



Sen. Robert Peters

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LRB104 08398 LNS 29355 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 3065

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 3065, AS AMENDED,
3 by replacing everything after the enacting clause with the
4 following:

5 "Section 5. The Transitions in Education Act is amended by
6 changing Section 130-5 as follows:

7 (110 ILCS 180/130-5)

8 Sec. 130-5. Findings; policies.

9 (a) The General Assembly finds the following:

10 (1) Teachers are the single most important in-school
11 factor in supporting student outcomes and success; yet,
12 Illinois is suffering from a profound teacher shortage
13 across the State.

14 (2) To reverse this shortage, Illinois needs to
15 develop and invest in a robust and diverse educator
16 pipeline, addressing any barriers or gaps that limit high

1 quality candidates, particularly candidates of color, from
2 becoming teachers.

3 (3) Illinois loses many high quality, diverse educator
4 candidates in postsecondary programs due to confusion or
5 lack of course transfer credits and course articulation
6 from Illinois's 2-year to 4-year institutions.

7 (4) Lack of alignment and transferability of course
8 credits may often force candidates to spend additional
9 time and money to earn a degree or lead to an inability to
10 complete a degree.

11 (5) In 1993, the Board of Higher Education, the
12 Illinois Community College Board, and the Transfer
13 Coordinators of Illinois Colleges and Universities brought
14 together faculty from public and independent, associate,
15 and baccalaureate degree-granting institutions across the
16 State to develop the Illinois Articulation Initiative
17 (IAI).

18 (6) The goal of IAI is to facilitate the transfer of
19 courses from one participating college or university to
20 another in order to complete a baccalaureate degree.

21 (7) The Student Transfer Achievement Reform (STAR)
22 Act, as mandated by subsection (b) of Section 25 of the
23 Act, is designed to facilitate transfer among Illinois
24 public institutions, particularly for students with a
25 completed Associate of Arts or an Associate of Science
26 degree.

1 (8) While Illinois is a leading state for college
2 completion rates for adult learners and transfer students
3 from community colleges, it needs to increase the number
4 of high-quality postsecondary teaching credentials to meet
5 the demands of our schools and education workforce.

6 (9) With the rising costs of higher education for
7 Illinois students and families, the State needs to ensure
8 to the maximize extent possible that community college
9 courses will transfer with full credit for the student and
10 be accepted at an Illinois public or private institution
11 as they pursue a baccalaureate degree in education.

12 (10) Illinois can do this by improving transitions all
13 along the education pipeline; for postsecondary education,
14 this means strengthening articulation through stable
15 funding and the expansion of transfer tools, such as
16 Transferology and the IAI through development of an
17 objective measure of transfer and acceptance of credits in
18 education degrees.

19 (11) The IAI Education Pathway can be modeled off of
20 existing IAI major pathways like Early Childhood Education
21 and Criminal Justice.

22 (b) The General Assembly encourages the Board of Higher
23 Education, the State Board of Education, and the Illinois
24 Community College Board, as part of the IAI, to do the
25 following:

26 (1) The Board of Higher Education, the State Board of

1 Education, and the Illinois Community College Board are
2 encouraged to jointly establish a task force for a Major
3 Panel in Education and identify respective recommended
4 major courses that would be accepted as credit toward the
5 education major at the receiving institutions.

6 (2) As part of the report on the status of the Illinois
7 Articulation Initiative pursuant to Section 25 of the
8 Illinois Articulation Initiative Act, the Board of Higher
9 Education and the Illinois Community College Board are
10 encouraged to include in the annual report to the General
11 Assembly, the Governor, and the Illinois P-20 Council the
12 progress made on the task force on the Education Major
13 Panel.

14 (3) The Board of Higher Education, the State Board of
15 Education, and the Illinois Community College Board are
16 encouraged to further promote and encourage the enrollment
17 of minority students into educator preparation programs,
18 ~~such as the annual information session about the Minority~~
19 ~~Teachers of Illinois scholarship program pursuant to~~
20 ~~subsection (q) of Section 50 of the Higher Education~~
21 ~~Student Assistance Act.~~

22 (Source: P.A. 101-654, eff. 3-8-21.)

23 Section 10. The Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in
24 Illinois Act is amended by changing Sections 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8,
25 10, and 11 and by adding Sections 7.5, 8.5, 11.10, and 11.15 as

1 follows:

2 (110 ILCS 930/2) (from Ch. 144, par. 2302)

3 Sec. 2. Definitions. As used in this Act, unless the
4 context otherwise requires:

5 "Academic year" means the period of time beginning with
6 the fall term in one calendar year and running through the end
7 of the summer term in the following calendar year.

8 "Board" means the Board of Higher Education.

9 "DFI" means the Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in
10 Illinois Program of financial assistance ~~to minorities who are~~
11 ~~traditionally underrepresented as participants in~~
12 ~~postsecondary education.~~ The program shall assist successful
13 applicants ~~them~~ in pursuing a graduate or professional degree
14 and shall also assist program graduates to find employment at
15 an Illinois institution of higher education, including a
16 community college, in a faculty or staff position.

17 "Illinois resident" means any United States citizen or
18 lawful permanent resident of the United States who meets at
19 least one of the following requirements:

20 (1) has earned a degree from an institution of higher
21 education authorized to operate in this State; or

22 (2) is a registered voter in this State and has lived
23 in this State for a period of at least 3 years prior to
24 applying for a grant under this Act.

25 The status of Illinois residency of a student at the time

1 of initial matriculation in the DFI shall hold for his or her
2 entire time in his or her graduate or professional study at the
3 DFI institution.

4 "Institutional representative" means the designated
5 individual who is responsible for coordinating DFI activities
6 at each qualified institution of higher education.

7 "Program Board" means the entity created to administer the
8 grant program authorized by this Act.

9 "Qualified institution of higher education" means a
10 qualifying publicly ~~or privately~~ operated educational
11 institution located within Illinois (i) that offers
12 instruction leading toward or prerequisite to an academic or
13 professional degree beyond the baccalaureate degree, excluding
14 theological schools, ~~and~~ (ii) that is authorized to operate in
15 the State of Illinois, and (iii) in which at least 45% of
16 students receive federal Pell Grants, which shall be based on
17 the 3-year average proportion of federal Pell Grant recipients
18 at Illinois public universities using the most recent data
19 available to the Board.

20 ~~"Racial minority" means a person who is a citizen of the~~
21 ~~United States or a lawful permanent resident of the United~~
22 ~~States and who is any of the following:~~

23 ~~(1) American Indian or Alaska Native (a person having~~
24 ~~origins in any of the original peoples of North and South~~
25 ~~America, including Central America, and who maintains~~
26 ~~tribal affiliation or community attachment).~~

1 ~~(2) Asian (a person having origins in any of the~~
2 ~~original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the~~
3 ~~Indian subcontinent, including, but not limited to,~~
4 ~~Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan,~~
5 ~~the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam).~~

6 ~~(3) Black or African American (a person having origins~~
7 ~~in any of the black racial groups of Africa).~~

8 ~~(4) Hispanic or Latino (a person of Cuban, Mexican,~~
9 ~~Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish~~
10 ~~culture or origin, regardless of race).~~

11 ~~(5) Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (a~~
12 ~~person having origins in any of the original peoples of~~
13 ~~Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands).~~

14 (Source: P.A. 102-465, eff. 1-1-22; 102-1030, eff. 5-27-22.)

15 (110 ILCS 930/3) (from Ch. 144, par. 2303)

16 Sec. 3. Composition of the Program Board. The Program
17 Board shall be comprised of 11 members and shall be appointed
18 by the Board of Higher Education. The Board shall name the
19 chair person of the Program Board. The Program Board shall
20 name the vice chair person of the Program Board and make any
21 necessary subcommittee appointments. Persons appointed to the
22 Program Board shall include, but need not be limited to,
23 individuals who are in leadership positions in public
24 institutions of higher education, including community
25 colleges. Program Board members shall serve 2-year terms and

1 shall continue to serve until a replacement or reappointment
2 is determined. There are no term limits for members of the
3 Program Board. Illinois institutions that grant doctoral
4 degrees must have representation on the Program Board.

5 ~~The Board shall assure that racial minorities who are~~
6 ~~traditionally underrepresented in postsecondary education~~
7 ~~programs and activities are members of the Program Board.~~

8 (Source: P.A. 101-354, eff. 8-9-19.)

9 (110 ILCS 930/4) (from Ch. 144, par. 2304)

10 Sec. 4. Responsibilities of the Program Board. The Program
11 Board shall be responsible for:

12 (a) Establishing policy for administration of the DFI
13 grant program authorized under this Act, including program
14 guidelines for the operation of the DFI and criteria to
15 promote placement of grant recipients.

16 (b) Creating the application materials, setting
17 application deadlines, reviewing applications, ~~Reviewing~~
18 and approving applications for participation in the DFI
19 grant program.

20 (c) Establishing subcommittees or panels as necessary
21 to review applications and promote student placement.

22 (d) Reporting annually to the Board on program
23 outcomes and results, including lists of new and
24 continuing scholarship award recipients by institution,
25 level, and field of study; lists of recipients retained in

1 the program from the previous year; lists of placements of
2 most recent program graduates; a description of
3 institutional efforts to place program graduates; and a
4 description of policy and administrative actions designed
5 to increase placement of grant recipients.

6 (e) Disseminating information regarding the DFI to
7 qualified institutions of higher education for
8 distribution.

9 (f) Prioritizing fields of study for awarding DFI
10 funds annually.

11 (g) Meeting at least 3 times per year.

12 (Source: P.A. 93-862, eff. 8-4-04.)

13 (110 ILCS 930/6) (from Ch. 144, par. 2306)

14 Sec. 6. DFI grants. A program of financial assistance is
15 established to implement the policy of encouraging ~~minority~~
16 students to enroll and complete academic programs at the
17 postbaccalaureate level and to enhance the diversity of
18 faculty and staff of Illinois institutions of higher
19 education. The Board of Higher Education shall provide
20 administrative assistance for the Program Board and shall
21 distribute funds appropriated by the General Assembly for this
22 purpose in accordance with decisions made by the Program
23 Board.

24 (Source: P.A. 93-862, eff. 8-4-04.)

1 (110 ILCS 930/7) (from Ch. 144, par. 2307)

2 Sec. 7. Eligibility for DFI grants. Institutions of higher
3 education shall verify that student applicants meet the
4 eligibility requirements for DFI grants. An individual is
5 eligible for an award under the provisions of this Act if ~~when~~
6 the Program Board finds:

7 (a) that ~~That~~ the individual is an Illinois ~~a~~ resident
8 ~~of this State~~ and a citizen or lawful permanent resident
9 of the United States;

10 (b) (blank); ~~That the individual is a member of a~~
11 ~~racial minority as defined under the terms of this Act;~~

12 (c) that ~~That~~ the individual ~~has earned any~~
13 ~~educational diploma at an institution of education located~~
14 ~~in this State,~~ or is an Illinois ~~a~~ resident ~~of the State~~
15 for no less than 3 ~~three~~ years prior to applying for the
16 grant, and the individual holds ~~must hold~~ a baccalaureate
17 degree from an institution of higher education authorized
18 to operate in this State ~~learning;~~

19 (d) that ~~That~~ the individual's financial resources are
20 such that, in the absence of a DFI grant, the individual
21 will be prevented from pursuing a graduate or professional
22 degree at a qualified institution of higher education of
23 his or her choice;

24 (e) that ~~That~~ the individual has above average
25 academic ability to pursue a graduate or professional
26 degree, as evidenced by the following:

1 (1) a minimum grade point average of a C+ (2.75 on
2 a grade scale of 4.00 = A) in the last 60 hours of
3 undergraduate work; and

4 (2) admission to a post-baccalaureate degree
5 program at a qualified institution of higher
6 education; and

7 (f) that ~~That~~ the individual meets other
8 qualifications, which shall be established by the Program
9 Board; -

10 (g) that the individual was a federal Pell Grant
11 recipient at any point while earning a baccalaureate
12 degree;

13 (h) that the individual is admitted as a full-time
14 student, as defined by the institution of higher
15 education, for at least 9 months of the year pursuing a
16 doctoral, master's, or post-baccalaureate professional
17 degree program at a qualified institution of higher
18 education;

19 (i) that the individual has signed an agreement to
20 meet this Act's employment conditions if a DFI award is
21 accepted; and

22 (j) in order to maintain eligibility in the DFI and in
23 order to be considered for subsequent DFI grants, that the
24 individual meets the scholastic requirements and
25 eligibility for financial assistance required by the
26 institution of higher education in which he or she is

1 enrolled as a DFI participant.

2 ~~Grant funds shall be awarded only to those persons~~
3 ~~pursuing a graduate or professional degree program at a~~
4 ~~qualified institution of higher education.~~

5 ~~The Board shall by rule promulgate, pursuant to the~~
6 ~~Illinois Administrative Procedure Act, precise standards to be~~
7 ~~used by the Program Board to determine whether a program~~
8 ~~applicant has above average academic ability to pursue a~~
9 ~~graduate or professional degree.~~

10 (Source: P.A. 102-1030, eff. 5-27-22.)

11 (110 ILCS 930/7.5 new)

12 Sec. 7.5. Institution and institutional representative
13 responsibilities.

14 (a) A DFI institution shall:

15 (1) be a qualified institution of higher education;

16 (2) commit to providing leadership, information, and
17 placement opportunities for DFI fellows;

18 (3) designate an institutional representative; and

19 (4) recover funds provided to a student who does not
20 meet the conditions of an award under Section 10 of this
21 Act and return the funds to the Board.

22 (b) A DFI representative shall:

23 (1) actively recruit students who will be eligible for
24 DFI awards and verify to the Program Board that applicants
25 for DFI financial assistance meet all eligibility

1 requirements;

2 (2) maintain records for award recipients, including
3 DFI application materials, contracts, and records of award
4 payments;

5 (3) provide award recipients with academic and support
6 services, such as mentoring, counseling, and other
7 activities that would enhance the chances for degree
8 completion and success in achieving the goals of the DFI;

9 (4) supervise the payment of awards from funds awarded
10 by the Program Board;

11 (5) collect, process, and forward to the Program
12 Board, by the announced deadline each spring, all new
13 applications and renewal forms from eligible students; and

14 (6) assist award recipients who complete their program
15 of study in seeking a full-time teaching or administrative
16 position at an Illinois institution of higher education or
17 a full-time position as an employee of this State in an
18 educational-related capacity; such positions may include,
19 without limitation, administrative positions in State
20 elementary, secondary, or higher education agencies.

21 (110 ILCS 930/8) (from Ch. 144, par. 2308)

22 Sec. 8. Application. The Program Board shall design the
23 application for the DFI award and determine the timetable for
24 submission of the application. A student shall apply directly
25 to the qualified institution of higher education that he or

1 she plans to attend. All new applications and renewal forms
2 shall be submitted by the institution of higher education on
3 behalf of the student to the Program Board, with the
4 institution's verification and endorsement.

5 (Source: P.A. 93-862, eff. 8-4-04.)

6 (110 ILCS 930/8.5 new)

7 Sec. 8.5. Determining and administering awards. In
8 determining the recipients of awards, the Program Board shall
9 favor recipients who received awards in previous years and who
10 maintain conditions of eligibility as set forth in Section 7
11 and have made satisfactory academic progress toward a degree,
12 as determined by each institution of higher education, as long
13 as no student receives assistance for more than 4 years. In
14 administering awards, the Program Board shall:

15 (1) determine the award amount annually;

16 (2) direct the Board to deliver the awards to the
17 institution of higher education to disburse to the
18 recipients, conditioned upon the recipients' satisfactory
19 academic progress; and

20 (3) attempt to achieve distribution of the awards
21 among qualified institutions of higher education so that
22 the awards are distributed equitably within fields of
23 study.

24 A recipient who received an award in a previous year may
25 not be disqualified from receiving a subsequent award if the

1 applicant's qualified institution of higher education no
2 longer meets the Pell Grant criteria described in Section 2,
3 as long as the applicant and the qualified institution of
4 higher education maintain all other conditions of eligibility.

5 Grant funds shall be distributed by an institution of
6 higher education to grantees during the period of DFI
7 enrollment, not to exceed 12 months per award.

8 (110 ILCS 930/10) (from Ch. 144, par. 2310)

9 Sec. 10. Conditions of award.

10 (a) As used in this Section, "good faith effort" includes
11 actively seeking employment and maintaining contact with the
12 institutional representative and Program Board.

13 (b) Conditions for acceptance of a DFI award are that the
14 recipient shall agree to do the following:

15 (1) accept a teaching or nonteaching full-time
16 appointment at an Illinois institution of higher
17 education; ~~or~~

18 (2) accept a position as an employee of this State in
19 an administrative, educational-related position, as
20 determined by the Program Board, for the period equal to
21 the number of years that he or she was a participant in the
22 DFI; such positions shall include, without limitation,
23 administrative positions in State elementary, secondary,
24 or higher education agencies; or-

25 (3) make a good faith effort to secure such a position

1 for a time period of no less than 5 years.

2 (Source: P.A. 93-862, eff. 8-4-04.)

3 (110 ILCS 930/11) (from Ch. 144, par. 2311)

4 Sec. 11. Penalty for failure to fulfill the conditions of
5 a DFI award. If the obligation of the award is not met,
6 repayment of the funds awarded shall ~~may~~ be required according
7 to procedures developed by the ~~Program~~ Board. However, a
8 recipient of an award may not be penalized if the failure to
9 fulfill the conditions of the award is because the recipient
10 is no longer eligible due to changes made by this amendatory
11 Act of the 104th General Assembly.

12 (Source: P.A. 93-862, eff. 8-4-04.)

13 (110 ILCS 930/11.10 new)

14 Sec. 11.10. Relation to Illinois Grant Funds Recovery Act.
15 All grants under this Act are subject to the Illinois Grant
16 Funds Recovery Act.

17 (110 ILCS 930/11.15 new)

18 Sec. 11.15. Applicability. The changes made to this Act by
19 this amendatory Act of the 104th General Assembly shall first
20 apply beginning with awards made for the 2025-2026 academic
21 year.

22 (110 ILCS 930/11.5 rep.)

1 Section 15. The Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in
2 Illinois Act is amended by repealing Section 11.5.

3 Section 20. The Higher Education Student Assistance Act is
4 amended by changing Sections 50, 52, 65.110, 65.115, and
5 65.120 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 947/50)

7 Sec. 50. ~~Minority~~ Teachers of Illinois scholarship
8 program.

9 (a) As used in this Section:

10 ~~"Eligible applicant" means a minority student who has~~
11 ~~graduated from high school or has received a State of~~
12 ~~Illinois High School Diploma and has maintained a~~
13 ~~cumulative grade point average of no less than 2.5 on a 4.0~~
14 ~~scale, and who by reason thereof is entitled to apply for~~
15 ~~scholarships to be awarded under this Section.~~

16 ~~"Minority student" means a student who is any of the~~
17 ~~following:~~

18 ~~(1) American Indian or Alaska Native (a person~~
19 ~~having origins in any of the original peoples of North~~
20 ~~and South America, including Central America, and who~~
21 ~~maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment).~~

22 ~~(2) Asian (a person having origins in any of the~~
23 ~~original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or~~
24 ~~the Indian subcontinent, including, but not limited~~

1 ~~to, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia,~~
2 ~~Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and~~
3 ~~Vietnam).~~

4 ~~(3) Black or African American (a person having~~
5 ~~origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa).~~

6 ~~(4) Hispanic or Latino (a person of Cuban,~~
7 ~~Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or~~
8 ~~other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race).~~

9 ~~(5) Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (a~~
10 ~~person having origins in any of the original peoples~~
11 ~~of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands).~~

12 "Qualified bilingual ~~minority~~ applicant" means a
13 qualified student who demonstrates proficiency in a
14 language other than English by (i) receiving a State Seal
15 of Biliteracy from the State Board of Education or (ii)
16 receiving a passing score on an educator licensure target
17 language proficiency test.

18 "Qualified student" means a student who: ~~person~~

19 (i) was enrolled in a public school district in
20 this State, at any point in kindergarten through grade
21 12, that had an average of least 70% of students who
22 were eligible for free or reduced-price lunch during
23 the most recent 3 school years for which data is
24 available from the State Board of Education;

25 (ii) was either:

26 (A) enrolled in a public school district in

1 this State, at any point in kindergarten through
2 grade 12, that had a 3-year average teacher
3 vacancy rate at or above the 3-year statewide
4 average teacher vacancy rate, excluding public
5 school districts that had zero vacancies, in any
6 school year among the most recent 3 school years
7 for which data is available from the State Board
8 of Education; or

9 (B) enrolled in a public school district in
10 this State, at any point in kindergarten through
11 grade 12, in which the number of teacher vacancies
12 in the district was at or above the statewide
13 average number of teacher vacancies, excluding
14 public school districts that had zero vacancies,
15 in any school year among the most recent 3 school
16 years for which data is available from the State
17 Board of Education;

18 (iii) has graduated from high school or has
19 received a State of Illinois High School Diploma;

20 (iv) who is an Illinois a resident of this State
21 and a citizen or permanent resident of the United
22 States; ~~(ii) who is a minority student, as defined in~~
23 ~~this Section; (iii) who, as an eligible applicant,~~

24 (v) has made a timely application for a teacher
25 ~~minority teaching~~ scholarship under this Section;

26 (vi) ~~(iv) who~~ is enrolled on at least a half-time

1 basis at a qualified Illinois institution of higher
2 learning;

3 (vii) ~~(v) who~~ is enrolled in a course of study
4 leading to teacher licensure, including alternative
5 teacher licensure, to be a preschool, elementary, or
6 secondary school teacher, or, if the student is
7 already licensed to teach, in a course of study
8 leading to an additional teaching endorsement or a
9 master's degree in an academic field in which he or she
10 is teaching or plans to teach or who has received one
11 or more College and Career Pathway Endorsements
12 pursuant to Section 80 of the Postsecondary and
13 Workforce Readiness Act and commits to enrolling in a
14 course of study leading to teacher licensure,
15 including alternative teacher licensure, to be a
16 preschool, elementary, or secondary school teacher;

17 (viii) ~~(vi) who~~ maintains a grade point average of
18 no less than 2.5 on a 4.0 scale; and

19 (ix) ~~(vii) who~~ continues to advance satisfactorily
20 toward the attainment of a degree.

21 (b) The Commission shall determine, at its discretion, how
22 to verify whether an applicant is a qualified student. The
23 Commission shall award teacher scholarships under this Section
24 to qualified students who demonstrate to the Commission that
25 they satisfy the requirements and purpose of this Section. All
26 qualified students may apply. A student who received a

1 scholarship under this Section in a previous academic year may
2 not be disqualified from receiving a subsequent award if the
3 public school district where the student had been enrolled no
4 longer meets the criteria regarding free or reduced-price
5 lunch or teacher vacancies described in this Section, as long
6 as the student maintains all other conditions of eligibility.

7 ~~In order to encourage academically talented Illinois minority~~
8 ~~students to pursue teaching careers at the preschool or~~
9 ~~elementary or secondary school level and to address and~~
10 ~~alleviate the teacher shortage crisis in this State described~~
11 ~~under the provisions of the Transitions in Education Act, each~~
12 ~~qualified student shall be awarded a minority teacher~~
13 ~~scholarship to any qualified Illinois institution of higher~~
14 ~~learning. However, preference may be given to qualified~~
15 ~~applicants enrolled at or above the junior level.~~

16 (c) The annual teacher scholarship amount shall be
17 computed by the institution. Each ~~minority~~ teacher scholarship
18 awarded under this Section shall be in an amount sufficient to
19 pay the total cost of attendance ~~tuition and fees and room and~~
20 ~~board costs~~ of the qualified Illinois institution of higher
21 learning at which the recipient is enrolled, ~~up to an annual~~
22 ~~maximum of \$5,000; except that in the case of a recipient who~~
23 ~~does not reside on campus at the institution at which he or she~~
24 ~~is enrolled, the amount of the scholarship shall be sufficient~~
25 ~~to pay tuition and fee expenses and a commuter allowance, up to~~
26 ~~an annual maximum of \$5,000. However, if at least \$2,850,000~~

1 ~~is appropriated in a given fiscal year for the Minority~~
2 ~~Teachers of Illinois scholarship program, then, in each fiscal~~
3 ~~year thereafter, each scholarship awarded under this Section~~
4 ~~shall be in an amount sufficient to pay the tuition and fees~~
5 ~~and room and board costs of the qualified Illinois institution~~
6 ~~of higher learning at which the recipient is enrolled, up to an~~
7 ~~annual maximum of \$7,500; except that in the case of a~~
8 ~~recipient who does not reside on campus at the institution at~~
9 ~~which he or she is enrolled, the amount of the scholarship~~
10 ~~shall be sufficient to pay tuition and fee expenses and a~~
11 ~~commuter allowance, up to an annual maximum of \$7,500.~~

12 (d) The total amount of ~~minority~~ teacher scholarship
13 assistance awarded by the Commission under this Section to an
14 individual in any given fiscal year, when added to other
15 financial assistance awarded to that individual for that year,
16 shall not exceed the total cost of attendance at the
17 institution at which the student is enrolled. If the amount of
18 a minority teacher scholarship to be awarded to a scholarship
19 recipient ~~qualified student~~ as provided in subsection (c) of
20 this Section exceeds the total cost of attendance at the
21 institution at which the student is enrolled, the ~~minority~~
22 teacher scholarship shall be reduced by an amount equal to the
23 amount by which the combined financial assistance available to
24 the recipient ~~student~~ exceeds the total cost of attendance.

25 (e) The maximum number of academic terms for which a
26 recipient ~~qualified student~~ can receive ~~minority~~ teacher

1 scholarship assistance shall be 8 semesters or 12 quarters.

2 (f) In any academic year for which an eligible applicant
3 under this Section accepts financial assistance through the
4 Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois Program, the Special
5 Education Teacher Tuition Waiver Program, or the Teach
6 Illinois Scholarship Program, Paul Douglas Teacher Scholarship
7 Program, as authorized by Section 551 et seq. of the Higher
8 Education Act of 1965, the applicant shall not be eligible for
9 scholarship assistance awarded under this Section.

10 (g) All applications for ~~minority~~ teacher scholarships to
11 be awarded under this Section shall be made to the Commission
12 on forms which the Commission shall provide ~~for eligible~~
13 ~~applicants.~~ Applicants must submit an application annually.
14 Applicants must also complete the Free Application for Federal
15 Student Aid. The form of applications and the information
16 required to be set forth therein shall be determined by the
17 Commission, and the Commission shall require ~~eligible~~
18 applicants to submit with their applications such supporting
19 documents or recommendations as the Commission deems
20 necessary. If an application is incomplete, the Commission
21 shall notify the applicant. The applicant shall then have an
22 opportunity to furnish the missing information; however, the
23 application shall be considered for processing only as of the
24 date when the application is complete and received by the
25 Commission. Applicants may be required to furnish the
26 institution at which they are enrolled with a copy of their

1 high school transcripts, any other documentation verifying
2 high school graduation, or a copy of their State of Illinois
3 High School Diploma.

4 (h) Subject to a separate appropriation for such purposes,
5 payment of any ~~minority~~ teacher scholarship awarded under this
6 Section shall be determined by the Commission. All scholarship
7 funds distributed in accordance with this subsection shall be
8 paid to the institution and used only for payment of the
9 tuition and fee and room and board expenses incurred by the
10 student in connection with his or her attendance at a
11 qualified Illinois institution of higher learning. Any
12 ~~minority~~ teacher scholarship awarded under this Section shall
13 be applicable to 2 semesters or 3 quarters of enrollment
14 within a regular academic year. If a recipient ~~qualified~~
15 ~~student~~ withdraws from enrollment prior to completion of the
16 first semester or quarter for which the ~~minority~~ teacher
17 scholarship is applicable, the school shall refund to the
18 Commission the full amount of the ~~minority~~ teacher
19 scholarship.

20 (i) The Commission shall administer the ~~minority~~ teacher
21 scholarship ~~aid~~ program established by this Section and shall
22 make all necessary and proper rules not inconsistent with this
23 Section for its effective implementation. The Commission shall
24 make information available on its website regarding school
25 districts that meet the criteria set forth in the definition
26 of a qualified student under subsection (a).

1 (j) When an appropriation to the Commission for a given
2 fiscal year is insufficient to provide scholarships to all
3 qualified students, the Commission shall allocate the
4 appropriation in accordance with this subsection. If funds are
5 insufficient to provide all qualified students with a
6 scholarship as authorized by this Section, the Commission
7 shall allocate the available scholarship funds for that fiscal
8 year to qualified students who submit a timely complete
9 application form on or before a date specified by the
10 Commission based on the following order of priority:

11 (1) To students who received a scholarship under this
12 Section in the prior academic year and who remain eligible
13 for a ~~minority~~ teacher scholarship under this Section.

14 (2) ~~To Except as otherwise provided in subsection (k),~~
15 ~~to~~ students who demonstrate the most financial need, as
16 determined by the Commission.

17 (3) To students with the earliest date of received
18 completed applications.

19 (4) To students enrolled at or above the junior level.

20 (k) ~~Notwithstanding paragraph (2) of subsection (j), at~~
21 ~~least 35% of the funds appropriated for scholarships awarded~~
22 ~~under this Section in each fiscal year shall be reserved for~~
23 ~~qualified male minority applicants, with priority being given~~
24 ~~to qualified Black male applicants beginning with fiscal year~~
25 ~~2023. If the Commission does not receive enough applications~~
26 ~~from qualified male minorities on or before January 1 of each~~

1 ~~fiscal year to award 35% of the funds appropriated for these~~
2 ~~scholarships to qualified male minority applicants, then the~~
3 ~~Commission may award a portion of the reserved funds to~~
4 ~~qualified female minority applicants in accordance with~~
5 ~~subsection (j).~~

6 ~~If Beginning with fiscal year 2023, if at least \$2,850,000~~
7 ~~but less than \$4,200,000 is appropriated in a given fiscal~~
8 ~~year for scholarships awarded under this Section, then at~~
9 ~~least 10% of the funds appropriated shall be reserved for~~
10 ~~qualified bilingual ~~minority~~ applicants, with priority being~~
11 ~~given to qualified bilingual ~~minority~~ applicants who are~~
12 ~~enrolled in an educator preparation program with a~~
13 ~~concentration in bilingual, bicultural education. If Beginning~~
14 ~~with fiscal year 2023, if at least \$4,200,000 is appropriated~~
15 ~~in a given fiscal year for the ~~Minority~~ Teachers of Illinois~~
16 ~~scholarship program, then at least 30% of the funds~~
17 ~~appropriated shall be reserved for qualified bilingual~~
18 ~~~~minority~~ applicants, with priority being given to qualified~~
19 ~~bilingual ~~minority~~ applicants who are enrolled in an educator~~
20 ~~preparation program with a concentration in bilingual,~~
21 ~~bicultural education. For a fiscal year to which this~~
22 ~~subsection applies, if, on or after January 1 of that fiscal~~
23 ~~year, appropriated funds remain after awarding reserved funds~~
24 ~~to Beginning with fiscal year 2023, if at least \$2,850,000 is~~
25 ~~appropriated in a given fiscal year for scholarships awarded~~
26 ~~under this Section but the Commission does not receive enough~~

1 ~~applications from~~ qualified bilingual ~~minority~~ applicants ~~on~~
2 ~~or before January 1 of that fiscal year to award at least 10%~~
3 ~~of the funds appropriated to qualified bilingual minority~~
4 ~~applicants,~~ then the Commission may, in its discretion, award
5 a portion of the reserved funds to other qualified students in
6 accordance with subsection (j).

7 (1) Prior to receiving scholarship assistance for any
8 academic year, each recipient of a ~~minority~~ teacher
9 scholarship awarded under this Section shall be required by
10 the Commission to sign and submit a teaching agreement or
11 promissory note to the Commission ~~an agreement~~ under which the
12 recipient pledges that, within the one-year period following
13 the termination of the program for which the recipient was
14 awarded a ~~minority~~ teacher scholarship, the recipient (i)
15 shall begin teaching for a period of not less than one year for
16 each year of scholarship assistance he or she was awarded
17 under this Section and shall teach on a continuous basis for
18 the required period of time; (ii) shall fulfill this teaching
19 obligation at a ~~nonprofit Illinois public, private, or~~
20 ~~parochial preschool, elementary school, or secondary school~~
21 district in this State that had a 3-year average teacher
22 vacancy rate at or above the 3-year statewide average teacher
23 vacancy rate, excluding public school districts that had zero
24 vacancies, in any school year among the most recent 3 school
25 years for which data is available from the State Board of
26 Education or a public school district in this State in which

1 the number of teacher vacancies in the district was at or above
2 the statewide average number of teacher vacancies, excluding
3 public school districts that had zero vacancies, in any school
4 year among the most recent 3 school years for which data is
5 available from the State Board of Education ~~at which no less~~
6 ~~than 30% of the enrolled students are minority students~~ in the
7 year during which the recipient begins teaching at the school
8 or may instead, if the recipient received a scholarship as a
9 qualified bilingual ~~minority~~ applicant, fulfill this teaching
10 obligation in a program in transitional bilingual education
11 pursuant to Article 14C of the School Code or in a school in
12 which 20 or more English learner students in the same language
13 classification are enrolled; and (iii) shall, upon request by
14 the Commission, provide the Commission with evidence that he
15 or she is fulfilling or has fulfilled the terms of the teaching
16 agreement provided for in this subsection. Recipients of a
17 teacher scholarship under this Section are also required to
18 provide the Commission with evidence of compliance with
19 program requirements, including, but not limited to annual
20 follow-up questionnaires. Recipients of a teacher scholarship
21 under this Section must also promise to use the proceeds of the
22 scholarship for educational expenses.

23 (1-5) If, prior to the 2025-2026 academic year, an
24 individual received a scholarship under this Section and
25 signed an agreement pledging to teach at a school meeting
26 specified criteria and that individual receives a subsequent

1 scholarship under this Section on or after the effective date
2 of this amendatory Act of the 104th General Assembly, then
3 that recipient may complete his or her entire teaching
4 obligation at a school meeting the criteria described in
5 subsection (1) of this Section and the Commission shall
6 consider such employment to satisfy the terms of that
7 recipient's agreement to teach signed before the effective
8 date of this amendatory Act of the 104th General Assembly.

9 (m) If a recipient of a ~~minority~~ teacher scholarship
10 awarded under this Section fails to fulfill the teaching
11 obligation set forth in subsection (1) of this Section, the
12 scholarship converts to a loan. The repayment period shall be
13 completed within 10 years after the scholarship converts to a
14 loan.

15 The 10-year period may be extended if the recipient (i)
16 serves, for not more than 3 years, as a member of the United
17 States Armed Forces; (ii) is temporarily disabled, for not
18 more than 3 years, as established by the sworn affidavit of a
19 licensed physician; (iii) is seeking and unable to find
20 full-time employment, for one continuous period not to exceed
21 2 years, and is able to provide evidence of that fact; (iv)
22 withdraws from a course of study leading to licensure as a
23 teacher but is enrolled full time in another academic
24 discipline; or (v) is pursuing a graduate course of study and
25 is enrolled on a full-time basis for one continuous period of
26 time not to exceed 3 years. During the time a recipient

1 qualifies for any extensions, the recipient is not required to
2 make payments and interest does not accrue.

3 The recipient shall enter repayment status on the earliest
4 of the following: the first day of the first calendar month
5 after the recipient has ceased to pursue a course of study
6 leading to licensure as a teacher at the preschool,
7 elementary, or secondary level, but not before 6 months have
8 elapsed after the cessation of at least half-time enrollment
9 in such a course of study; the date the recipient informs the
10 Commission that the recipient does not plan to fulfill the
11 teaching obligation; or the day after the latest date upon
12 which the recipient must have begun teaching after completing
13 the postsecondary education for which the scholarship was
14 awarded.

15 The ~~the~~ Commission shall require the recipient to repay
16 the amount of the scholarships received, prorated according to
17 the fraction of the teaching obligation not completed, at an
18 annual ~~a~~ rate of interest equal to 5%, and, if applicable,
19 reasonable collection fees. If a recipient who enters into
20 repayment under this subsection (m) subsequently, within 5
21 years of entering repayment, begins to teach at a school
22 meeting the description under subsection (l) of this Section,
23 the Commission may reduce the amount owed by the recipient in
24 proportion to the amount of the teaching obligation completed.
25 ~~The Commission is authorized to establish rules relating to~~
26 ~~its collection activities for repayment of scholarships under~~

1 ~~this Section.~~ All repayments collected under this Section
2 shall be forwarded to the State Comptroller for deposit into
3 the State's General Revenue Fund.

4 A recipient is not required to repay the amount of the
5 scholarship received if the recipient becomes permanently
6 totally disabled, as established by the sworn affidavit of a
7 qualified physician, or if the recipient's representative
8 provides the Commission with a death certificate or other
9 evidence that the recipient has died.

10 (n) A recipient of a minority teacher scholarship shall
11 not be considered in violation of the agreement entered into
12 pursuant to subsection (l) if the recipient (i) enrolls on a
13 full time basis as a graduate student in a course of study
14 related to the field of teaching at a qualified Illinois
15 institution of higher learning; (ii) is serving, not in excess
16 of 3 years, as a member of the armed services of the United
17 States; (iii) is a person with a temporary total disability
18 for a period of time not to exceed 3 years as established by
19 sworn affidavit of a qualified physician; (iv) is seeking
20 full-time employment for one continuous period not to exceed 2
21 years and is unable to find full time employment as a teacher
22 at a an Illinois public, private, or parochial preschool or
23 elementary or secondary school district in this State that
24 satisfies the criteria set forth in subsection (l) of this
25 Section and is able to provide evidence of that fact; (v)
26 becomes a person with a permanent total disability as

1 established by sworn affidavit of a qualified physician; (vi)
2 is taking additional courses, on at least a half-time basis,
3 needed to obtain licensure as a teacher in Illinois; or (vii)
4 is fulfilling teaching requirements associated with other
5 programs administered by the Commission and cannot
6 concurrently fulfill them under this Section in a period of
7 time equal to the length of the teaching obligation.

8 (o) Scholarship recipients under this Section who withdraw
9 from a program of teacher education but remain enrolled in
10 school to continue their postsecondary studies in another
11 academic discipline shall not be required to commence
12 repayment of their ~~Minority~~ Teachers of Illinois scholarship
13 so long as they remain enrolled in school on a full-time basis
14 or if they can document for the Commission special
15 circumstances that warrant extension of repayment.

16 (o-5) The Commission may not require repayment of any
17 Minority Teachers of Illinois scholarship from any recipient
18 who:

19 (1) received that scholarship during the 2024-2025
20 academic year;

21 (2) would have remained eligible for the Minority
22 Teachers of Illinois scholarship if it remained in effect
23 for the 2025-2026 academic year;

24 (3) does not meet the definition of a qualified
25 student under the Teachers of Illinois scholarship program
26 established by this amendatory Act of the 104th General

1 Assembly; and

2 (4) does not complete the educator preparation program
3 in which the recipient was enrolled when receiving the
4 Minority Teachers of Illinois scholarship.

5 (p) The State Board of Education shall furnish all
6 appropriate data referenced within the definition of a
7 qualified student under subsection (a) on a timely basis to
8 the Commission. If the Minority Teachers of Illinois
9 scholarship program does not expend at least 90% of the amount
10 appropriated for the program in a given fiscal year for 3
11 consecutive fiscal years and the Commission does not receive
12 enough applications from the groups identified in subsection
13 (k) on or before January 1 in each of those fiscal years to
14 meet the percentage reserved for those groups under subsection
15 (k), then up to 3% of amount appropriated for the program for
16 each of next 3 fiscal years shall be allocated to increasing
17 awareness of the program and for the recruitment of Black male
18 applicants. The Commission shall make a recommendation to the
19 General Assembly by January 1 of the year immediately
20 following the end of that third fiscal year regarding whether
21 the amount allocated to increasing awareness and recruitment
22 should continue.

23 (q) Each qualified Illinois institution of higher learning
24 that receives funds from the ~~Minority~~ Teachers of Illinois
25 scholarship program ~~shall host an annual information session~~
26 ~~at the institution about the program for teacher candidates of~~

1 ~~color in accordance with rules adopted by the Commission.~~
2 ~~Additionally, the institution~~ shall ensure that each
3 scholarship recipient enrolled at the institution meets with
4 an academic advisor at least once per academic year to
5 facilitate on-time completion of the recipient's educator
6 preparation program. Institutions shall also submit
7 eligibility information for qualified students in sufficient
8 time for the Commission to make award announcements.

9 Teacher scholarship awards under this Section shall be
10 paid directly to the approved institution of record that
11 certifies to the Commission that the applicant is an eligible
12 recipient. The Commission shall annually establish priority
13 claim dates for the submission of payment requests and inform
14 institutions of the required priority dates. Late payment
15 requests shall result in the delayed processing of payments.
16 Payment requests shall be processed in the sequence of receipt
17 by the Commission and as funds are available. Institutions may
18 submit their payment requests beginning 10 days prior to the
19 start of classes for the term for which payment is being
20 requested.

21 The Commission shall disburse scholarship funds in 2 or 3
22 installments, depending on the number of terms financed by the
23 scholarship, except that multiple disbursements are not
24 required in cases in which the applicant's eligibility is not
25 determined until the final term of the regular academic year
26 for which the scholarship is being awarded or if a student is

1 attending only one term and the maximum award does not exceed
2 the student's cost of attendance.

3 Funds shall be remitted by the Commission to institutions
4 on behalf of recipients. Upon receipt of scholarship funds,
5 the institution shall verify the recipient's enrollment status
6 for the term for which the award was intended. If enrolled, the
7 institution may credit the scholarship funds to the
8 recipient's account for expenses due and payable. The balance
9 of the disbursement shall be released to the recipient. Upon
10 receipt of the scholarship funds, if the recipient has
11 withdrawn from enrollment for the terms for which the award
12 was intended, the institution shall return the amount of the
13 scholarship payment to the Commission.

14 (r) The changes made to this Section by this amendatory
15 Act of the 104th General Assembly shall first apply beginning
16 with awards made for the 2025-2026 academic year. ~~The changes~~
17 ~~made to this Section by Public Act 101-654 will first take~~
18 ~~effect with awards made for the 2022-2023 academic year.~~

19 (Source: P.A. 102-465, eff. 1-1-22; 102-813, eff. 5-13-22;
20 102-1100, eff. 1-1-23; 103-448, eff. 8-4-23; revised 7-19-24.)

21 (110 ILCS 947/52)

22 Sec. 52. Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois Program; Golden
23 Apple Foundation for Excellence in Teaching.

24 (a) In this Section, "Foundation" means the Golden Apple
25 Foundation for Excellence in Teaching, a registered 501(c)(3)

1 not-for-profit corporation.

2 (a-2) In order to encourage academically talented Illinois
3 students, ~~especially minority students,~~ to pursue teaching
4 careers, especially in teacher shortage disciplines (which
5 shall be defined to include early childhood education) or at
6 hard-to-staff schools (as defined by the Commission in
7 consultation with the State Board of Education), to provide
8 those students with the crucial mentoring, guidance, and
9 in-service support that will significantly increase the
10 likelihood that they will complete their full teaching
11 commitments and elect to continue teaching in targeted
12 disciplines and hard-to-staff schools, and to ensure that
13 students in this State will continue to have access to a pool
14 of highly qualified ~~highly qualified~~ teachers, each qualified
15 student shall be awarded a Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois
16 Program scholarship to any Illinois institution of higher
17 learning. The Commission shall administer the Golden Apple
18 Scholars of Illinois Program, which shall be managed by the
19 Foundation pursuant to the terms of a grant agreement meeting
20 the requirements of Section 4 of the Illinois Grant Funds
21 Recovery Act.

22 (a-3) For purposes of this Section, a qualified student
23 shall be a student who meets the following qualifications:

24 (1) is a resident of this State and a citizen or
25 eligible noncitizen of the United States;

26 (2) is a high school graduate or a person who has

1 received a State of Illinois High School Diploma;

2 (3) is enrolled or accepted, on at least a half-time
3 basis, at an institution of higher learning;

4 (4) is pursuing a postsecondary course of study
5 leading to initial certification or pursuing additional
6 course work needed to gain State Board of Education
7 approval to teach, including alternative teacher
8 licensure; and

9 (5) is a participant in programs managed by and is
10 approved to receive a scholarship from the Foundation.

11 (a-5) (Blank).

12 (b) (Blank).

13 (b-5) Funds designated for the Golden Apple Scholars of
14 Illinois Program shall be used by the Commission for the
15 payment of scholarship assistance under this Section or for
16 the award of grant funds, subject to the Illinois Grant Funds
17 Recovery Act, to the Foundation. Subject to appropriation,
18 awards of grant funds to the Foundation shall be made on an
19 annual basis and following an application for grant funds by
20 the Foundation.

21 (b-10) Each year, the Foundation shall include in its
22 application to the Commission for grant funds an estimate of
23 the amount of scholarship assistance to be provided to
24 qualified students during the grant period. Any amount of
25 appropriated funds exceeding the estimated amount of
26 scholarship assistance may be awarded by the Commission to the

1 Foundation for management expenses expected to be incurred by
2 the Foundation in providing the mentoring, guidance, and
3 in-service supports that will increase the likelihood that
4 qualified students will complete their teaching commitments
5 and elect to continue teaching in hard-to-staff schools. If
6 the estimate of the amount of scholarship assistance described
7 in the Foundation's application is less than the actual amount
8 required for the award of scholarship assistance to qualified
9 students, the Foundation shall be responsible for using
10 awarded grant funds to ensure all qualified students receive
11 scholarship assistance under this Section.

12 (b-15) All grant funds not expended or legally obligated
13 within the time specified in a grant agreement between the
14 Foundation and the Commission shall be returned to the
15 Commission within 45 days. Any funds legally obligated by the
16 end of a grant agreement shall be liquidated within 45 days or
17 otherwise returned to the Commission within 90 days after the
18 end of the grant agreement that resulted in the award of grant
19 funds.

20 (c) Each scholarship awarded under this Section shall be
21 in an amount sufficient to pay the tuition and fees and room
22 and board costs of the Illinois institution of higher learning
23 at which the recipient is enrolled, up to an annual maximum of
24 \$5,000; except that, in the case of a recipient who does not
25 reside on campus at the institution of higher learning at
26 which he or she is enrolled, the amount of the scholarship

1 shall be sufficient to pay tuition and fee expenses and a
2 commuter allowance, up to an annual maximum of \$5,000. All
3 scholarship funds distributed in accordance with this Section
4 shall be paid to the institution on behalf of recipients.

5 (d) The total amount of scholarship assistance awarded by
6 the Commission under this Section to an individual in any
7 given fiscal year, when added to other financial assistance
8 awarded to that individual for that year, shall not exceed the
9 cost of attendance at the institution of higher learning at
10 which the student is enrolled. In any academic year for which a
11 qualified student under this Section accepts financial
12 assistance through any other teacher scholarship program
13 administered by the Commission, a qualified student shall not
14 be eligible for scholarship assistance awarded under this
15 Section.

16 (e) A recipient may receive up to 8 semesters or 12
17 quarters of scholarship assistance under this Section.
18 Scholarship funds are applicable toward 2 semesters or 3
19 quarters of enrollment each academic year.

20 (f) All applications for scholarship assistance to be
21 awarded under this Section shall be made to the Foundation in a
22 form determined by the Foundation. Each year, the Foundation
23 shall notify the Commission of the individuals awarded
24 scholarship assistance under this Section. Each year, at least
25 30% of the Golden Apple Scholars of Illinois Program
26 scholarships shall be awarded to students residing in counties

1 having a population of less than 500,000.

2 (g) (Blank).

3 (h) The Commission shall administer the payment of
4 scholarship assistance provided through the Golden Apple
5 Scholars of Illinois Program and shall make all necessary and
6 proper rules not inconsistent with this Section for the
7 effective implementation of this Section.

8 (i) Prior to receiving scholarship assistance for any
9 academic year, each recipient of a scholarship awarded under
10 this Section shall be required by the Foundation to sign an
11 agreement under which the recipient pledges that, within the
12 2-year period following the termination of the academic
13 program for which the recipient was awarded a scholarship, the
14 recipient: (i) shall begin teaching for a period of not less
15 than 5 years, (ii) shall fulfill this teaching obligation at a
16 nonprofit Illinois public, private, or parochial preschool or
17 an Illinois public elementary or secondary school that
18 qualifies for teacher loan cancellation under Section
19 465(a)(2)(A) of the federal Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
20 U.S.C. 1087ee(a)(2)(A)) or other Illinois schools deemed
21 eligible for fulfilling the teaching commitment as designated
22 by the Foundation, and (iii) shall, upon request of the
23 Foundation, provide the Foundation with evidence that he or
24 she is fulfilling or has fulfilled the terms of the teaching
25 agreement provided for in this subsection. Upon request, the
26 Foundation shall provide evidence of teacher fulfillment to

1 the Commission.

2 (j) If a recipient of a scholarship awarded under this
3 Section fails to fulfill the teaching obligation set forth in
4 subsection (i) of this Section, the Commission shall require
5 the recipient to repay the amount of the scholarships
6 received, prorated according to the fraction of the teaching
7 obligation not completed, plus interest at a rate of 5% and, if
8 applicable, reasonable collection fees. If a recipient who
9 enters into repayment under this subsection (j) subsequently,
10 within 5 years of entering repayment, begins to teach at a
11 school meeting the description under subsection (i) of this
12 Section, the Commission may reduce the amount owed by the
13 recipient in proportion to the amount of the teaching
14 obligation completed. Reduction of the amount owed shall not
15 be construed as reinstatement in the Golden Apple Scholars
16 program. Reinstatement in the program shall be solely at the
17 discretion of the Golden Apple Foundation on terms determined
18 by the Foundation. Payments received by the Commission under
19 this subsection (j) shall be remitted to the State Comptroller
20 for deposit into the General Revenue Fund, except that that
21 portion of a recipient's repayment that equals the amount in
22 expenses that the Commission has reasonably incurred in
23 attempting collection from that recipient shall be remitted to
24 the State Comptroller for deposit into the ISAC Accounts
25 Receivable Fund, a special fund in the State treasury.

26 (k) A recipient of a scholarship awarded by the Foundation

1 under this Section shall not be considered to have failed to
2 fulfill the teaching obligations of the agreement entered into
3 pursuant to subsection (i) if the recipient (i) enrolls on a
4 full-time basis as a graduate student in a course of study
5 related to the field of teaching at an institution of higher
6 learning; (ii) is serving as a member of the armed services of
7 the United States; (iii) is a person with a temporary total
8 disability, as established by sworn affidavit of a qualified
9 physician; (iv) is seeking and unable to find full-time
10 employment as a teacher at a school that satisfies the
11 criteria set forth in subsection (i) and is able to provide
12 evidence of that fact; (v) is taking additional courses, on at
13 least a half-time basis, needed to obtain certification as a
14 teacher in Illinois; (vi) is fulfilling teaching requirements
15 associated with other programs administered by the Commission
16 and cannot concurrently fulfill them under this Section in a
17 period of time equal to the length of the teaching obligation;
18 or (vii) is participating in a program established under
19 Executive Order 10924 of the President of the United States or
20 the federal National Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
21 12501 et seq.). Any such extension of the period during which
22 the teaching requirement must be fulfilled shall be subject to
23 limitations of duration as established by the Commission.

24 (1) A recipient who fails to fulfill the teaching
25 obligations of the agreement entered into pursuant to
26 subsection (i) of this Section shall repay the amount of

1 scholarship assistance awarded to them under this Section
2 within 10 years.

3 (m) Annually, at a time determined by the Commission in
4 consultation with the Foundation, the Foundation shall submit
5 a report to assist the Commission in monitoring the
6 Foundation's performance of grant activities. The report shall
7 describe the following:

8 (1) the Foundation's anticipated expenditures for the
9 next fiscal year;

10 (2) the number of qualified students receiving
11 scholarship assistance at each institution of higher
12 learning where a qualified student was enrolled under this
13 Section during the previous fiscal year;

14 (3) the total monetary value of scholarship funds paid
15 to each institution of higher learning at which a
16 qualified student was enrolled during the previous fiscal
17 year;

18 (4) the number of scholarship recipients who completed
19 a baccalaureate degree during the previous fiscal year;

20 (5) the number of scholarship recipients who fulfilled
21 their teaching obligation during the previous fiscal year;

22 (6) the number of scholarship recipients who failed to
23 fulfill their teaching obligation during the previous
24 fiscal year;

25 (7) the number of scholarship recipients granted an
26 extension described in subsection (k) of this Section

1 during the previous fiscal year;

2 (8) the number of scholarship recipients required to
3 repay scholarship assistance in accordance with subsection
4 (j) of this Section during the previous fiscal year;

5 (9) the number of scholarship recipients who
6 successfully repaid scholarship assistance in full during
7 the previous fiscal year;

8 (10) the number of scholarship recipients who
9 defaulted on their obligation to repay scholarship
10 assistance during the previous fiscal year;

11 (11) the amount of scholarship assistance subject to
12 collection in accordance with subsection (j) of this
13 Section at the end of the previous fiscal year;

14 (12) the amount of collected funds to be remitted to
15 the Comptroller in accordance with subsection (j) of this
16 Section at the end of the previous fiscal year; and

17 (13) other information that the Commission may
18 reasonably request.

19 (n) Nothing in this Section shall affect the rights of the
20 Commission to collect moneys owed to it by recipients of
21 scholarship assistance through the Illinois Future Teacher
22 Corps Program, repealed by Public Act 98-533.

23 (o) The Auditor General shall prepare an annual audit of
24 the operations and finances of the Golden Apple Scholars of
25 Illinois Program. This audit shall be provided to the
26 Governor, General Assembly, and the Commission.

1 (p) The suspension of grant making authority found in
2 Section 4.2 of the Illinois Grant Funds Recovery Act shall not
3 apply to grants made pursuant to this Section.

4 (Source: P.A. 102-1071, eff. 6-10-22; 102-1100, eff. 1-1-23;
5 103-154, eff. 6-30-23; 103-448, eff. 8-4-23; revised
6 10-16-24.)

7 (110 ILCS 947/65.110)

8 Sec. 65.110. Post-Master of Social Work School Social Work
9 Professional Educator License scholarship.

10 (a) Subject to appropriation, beginning with awards for
11 the 2022-2023 academic year, the Commission shall award
12 annually up to 250 Post-Master of Social Work School Social
13 Work Professional Educator License scholarships to a person
14 who:

15 (1) holds a valid Illinois-licensed clinical social
16 work license or social work license;

17 (2) has obtained a master's degree in social work from
18 an approved program;

19 (3) is a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen;
20 and

21 (4) submits an application to the Commission for such
22 scholarship and agrees to take courses to obtain an
23 Illinois Professional Educator License with an endorsement
24 in School Social Work.

25 (b) If an appropriation for this Section for a given

1 fiscal year is insufficient to provide scholarships to all
2 qualified applicants, the Commission shall allocate the
3 appropriation as follows ~~in accordance with this subsection~~
4 ~~(b). If funds are insufficient to provide all qualified~~
5 ~~applicants with a scholarship as authorized by this Section,~~
6 ~~the Commission shall allocate the available scholarship funds~~
7 ~~for that fiscal year to qualified applicants who submit a~~
8 ~~complete application on or before a date specified by the~~
9 ~~Commission, based on the following order of priority:~~

10 (1) first ~~firstly~~, to students who received a
11 scholarship under this Section in the prior academic year
12 and who remain eligible for a scholarship under this
13 Section;

14 (2) (blank) ~~secondly, to new, qualified applicants who~~
15 ~~are members of a racial minority, as defined in subsection~~
16 ~~(e); and~~

17 (3) then ~~finally~~, to ~~other~~ new, qualified applicants
18 in accordance with this Section.

19 (c) Scholarships awarded under this Section shall be
20 issued pursuant to rules adopted by the Commission. ~~In~~
21 ~~awarding scholarships, the Commission shall give priority to~~
22 ~~those applicants who are members of a racial minority. Racial~~
23 ~~minorities are underrepresented as school social workers in~~
24 ~~elementary and secondary schools in this State, and the~~
25 ~~General Assembly finds that it is in the interest of this State~~
26 ~~to provide them with priority consideration for programs that~~

1 ~~encourage their participation in this field and thereby foster~~
2 ~~a profession that is more reflective of the diversity of~~
3 ~~Illinois students and the parents they will serve. A more~~
4 ~~reflective workforce in school social work allows improved~~
5 ~~outcomes for students and a better utilization of services.~~
6 ~~Therefore, the Commission shall give priority to those~~
7 ~~applicants who are members of a racial minority. In this~~
8 ~~subsection (c), "racial minority" means a person who is a~~
9 ~~citizen of the United States or a lawful permanent resident of~~
10 ~~the United States and who is:~~

11 ~~(1) Black (a person having origins in any of the black~~
12 ~~racial groups in Africa);~~

13 ~~(2) Hispanic (a person of Spanish or Portuguese~~
14 ~~culture with origins in Mexico, South or Central America,~~
15 ~~or the Caribbean Islands, regardless of race);~~

16 ~~(3) Asian American (a person having origins in any of~~
17 ~~the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the~~
18 ~~Indian Subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands); or~~

19 ~~(4) American Indian or Alaskan Native (a person having~~
20 ~~origins in any of the original peoples of North America).~~

21 (d) Each scholarship shall be applied to the payment of
22 tuition and mandatory fees at the University of Illinois,
23 Southern Illinois University, Chicago State University,
24 Eastern Illinois University, Governors State University,
25 Illinois State University, Northeastern Illinois University,
26 Northern Illinois University, and Western Illinois University.

1 Each scholarship may be applied to pay tuition and mandatory
2 fees required to obtain an Illinois Professional Educator
3 License with an endorsement in School Social Work.

4 (e) The Commission shall make tuition and fee payments
5 directly to the qualified institution of higher learning that
6 the applicant attends.

7 (f) Any person who has accepted a scholarship under this
8 Section must, within one year after graduation or termination
9 of enrollment in a Post-Master of Social Work Professional
10 Education License with an endorsement in School Social Work
11 program, begin working as a school social worker at a public or
12 nonpublic not-for-profit preschool, elementary school, or
13 secondary school located in this State for at least 2 of the 5
14 years immediately following that graduation or termination,
15 excluding, however, from the computation of that 5-year
16 period: (i) any time up to 3 years spent in the military
17 service, whether such service occurs before or after the
18 person graduates; (ii) the time that person is a person with a
19 temporary total disability for a period of time not to exceed 3
20 years, as established by the sworn affidavit of a qualified
21 physician; and (iii) the time that person is seeking and
22 unable to find full-time employment as a school social worker
23 at a State public or nonpublic not-for-profit preschool,
24 elementary school, or secondary school.

25 (g) If a recipient of a scholarship under this Section
26 fails to fulfill the work obligation set forth in subsection

1 (f), the Commission shall require the recipient to repay the
2 amount of the scholarships received, prorated according to the
3 fraction of the obligation not completed, at a rate of
4 interest equal to 5%, and, if applicable, reasonable
5 collection fees. The Commission is authorized to establish
6 rules relating to its collection activities for repayment of
7 scholarships under this Section. All repayments collected
8 under this Section shall be forwarded to the State Comptroller
9 for deposit into this State's General Revenue Fund.

10 A recipient of a scholarship under this Section is not
11 considered to be in violation of the failure to fulfill the
12 work obligation under subsection (f) if the recipient (i)
13 enrolls on a full-time basis as a graduate student in a course
14 of study related to the field of social work at a qualified
15 Illinois institution of higher learning; (ii) is serving, not
16 in excess of 3 years, as a member of the armed services of the
17 United States; (iii) is a person with a temporary total
18 disability for a period of time not to exceed 3 years, as
19 established by the sworn affidavit of a qualified physician;
20 (iv) is seeking and unable to find full-time employment as a
21 school social worker at an Illinois public or nonpublic
22 not-for-profit preschool, elementary school, or secondary
23 school that satisfies the criteria set forth in subsection (f)
24 and is able to provide evidence of that fact; or (v) becomes a
25 person with a permanent total disability, as established by
26 the sworn affidavit of a qualified physician.

1 (Source: P.A. 102-621, eff. 1-1-22; 102-813, eff. 5-13-22;
2 102-1030, eff. 5-27-22.)

3 (110 ILCS 947/65.115)

4 Sec. 65.115. School and Municipal Social Work Shortage
5 Loan Repayment Program.

6 (a) To encourage Illinois students to work, and to
7 continue to work, as a school social worker in public school
8 districts in this State or in State municipalities, the
9 Commission shall, each year, receive and consider applications
10 for loan repayment assistance under this Section. This program
11 shall be known as the School and Municipal Social Work
12 Shortage Loan Repayment Program. The Commission shall
13 administer the program and shall adopt all necessary and
14 proper rules to effectively implement the program.

15 (b) Beginning July 1, 2022, subject to a separate
16 appropriation made for such purposes, the Commission shall
17 award a grant, up to a maximum of \$6,500, to each qualified
18 applicant. The Commission may encourage the recipient of a
19 grant under this Section to use the grant award for repayment
20 of the recipient's educational loan. ~~If an appropriation for~~
21 ~~this program for a given fiscal year is insufficient to~~
22 ~~provide grants to all qualified applicants, the Commission~~
23 ~~shall allocate the appropriation in accordance with this~~
24 ~~subsection.~~ If funds are insufficient to provide all qualified
25 applicants with a grant as authorized by this Section, the

1 Commission shall allocate the available grant funds for the
2 ~~that~~ fiscal year to qualified applicants who submit a complete
3 application on or before a date specified by the Commission,
4 based on the following order of priority:

5 (1) first, to students who received a grant under this
6 Section in the prior fiscal year and who remain eligible
7 for a grant under this Section ~~new, qualified applicants~~
8 ~~who are members of a racial minority as defined in~~
9 ~~subsection (e); and~~

10 (2) then second, to ~~other~~ new, qualified applicants in
11 accordance with this Section.

12 (c) A person is a qualified applicant under this Section
13 if he or she meets all of the following qualifications:

14 (1) The person is a United States citizen or eligible
15 noncitizen.

16 (2) The person is a resident of this State.

17 (3) The person is a borrower with an outstanding
18 balance due on an educational loan related to obtaining a
19 degree in social work.

20 (4) The person has been employed as a school social
21 worker by a public elementary school or secondary school
22 in this State for at least 12 consecutive months or as a
23 social worker for an Illinois municipality who did not
24 report directly to a police department.

25 (5) The person is currently employed as a school
26 social worker by a public elementary school or secondary

1 school in this State or as a social worker for an Illinois
2 municipality who does not report directly to a police
3 department.

4 (d) An applicant shall submit an application, in a form
5 determined by the Commission, for grant assistance under this
6 Section to the Commission. An applicant is required to submit,
7 with the application, supporting documentation as the
8 Commission may deem necessary.

9 (e) (Blank). ~~Racial minorities are underrepresented as~~
10 ~~school social workers in elementary and secondary schools and~~
11 ~~in municipalities in Illinois, and the General Assembly finds~~
12 ~~that it is in the interest of this State to provide them~~
13 ~~priority consideration for programs that encourage their~~
14 ~~participation in this field and thereby foster a profession~~
15 ~~that is more reflective of the diversity of Illinois~~
16 ~~residents, students and parents they will serve. A more~~
17 ~~reflective workforce in social work allows improved outcomes~~
18 ~~for individuals and a better utilization of services.~~
19 ~~Therefore, the Commission shall give priority to those~~
20 ~~applicants who are members of a racial minority. In this~~
21 ~~subsection (c), "racial minority" means a person who is a~~
22 ~~citizen of the United States or a lawful permanent resident~~
23 ~~alien of the United States and who is:~~

24 ~~(1) Black (a person having origins in any of the black~~
25 ~~racial groups in Africa);~~

26 ~~(2) Hispanic (a person of Spanish or Portuguese~~

1 ~~culture with origins in Mexico, South or Central America,~~
2 ~~or the Caribbean Islands, regardless of race);~~

3 ~~(3) Asian American (a person having origins in any of~~
4 ~~the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the~~
5 ~~Indian Subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands); or~~

6 ~~(4) American Indian or Alaskan Native (a person having~~
7 ~~origins in any of the original peoples of North America).~~

8 (Source: P.A. 102-622, eff. 7-1-22; 102-813, eff. 5-13-22;
9 102-1022, eff. 1-1-23.)

10 (110 ILCS 947/65.120)

11 Sec. 65.120. iGROW Tech Scholarship Program.

12 (a) As used in this Section:

13 "Eligible applicant" means a student who has graduated
14 from high school or has received a State of Illinois High
15 School Diploma, who has maintained a cumulative grade point
16 average of no less than 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, who is pursuing or
17 intends to pursue a qualifying degree in a qualified
18 institution, and who is entitled to apply for assistance under
19 this Section.

20 "Full-time" means the number of credit hours the
21 Commission determines is full-time enrollment for a student
22 for purposes of the program created under this Section.

23 ~~"Minority student" has the same meaning as the term is~~
24 ~~defined under Section 50 of the Higher Education Student~~
25 ~~Assistance Act (110 ILCS 947).~~

1 "Program" means the iGROW Tech Scholarship Program created
2 under this Section.

3 "Qualifying degree" means an associate or a bachelor's
4 degree granted by a qualified institution in the field of
5 computer information sciences; information technology;
6 information science; computer science; computer systems
7 networking and telecommunications; computer and information
8 systems security or information assurance, including
9 cybersecurity; or management information systems.

10 "Qualifying job" means a job with an employer in this
11 State performing work that is directly related to the field of
12 study that qualified the candidate for assistance under this
13 Section.

14 "Qualified student" means a person (i) who is a resident
15 of this State; (ii) who, as an eligible applicant, has made a
16 timely application for an iGROW tech scholarship under this
17 Section; (iii) who is enrolled on at least a half-time basis at
18 a qualified institution; (iv) who is enrolled in a course of
19 study in the field of computer and information sciences;
20 information technology; information science; computer science;
21 computer systems networking and telecommunications; computer
22 and information systems security or information assurance,
23 including cybersecurity; or management information systems;
24 (v) who maintains a grade point average of no less than a 2.5
25 on a 4.0 scale; and (vi) who continues to advance
26 satisfactorily toward the attainment of a degree.

1 "Recipient" means an Illinois resident enrolled in a
2 qualified institution who receives an award under this
3 Section.

4 (b) Subject to appropriation, and no sooner than the
5 2024-2025 academic year, there is established the Illinois
6 Graduate and Retain Our Workforce (iGROW) Tech Scholarship
7 Program to recruit and train individuals to work in technology
8 jobs that have a high demand for new employees and offer high
9 wages by awarding scholarships.

10 (c) Each iGROW tech scholarship awarded under this Section
11 shall be determined by the Commission in an amount up to and
12 including the full costs of tuition and fees and room and board
13 of the qualified institution at which the recipient is
14 enrolled if the institution is public, or an equivalent rate
15 established by the Commission for private institutions. The
16 total amount of iGROW tech scholarship assistance awarded by
17 the Commission under this Section to an eligible applicant in
18 any given fiscal year, when added to other financial
19 assistance awarded to that individual for that year, shall not
20 exceed the cost of attendance at the institution at which the
21 student is enrolled. If the amount of financial assistance to
22 be awarded to a qualified student exceeds the cost of
23 attendance at the institution at which the student is
24 enrolled, the iGROW tech scholarship shall be reduced by an
25 amount equal to the amount by which the combined financial
26 assistance available to the student exceeds the cost of

1 attendance.

2 (d) The maximum number of academic terms for which a
3 qualified student can receive iGROW tech scholarship
4 assistance shall be 8 semesters or 12 quarters.

5 (e) All applications for scholarships awarded under this
6 Section shall be made to the Commission on forms which the
7 Commission shall provide for eligible applicants. The form of
8 applications and the information required to be set forth
9 therein shall be determined by the Commission, and the
10 Commission shall require eligible applicants to submit with
11 their applications such supporting documents or
12 recommendations as the Commission deems necessary.

13 (f) Subject to appropriation for such purposes, payment of
14 any iGROW tech scholarship awarded under this Section shall be
15 determined by the Commission. All scholarship funds
16 distributed in accordance with this subsection shall be paid
17 to the qualified institution and used only for payment of the
18 tuition and fees assessed by the institution and the standard
19 housing and food allowance used for all undergraduate students
20 by the qualified student in connection with his or her
21 attendance at a qualified institution.

22 Any iGROW tech scholarship awarded under this Section
23 shall be applicable to 2 semesters or 3 quarters of enrollment
24 annually. The qualified institution can only request payment
25 for tuition and fees up to the amount of actual tuition and fee
26 expenses incurred.

1 If a student withdraws after the expiration of the tuition
2 refund or withdrawal adjustment period, the student may
3 receive payment for tuition and fees incurred up to the term
4 award. The housing and food allowance shall be prorated based
5 on the qualified institution's return of funds policy.

6 (g) Prior to receiving scholarship assistance for any
7 academic year, each recipient of an iGROW tech scholarship
8 awarded under this Section shall be required by the Commission
9 to sign an agreement under which the recipient pledges that
10 the recipient (i) shall work in the State in a qualified job
11 for a period of not less than one year for each year of
12 scholarship assistance he or she was awarded under this
13 Section; however, in no event shall he or she agree to work in
14 the State in a qualified job for a period of less than 2 years;
15 and (ii) shall, upon request by the Commission, provide the
16 Commission with evidence that he or she is fulfilling or has
17 fulfilled the terms of the agreement provided for in this
18 subsection.

19 If a recipient of an iGROW tech scholarship awarded under
20 this Section fails to fulfill the obligations set forth in
21 this subsection, the Commission shall require the recipient to
22 repay the amount of the scholarships received, prorated
23 according to the fraction of the employment obligation not
24 completed, at a rate of interest equal to 5%, and, if
25 applicable, reasonable collection fees. The Commission is
26 authorized to establish rules relating to its collection

1 activities for repayment of scholarships under this Section.
2 All repayments collected under this Section shall be forwarded
3 to the State Comptroller for deposit into the State's General
4 Revenue Fund.

5 A recipient of an iGROW tech scholarship shall not be
6 considered in violation of the agreement entered into pursuant
7 to this subsection if the recipient (I) enrolls on a full-time
8 basis as a graduate student in a course of study related to the
9 technology degree for which he or she qualified for the iGROW
10 tech scholarship at a qualified institution; (II) is serving,
11 not in excess of 3 years, as a member of the armed services of
12 the United States; (III) is a person with a temporary total
13 disability for a period of time not to exceed 3 years as
14 established by sworn affidavit of a qualified physician; (IV)
15 is seeking and unable to find full-time employment with a
16 State employer that satisfies the criteria set forth in this
17 subsection and is able to provide evidence of that fact; (V)
18 becomes a person with a permanent total disability as
19 established by sworn affidavit of a qualified physician; or
20 (VI) meets any other criteria that the Commission may deem
21 necessary.

22 (h) Scholarship recipients under this Section who withdraw
23 from a program of computer science or other related major area
24 of study provided under this Section but remain enrolled in
25 school to continue their postsecondary studies in another
26 academic discipline shall not be required to commence

1 repayment of their iGROW tech scholarship so long as they
2 remain enrolled in school on a full-time basis or if they can
3 document for the Commission special circumstances that warrant
4 extension of repayment.

5 (i) If the Program does not expend at least 90% of the
6 amount appropriated for the Program in a given fiscal year for
7 3 consecutive fiscal years on or before January 1 in each of
8 those fiscal years, then up to 3% of amount appropriated for
9 the Program for each of next 3 fiscal years shall be allocated
10 to increasing awareness of the program.

11 (j) The Commission shall administer the Program and shall
12 make all necessary and proper rules not inconsistent with this
13 Section for its effective implementation.

14 (k) The Commission shall establish a methodology for
15 prioritizing applications from applicants who demonstrate a
16 financial need or hardship, ~~applications from minority~~
17 ~~students,~~ and applications from applicants demonstrating
18 academic excellence. After the first academic year that the
19 Program operates, the Commission shall prioritize the
20 applications of those applicants who received a scholarship
21 under this Section during the prior academic year and who
22 remain eligible for a scholarship under this Section.

23 (l) Each fiscal year, the Commission may use up to 5% of
24 money appropriated for the Program for administration.

25 (m) Scholarships may be made under this Section through
26 the 2029-30 academic year.

1 (n) The Illinois Graduate and Retain Our Workforce (iGROW)
2 Tech Scholarship Fund is created as a special fund in the State
3 treasury. Moneys in the fund may come from both public
4 entities and institutional, organizational, or other private
5 entities. All money in the Fund shall be used, subject to
6 appropriation, by the Commission to implement and administer
7 the Program pursuant to this Section.

8 (Source: P.A. 103-519, eff. 1-1-24.)

9 (110 ILCS 947/65.30 rep.)

10 Section 25. The Higher Education Student Assistance Act is
11 amended by repealing Section 65.30.

12 Section 30. The Community Behavioral Health Care
13 Professional Loan Repayment Program Act is amended by changing
14 Section 25 as follows:

15 (110 ILCS 996/25)

16 Sec. 25. Award; maximum loan time; maximum amount. Subject
17 to appropriation, the Commission shall award a grant to each
18 qualified applicant for a maximum of 4 years. The Commission
19 must encourage the recipient of a grant awarded under this Act
20 to use the grant award for payments towards the recipient's
21 educational loans. The amount of the grant shall not exceed
22 (i) \$40,000 per year for a psychiatrist, (ii) \$20,000 per year
23 for an advanced practice registered nurse or a physician

1 assistant, (iii) \$20,000 per year for a psychologist who holds
2 a doctoral degree, (iv) \$15,000 per year for a licensed
3 clinical social worker, a licensed clinical professional
4 counselor, or a licensed marriage and family therapist, (v)
5 \$4,000 per year for a substance use professional, a certified
6 alcohol and drug counselor, or a certified recovery support
7 specialist, (vi) \$12,000 per year for a professional
8 possessing a master's degree in counseling, psychology, social
9 work, or marriage and family therapy, and (vii) \$6,000 per
10 year for a professional possessing a bachelor's degree in
11 counseling, psychology, or social work.

12 ~~No less than 30% of the funding for grants under this~~
13 ~~Section each fiscal year shall be reserved for awards to~~
14 ~~minority applicants of African American or Black, Hispanic or~~
15 ~~Latinx, Asian, or Native American origin. If the Commission~~
16 ~~does not receive enough applications from qualified minorities~~
17 ~~on or before January 1 of a given fiscal year to award 30% of~~
18 ~~the funding to qualified minority applicants, then the~~
19 ~~Commission may award a portion of these reserved funds to~~
20 ~~other qualified applicants.~~

21 (Source: P.A. 103-56, eff. 7-1-24.)

22 Section 97. Severability. The provisions of this Act are
23 severable under Section 1.31 of the Statute on Statutes.

24 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

1 becoming law.".