This section becomes effective July 1, 2007, and applies to all awards from the Board of Governors' Medical Scholarship Loan Program made to students admitted into medical school on or after July 1, 2007.

§ 116-40.9. Board of Governors' Medical Scholarship Loan Program.

(a) Administration of Medical Scholarship Loan Program. – The Board of Governors' Medical Scholarship Loan Program was established by the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina. The Board of Governors' Medical Scholarship Loan Program operates under the purview of the Board of Governors and is administered by the Board of Governors.

(b) Medical Scholarship Loan Program. – Pursuant to this section, the Board of Governors' Medical Scholarship Loan Program may provide a four-year scholarship loan of relevant tuition and fees, mandatory medical insurance, required laptop computers, and an annual stipend of five thousand dollars ($5,000) per year to any student who has been accepted for admission to the Duke University School of Medicine, the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine, or the Wake Forest University School of Medicine.

(c) Criteria for Awarding Scholarship Loans. – The Board of Governors may adopt standards, including minimum grade point average and scholastic aptitude test scores, for awarding these scholarship loans to ensure that only the most qualified students receive them. The Board of Governors shall make an effort to identify and encourage minority and economically disadvantaged youth to enter the program.

(d) Terms of Scholarship Loans. – All awards made under this section shall be made as scholarship loans and shall be evidenced by notes made payable to the Board of Governors that shall bear interest at the rate of ten percent (10%) per year beginning September 1 after completion of the program, or immediately after termination of the scholarship loan, whichever is earlier. The
scholarship loan may be terminated by the recipient withdrawing from school or by the recipient not meeting the standards set by the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors shall forgive the loan if, within seven years after graduation, the recipient practices medicine in North Carolina for four years. The Board of Governors shall also forgive the loan if it finds that it is impossible for the recipient to practice medicine in North Carolina for four years, within seven years after graduation, because of the death or permanent disability of the recipient.

(e) Reversions. – All unused funds appropriated to or otherwise received by the Board of Governors for scholarship loans, all funds received as repayment of scholarship loans, and all interest earned on these funds shall revert to the General Fund at the end of each fiscal year.