

GENERAL STATUTES OF NORTH CAROLINA
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*** THIS DOCUMENT IS CURRENT THROUGH THE 2007 REGULAR
SESSION AND 1ST EXTRA SESSION ***
*** ANNOTATIONS CURRENT THROUGH SEPTEMBER 21, 2007 ***

CHAPTER 90. MEDICINE AND ALLIED OCCUPATIONS
ARTICLE 9H. GRADUATE NURSE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR
FACULTY PRODUCTION

**§ 90-171.100. Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production
established; administration**

(a) There is established the Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production. The North Carolina Nursing Scholars Commission shall determine selection criteria, methods of selection, and shall select recipients of scholarship loans made under the Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production.

(b) The Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production shall be used to provide the following:

(1) A scholarship loan for up to two years in the amount of fifteen thousand dollars (\$ 15,000) per year, per recipient, to students enrolled in a masters degree program in nursing education or any other area of the nursing field that would permit them to become a nursing instructor at a North Carolina community college or university.

(2) A scholarship loan for up to three years in the amount of fifteen thousand dollars (\$ 15,000) per year, per recipient, to students enrolled in a doctoral degree program in nursing education or any other area of the nursing field that would permit them to become a nursing instructor at a North Carolina community college or university.

(3) A scholarship loan for up to two years in the amount of fifteen thousand dollars (\$ 15,000) per year, per recipient, to nursing faculty in the North Carolina Community College System enrolled in a master's degree program in nursing education.

(b1) The State Education Assistance Authority shall adopt specific rules to regulate these scholarship loans.

(c) If a recipient is awarded a scholarship loan under this program and is enrolled, or accepted for enrollment, in an eligible program, but is unable to pursue the course of study in nursing for a semester due to limited faculty resources at the institution for that semester, then the recipient shall continue to receive the scholarship loan for that semester and shall not be required to forfeit or repay the scholarship loan for that semester, provided that the recipient remains otherwise eligible for the program. This waiver shall be valid for only one semester of study and may extend a recipient's eligibility for funding under the program by no more than one semester.

(d) The Commission shall adopt stringent standards, which may include minimum grade point average, scholastic aptitude test scores, and other standards deemed appropriate by the Commission, to ensure that only the best potential students receive loans under the Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production. Standards adopted by the Commission shall include provisions for ensuring that the qualifications of applicants who are or would be nontraditional students are considered fairly in providing them with opportunities to compete for the loans. Standards adopted by the Commission shall also provide that community college nursing faculty receive preference in awarding scholarship loans under this section. Loans under the Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production shall be awarded only to applicants who meet the standards set by the Commission and who agree to teach in a North Carolina public or private nursing program upon completion of the nursing education program supported by the loan. If a recipient under this section is a nursing faculty member at a community college, then as a condition of a scholarship loan received under G.S. 90-171.100(b)(3), the recipient shall agree to continue to work for the community college system in North Carolina as provided in G.S. 90-171.101(b).

(e) The Commission shall develop and administer the Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production in cooperation with nursing schools at institutions approved by the Commission and the North Carolina Board of Nursing. The Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production shall provide for participants to be exposed to a range of extracurricular activities while in school, which activities shall be aimed at instilling in students a strong motivation to remain in the practice of nursing education and to provide leadership for the nursing profession.

(f) The Commission shall make an effort to identify and encourage minority students and students who may not otherwise consider a career in nursing to apply for the Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production.

(g) Upon the naming of recipients of loans from the Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production, the Commission shall inform the State Education Assistance Authority (SEAA) of its decisions. The SEAA shall perform all of the administrative functions necessary to implement this Article, which functions shall

include: rulemaking, dissemination of information to the public, distribution and receipt of applications for scholarship loans, and the functions necessary for the execution, payment, and enforcement of promissory notes required under this Article.

HISTORY: 2006-66, s. 9.6; 2007-323, s. 9.6(a).

NOTES:

EDITOR'S NOTE. --Session Laws 2006-66, s. 28.7, made this Article effective July 1, 2006.

Session Laws 2006-66, s. 1.2, provides: "This act shall be known as 'The Current Operations and Capital Improvements Appropriations Act of 2006'."

Session Laws 2006-66, s. 9.6, enacted this section as G.S. 90-171.95; it was recodified as G.S. 90-171.100 at the direction of the Revisor of Statutes.

Session Laws 2006-66, s. 28.6 is a severability clause.

Session Laws 2007-323, s. 1.2, provides: "This act shall be known as the 'Current Operations and Capital Improvements Appropriations Act of 2007'."

Session Laws 2007-323, s. 32.3, provides: "Except for statutory changes or other provisions that clearly indicate an intention to have effects beyond the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium, the textual provisions of this act apply only to funds appropriated for, and activities occurring during, the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium."

Session Laws 2007-323, s. 32.5 is a severability clause.

EFFECT OF AMENDMENTS. --Session Laws 2007-323, s. 9.6(a), effective July 1, 2007, added subdivision (b)(3); inserted the subsection (b1) designation; and, in subsection (d), added the third sentence and added the last sentence.

§ 90-171.101. Terms of loans; receipt and disbursement of funds

(a) All scholarship loans shall be evidenced by notes made payable to the State Education Assistance Authority that bear interest at the rate of ten percent (10%) per year beginning 90 days after completion of the nursing education program, or 90 days after termination of the scholarship loan, whichever is earlier. The scholarship loan may be terminated upon the recipient's withdrawal from school or by the recipient's failure to meet the standards set by the Commission.

(b) The State Education Assistance Authority shall forgive the loan if, within seven years after graduation from a nursing education program, the recipient teaches in a public or private nursing education program in a public or private educational institution in North Carolina for one year for every year a scholarship loan was provided, unless the recipient was a nursing faculty member of a community college. In those circumstances, the State Education Assistance Authority shall forgive the loan if, within seven years after graduation from a nursing education program, the recipient teaches in a community college nursing education program in North Carolina for one year for every year a scholarship

loan was provided. If the recipient repays the scholarship loan by cash payments, all indebtedness shall be repaid within 10 years. The Authority may provide for accelerated repayment and for less than full-time employment options to encourage the practice of nursing education in either geographic or nursing specialty shortage areas. The Authority shall adopt specific rules to designate these geographic areas and these nursing specialty shortage areas, upon recommendations of the North Carolina Center for Nursing. The North Carolina Center for Nursing shall base its recommendations on objective information provided by interested groups or agencies and upon objective information collected by the Center. The Authority may forgive the scholarship loan if it determines that it is impossible for the recipient to teach in a public or private nursing program, or in a community college nursing program if that was a condition of the scholarship loan, in North Carolina for a sufficient time to repay the loan because of the death or permanent disability of the recipient within 10 years following graduation or termination of enrollment in a nursing education program.

(c) All funds appropriated to or otherwise received by the Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production for scholarships, all funds received as repayment of scholarship loans, and all interest earned on these funds shall be placed in a revolving fund. This revolving fund may be used only for scholarship loans granted under the Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production.

HISTORY: 2006-66, s. 9.6; 2007-323, s. 9.6(b).

NOTES:

EDITOR'S NOTE. --Session Laws 2006-66, s. 9.6, enacted this section as G.S. 90-171.96; it was recodified as G.S. 90-171.101 at the direction of the Revisor of Statutes.

Session Laws 2007-323, s. 1.2, provides: "This act shall be known as the 'Current Operations and Capital Improvements Appropriations Act of 2007'."

Session Laws 2007-323, s. 32.5 is a severability clause.

EFFECT OF AMENDMENTS. --Session Laws 2007-323, s. 9.6(b), effective July 1, 2007, in subsection (b), inserted "unless the recipient was a nursing faculty member of a community college" in the first sentence, added the second sentence, and inserted "or in a community college nursing program if that was a condition of the scholarship loan" in the last sentence.