Russia to Pay Med Students $260 for Treating Coronavirus Patients

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Some 60,000 students are expected to receive the payments for their work on the front lines of the pandemic. **Sophia Sandurskaya / Moskva News Agency**

Medical students on the front lines of Russia's coronavirus response will receive $260 in payouts before the end of the year, news agencies [quoted](#) a senior cabinet official overseeing Russia's virus response as saying Friday.

Deputy Prime Minister Tatiana Golikova said 60,296 students "not in full-time positions but in practical training at medical organizations" will receive 10,000 rubles ($130) in November and another payment of the same amount in December.

Related article: [Russia Is Coercing Medical Students Into Coronavirus Fight](#)

Another 5,382 vocational school students will receive 7,000 rubles ($91) for each of the two months, the state-run RIA Novosti news agency quoted Golikova as saying.

"The authorized federal authorities will hand out these payments in late November–December 2020," she said during a videoconference with regional governors.

Golikova urged the governors to issue payments of the same amounts to non-federal students involved in their regions' Covid-19 response efforts.

"The needed financial resources are available," she was quoted as saying. "We have transferred 10 billion rubles [$131.5 million] to you, which you can spend on any coronavirus-related activities."

The second wave of Russia's coronavirus outbreak this fall has shifted from Moscow to Russia's regions, which generally have poorly funded healthcare systems.

At the start of the Covid-19 outbreak in spring, Russian medical students reported being forcefully [marched](#) to the front lines at overwhelmed coronavirus hospitals for "practical training."

Moscow's Health Department had [said](#) in April that student medical workers would earn around $1,500 per month and be able to choose from a "variety of jobs."

Students said they were skeptical of being paid that much, considering that the average monthly salary for a nurse in Moscow ranges below $1,000.

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