**§12954. Program eligibility**

**1. Application.**  To be considered for an award under this chapter, as part of the application, the applicant must:

A. Submit documentation, in a manner identified by the authority, validating:

(1) The applicant's original eligible student loan balance upon graduation;

(2) The current balance owed on the eligible student loan, including principal and interest;

(3) Current payment amounts on the eligible student loan, including information on any federal student loan repayment plan described in 20 United States Code, Section 1098e;

(4) For federal loans, information regarding the applicant's expected eligibility for the federal loan forgiveness program described in 34 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 685.219; and

(5) Loans related to expenses for a health care professional who was trained or has credentials in a country other than the United States and its territories and who is working towards a professional license in this State, as determined by the advisory committee; [PL 2021, c. 346, §2 (NEW).]

B. Submit an employer certification form certifying the applicant's employment status and salary or hourly wage; and [PL 2021, c. 346, §2 (NEW).]

C. Submit a signed statement of intent in a form acceptable to the authority to work in the applicant's identified health care profession in the State for a minimum of 3 years after acceptance into the program. [PL 2021, c. 346, §2 (NEW).]

[PL 2021, c. 346, §2 (NEW).]

**2. Eligibility.**  To be considered for an award under this chapter, the applicant:

A. Must be a current resident of the State or become a resident of the State within 6 months of being selected as a recipient under the program; [PL 2021, c. 346, §2 (NEW).]

B. Must, as determined by the authority:

(1) Be currently practicing as an eligible health care provider in the State; or

(2) Within 6 months of being selected as a recipient under the program, begin practicing as an eligible health care provider in the State; [PL 2021, c. 346, §2 (NEW).]

C. Must possess an outstanding eligible student loan; and [PL 2021, c. 346, §2 (NEW).]

D. May not be a current beneficiary of a state or federal loan repayment program. Applicants who were formerly beneficiaries of a state or federal loan repayment program or who intend to participate in such programs following completion of their 3-year commitment under this chapter are eligible to apply for an award. [PL 2021, c. 346, §2 (NEW).]

[PL 2021, c. 346, §2 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2021, c. 346, §2 (NEW).

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