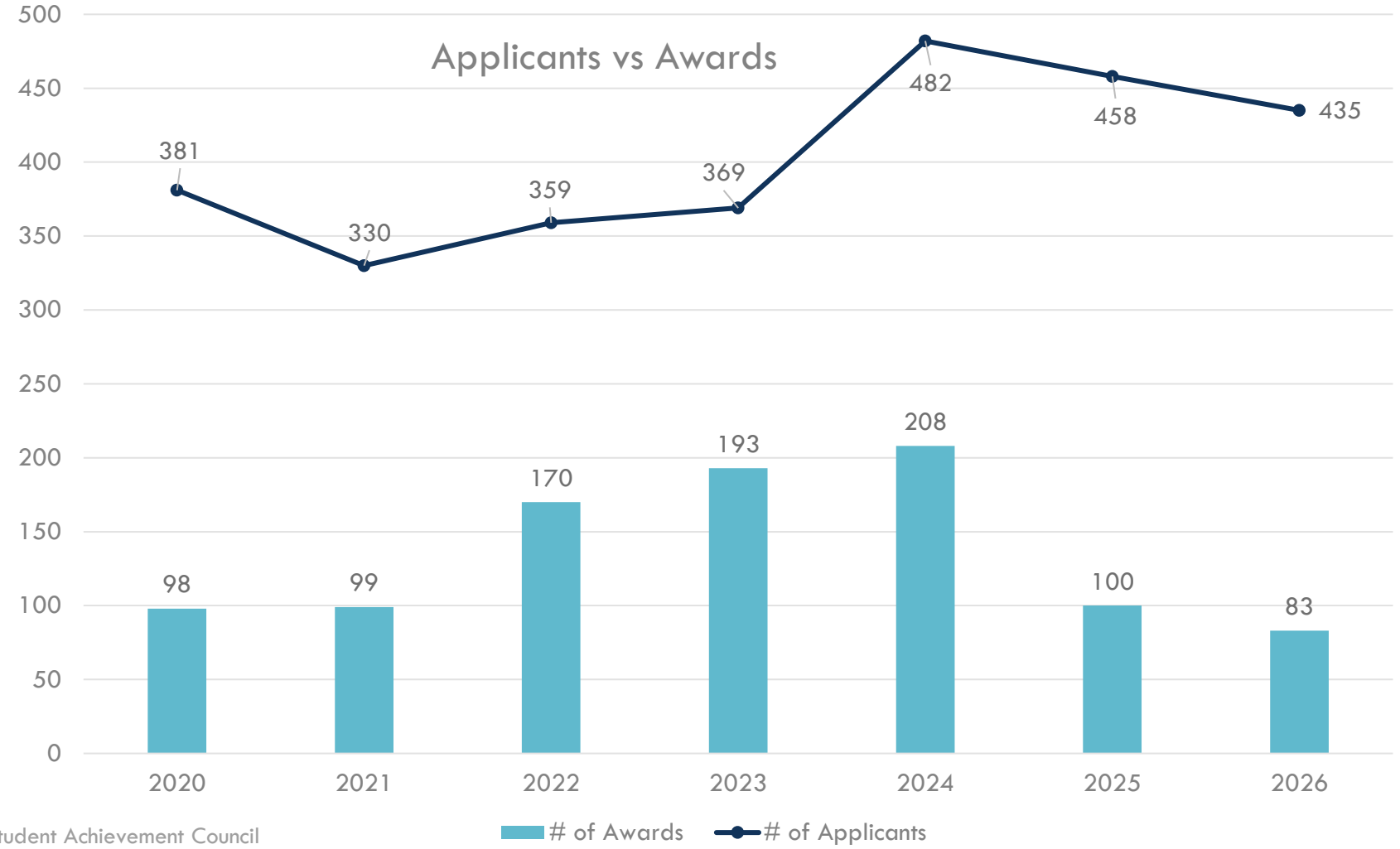
2026 Applicant Pool by County



Budget

Program	Funding Source	2021-23 Biennium	2023-25 Biennium	2025-27 Biennium
FHP	Federal Grant Funds	$2,000,000	$2,000,000	$1,993,809
FHP	State Matching Funds	$1,050,000	$1,100,000	$754,990
SHP	State Funds	$7,650,000	$17,600,000	$6,359,556
BHP	State Funds	$12,250,000	$12,000,000	$5,131,823
Nurse Educator	State Funds	$3,000,000	$6,000,000	$5,092,737

Provider Applications Submitted 2020 to 2026



Note: Application numbers include all submitted applications for our Student Loan Repayment programs. Applicants may apply for the Federal Health Program (FHP), the State Health Program (SHP) and the Behavioral Health Program (BHP) on the same application.

Considerations for Awarding

Selection is based on multiple factors, including:

- Criteria outlined in WAC 250-25-050.
- Funding priorities and shortage needs identified by the program's planning committee.

Site criteria, which may include:

- Geographic location
- Ratio of underserved patients
- Staffing characteristics
- Use of a sliding fee schedule

Provider criteria, which may include:

- Background
- Experience
- Patients served
- Legislative directives.
- Consideration of the distribution of awards across sites and professions.

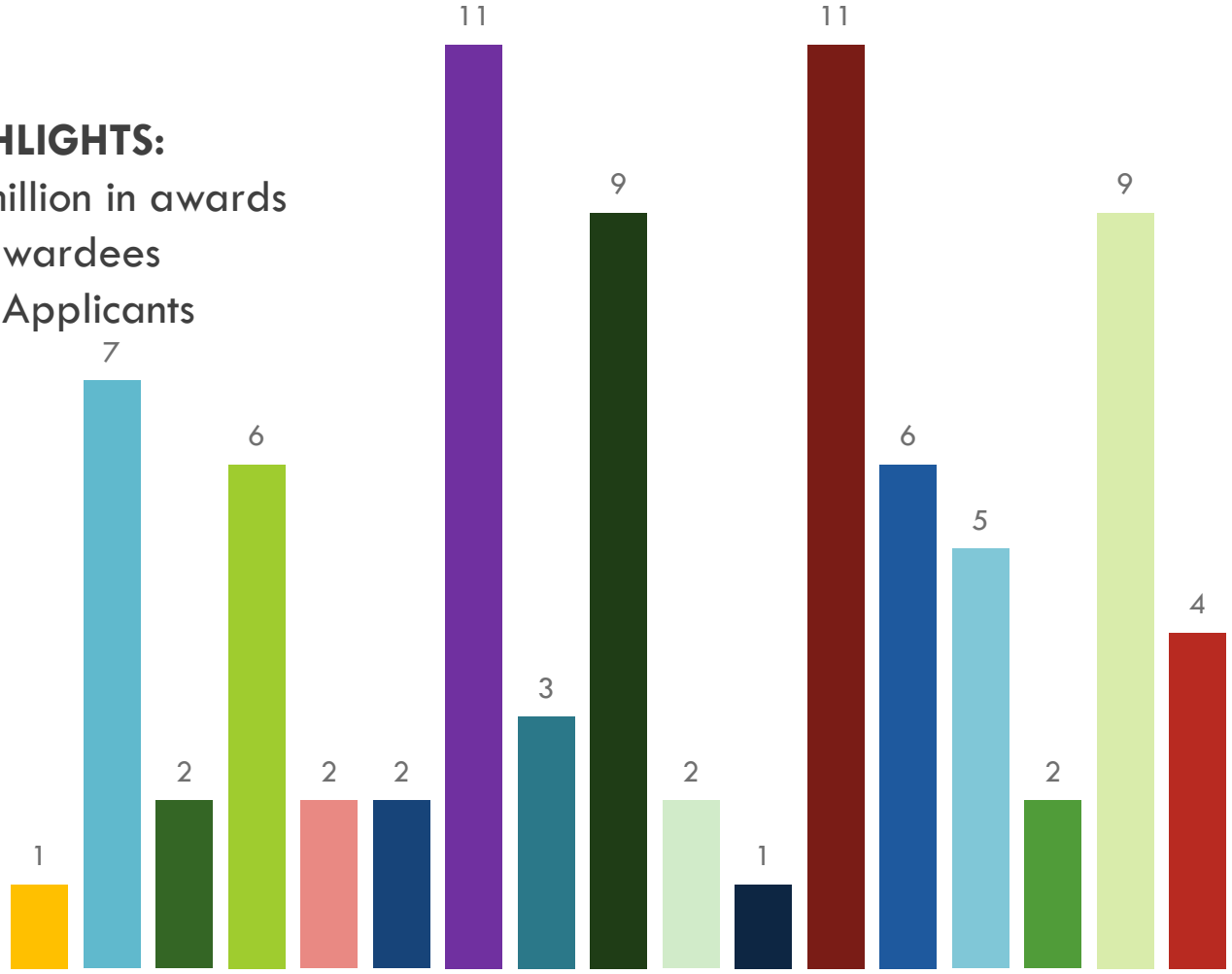
Loan Repayment – 2026 Awarding Overview

HIGHLIGHTS:

$5 million in awards

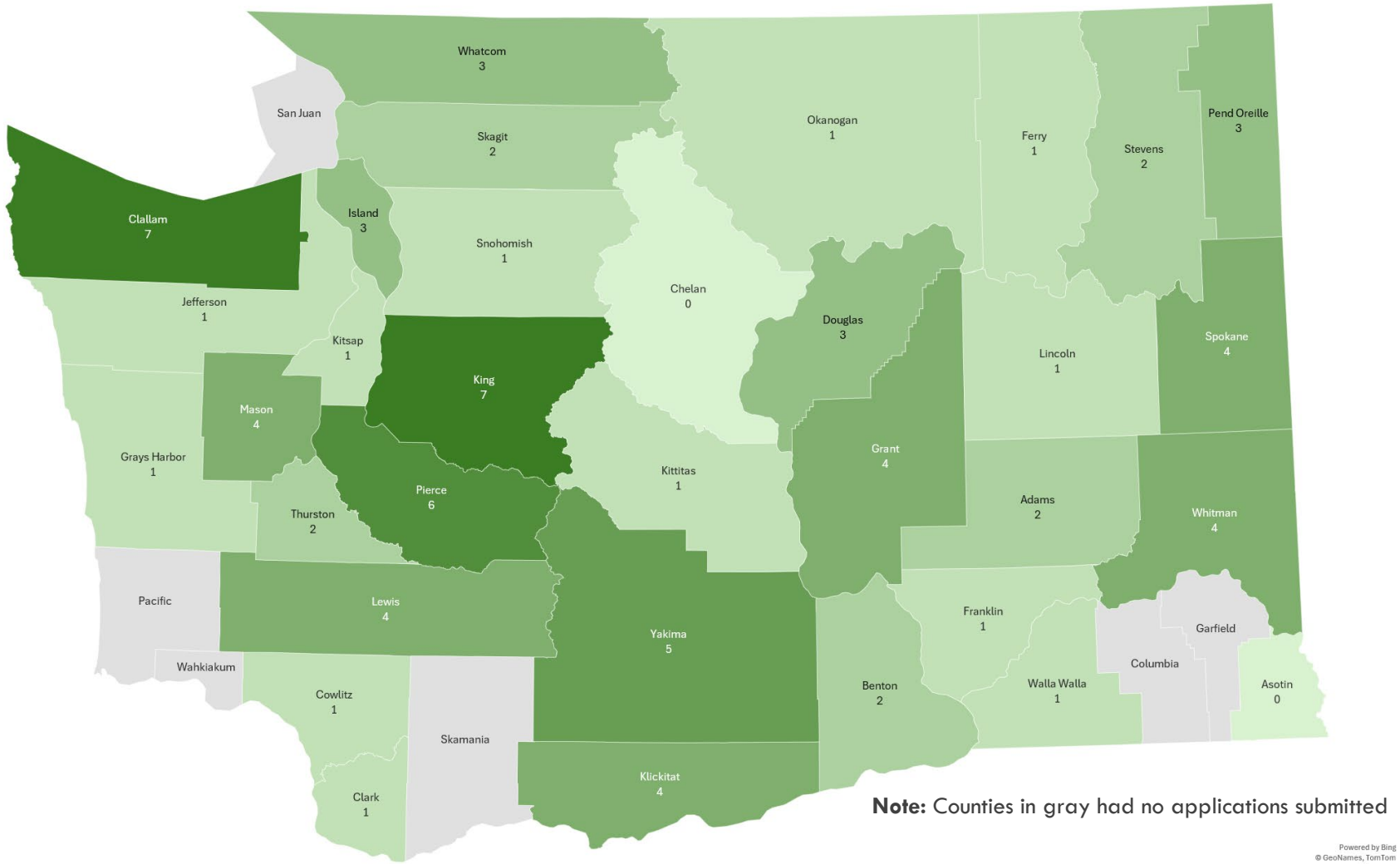
83 awardees

435 Applicants



Certified Nurse Midwife	1
Doctor of Dental Surgery	7
Doctor of Medical Dentistry	2
Doctor of Medicine	6
Doctor of Osteopathy	2
Lic. Clinical Psychologist	2
Ind. Clinical Social Worker	11
Lic. Marriage and Family Therapist	3
Mental Health Counselor	9
Lic. Practical Nurse	2
Naturopathic Doctor	1
Nurse Practicioner	11
Pharmacist	6
Physician Assistant	5
Registered Dental Hygienist	2
Registered Nurse	9
Substance Use Disorder	4

Loan Repayment – 2026 Awarding Overview

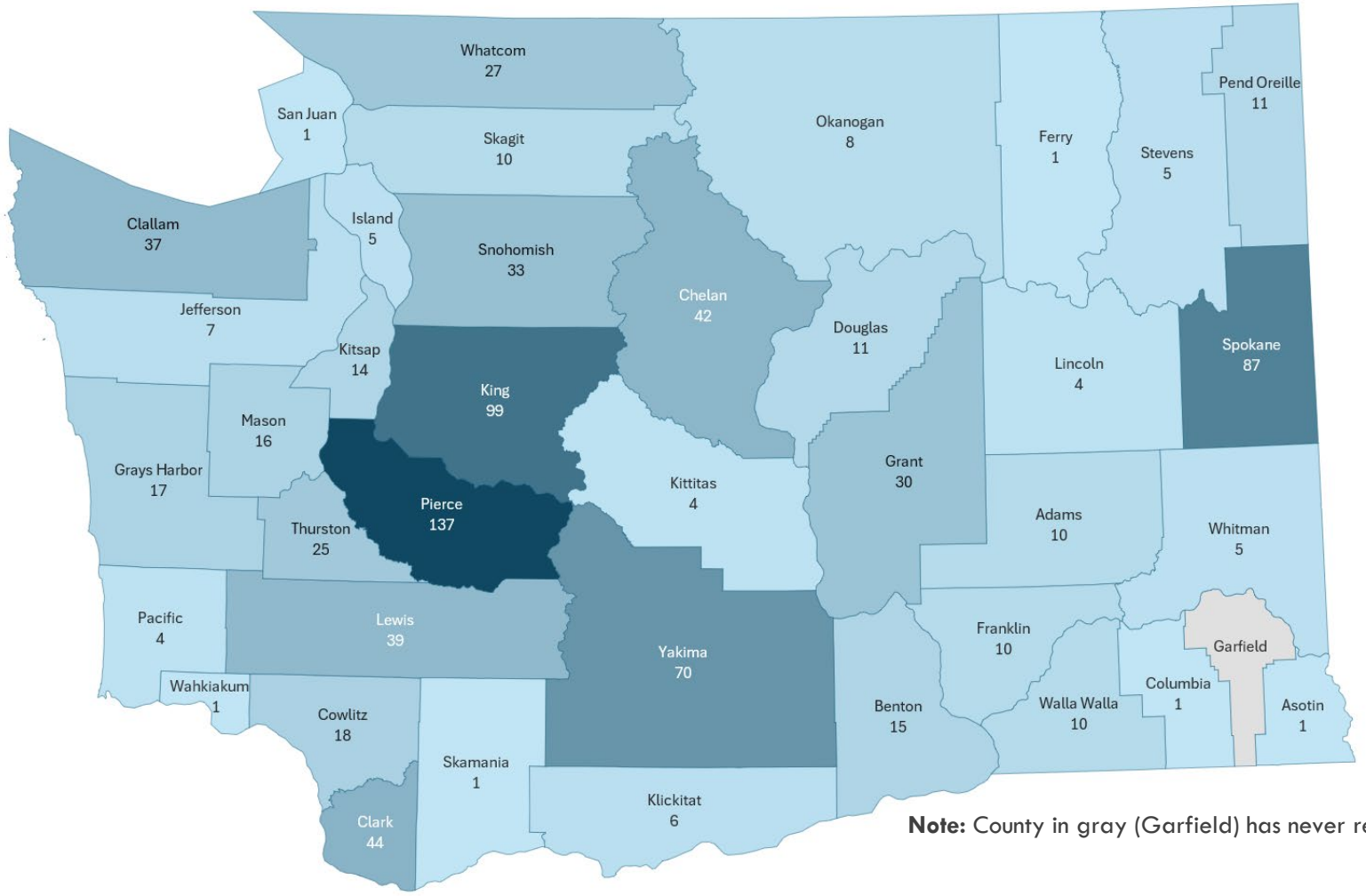




RUCA Designation

- Rural
- Small Town
- Micropolitan
- Metropolitan

Loan Repayment – 2021-2026 Awarding Overview



Note: County in gray (Garfield) has never received an application

Awards over the years visualized (2021 – 2026)

