
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2019

Fiscal Services Division

September 20, 2018



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

Rural Iowa Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant Loan Repayment Program

Purpose

The Rural Iowa Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner (ARNP) and Physician Assistant (PA) Loan Repayment Program is under the direction of the College Student Aid Commission. It was established by statute in 2013 and provides loan repayments for advanced registered nurse practitioner students and physician assistant students who agree to practice in service commitment areas for five years.

Program Phase-Out

[Senate File 2415](#) (Education Appropriations Act), enacted in 2018, specified that no new program agreements are permitted on or after July 1, 2018, and removed language from the statute that permitted participants to engage in part-time practice. Renewal applications from participants approved prior to July 1, 2018, who continue to meet eligibility requirements, will be funded until the participant has reached the maximum of five consecutive years and \$20,000 of total loan repayment. Any funds remaining in the Program's trust fund on June 30, 2023, will not revert to the General Fund but will be transferred to the Health Care Loan Repayment Fund established in SF 2415. The statute establishing the Program is repealed effective July 1, 2023.

The following information pertains to the Program as established prior to the enactment of SF 2415:

Service Commitment Areas

A service commitment area is defined as a city in Iowa with a population of less than 26,000 that is located more than 20 miles from a city with a population of 50,000 or more. The service commitment area must provide match funding of \$2,000 for each nurse practitioner or physician assistant participating in the Program.

Eligibility and Requirements for Loan Repayment

To be eligible to apply for the Program, individuals must be enrolled full-time in an eligible university in a curriculum leading to a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree or a Master of Physician Assistant Studies degree. The applicant must have received recommendation from the university.

Under the Program agreement, the student must fulfill the following:

- Receive a Doctor of Nursing Practice or Master of Physician Assistant Studies degree from an eligible university and obtain a license to practice as an advanced registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant.

More Information

College Student Aid Commission: www.iowacollegeaid.gov
LSA Staff Contact: Robin Madison (515.281.5270) robin.madison@legis.iowa.gov

- Within nine months of obtaining a license, engage in full-time practice for a period of 60 consecutive months in an identified service commitment area.

Priority is given to eligible students who are residents of Iowa upon enrolling in the university.

Loan Repayment

Participants are eligible for loan repayment up to \$4,000 annually for five years, for a maximum repayment of \$20,000.

If surplus funds are available, the Commission is authorized to enter into Program agreements with eligible applicants who have already completed degrees and are currently serving in service commitment areas.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapters [148C](#) and [152](#)

Iowa Code section [261.114](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [283—25](#)

Budget Unit Number

2840IZ40001

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