

104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB3511

Introduced 2/18/2025, by Rep. Lindsey LaPointe

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 1305/10-24 new
110 ILCS 947/65.115

Amends the Department of Human Services Act. Establishes the Nonprofit Clinical Supervision Grant Program. Provides that, subject to appropriation, the Department of Human Services shall provide grants to eligible nonprofit associations to provide grants to nonprofit associations to hire licensed clinical social workers and to administer programs for group clinical supervision to assist social workers in fulfilling their supervised clinical experience requirements for licensure. Sets forth eligibility requirements for nonprofit associations. Sets forth requirements regarding the use of grant funds. Describes annual reporting requirements for grant recipients. Allows the Department of Human Services to adopt rules needed to implement the Nonprofit Clinical Supervision Grant Program. Amends the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. Changes the name of the School and Municipal Social Work Shortage Loan Repayment Program to the School and Municipal/County Social Work Shortage Loan Repayment Program. Increases the maximum amount of grants that may be awarded through the School and Municipal/County Social Work Shortage Loan Repayment Program. Allows a recipient to apply for additional grant funding in subsequent years only if the recipient verifies that the grant amount allocated in the prior year has been applied to reduce the balance of the recipient's educational loan.

LRB104 10294 LNS 20368 b

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Department of Human Services Act is amended
5 by adding Section 10-24 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 1305/10-24 new)

7 Sec. 10-24. Nonprofit Clinical Supervision Grant Program.

8 (a) The purpose of this Section is to establish a program,
9 subject to appropriation, to provide grants to nonprofit
10 associations to hire licensed clinical social workers and
11 provide group clinical supervision to social workers seeking
12 to fulfill the supervised clinical experience requirements for
13 licensed clinical social worker licensure in Illinois.

14 (b) As used in this Section:

15 "Department" means the Department of Human Services.

16 "Licensed clinical social worker" means a person who holds
17 a license authorizing the independent practice of clinical
18 social work in Illinois under the auspices of an employer or in
19 private practice or under the auspices of public human service
20 agencies or private, nonprofit agencies providing publicly
21 sponsored human services.

22 "Nonprofit association" means a statewide organization
23 that is located in Illinois and is exempt from taxation under

1 Section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code,
2 and represents social work, mental health, child welfare, or
3 related services.

4 (c) Subject to appropriation, the Department shall
5 establish and administer the Nonprofit Clinical Supervision
6 Program. Through the Program, the Department shall provide
7 grants to eligible nonprofit associations:

8 (1) to hire licensed clinical social workers to
9 provide group clinical supervision to social workers
10 across the State; and

11 (2) to administer programs for group clinical
12 supervision to assist social workers in fulfilling their
13 supervised clinical experience requirements for licensure.

14 (d) Any programs funded under this Section must be made
15 available to all eligible applicants across the State,
16 regardless of their affiliation with any particular
17 association or organization.

18 (e) To be eligible for a grant under the Program, a
19 nonprofit association must:

20 (1) be located in Illinois and registered as a
21 nonprofit organization under Section 501(c)(3) or
22 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code;

23 (2) represent social work, mental health, child
24 welfare, or related services; and

25 (3) submit an application in the form and manner
26 prescribed by the Department.

1 (f) An application submitted under this Section must
2 include:

3 (1) a description of the nonprofit association's
4 mission and the populations it serves;

5 (2) a plan for how the grant funds will be used to hire
6 licensed clinical social workers and provide group
7 clinical supervision to eligible social workers from
8 across Illinois; and

9 (3) a proposed budget detailing the use of grant
10 funds, including the costs associated with hiring licensed
11 clinical social workers and administering the Program.

12 (g) Grant funds provided under this Section shall be used
13 exclusively for:

14 (1) hiring licensed clinical social workers to provide
15 clinical supervision to social workers; and

16 (2) administering programs for group clinical
17 supervision, including necessary materials, space, and
18 technology to facilitate supervision sessions.

19 (h) Nonprofit associations receiving a grant under this
20 Section must submit an annual report to the Department
21 detailing:

22 (1) the use of grant funds, including expenditures and
23 Program outcomes;

24 (2) the number of social workers receiving clinical
25 supervision and the number of hours completed toward
26 licensed clinical social worker licensure requirements;

1 and

2 (3) the challenges and successes of the Program.

3 (i) The Department shall evaluate the effectiveness of the
4 Program and submit a biennial report to the General Assembly
5 that includes recommendations on whether the Program should be
6 modified or expanded.

7 (j) The Department shall adopt rules necessary to
8 implement and administer this Section, including rules
9 concerning the application process, eligibility criteria,
10 reporting requirements, and Program evaluation standards.

11 Section 10. The Higher Education Student Assistance Act is
12 amended by changing Section 65.115 as follows:

13 (110 ILCS 947/65.115)

14 Sec. 65.115. School and Municipal/County Social Work
15 Shortage Loan Repayment Program.

16 (a) To encourage Illinois students to work, and to
17 continue to work, as a school social worker in public school
18 districts in this State or in State municipalities, the
19 Commission shall, each year, receive and consider applications
20 for loan repayment assistance under this Section. This program
21 shall be known as the School and Municipal/County Social Work
22 Shortage Loan Repayment Program. The Commission shall
23 administer the program and shall adopt all necessary and
24 proper rules to effectively implement the program.

1 (b) Subject ~~Beginning July 1, 2022, subject~~ to a separate
2 appropriation made for such purposes, the Commission shall
3 award a grant, up to a maximum of \$8,000 ~~\$6,500~~, to each
4 qualified applicant per year. The Commission may encourage the
5 recipient of a grant under this Section to use the grant award
6 for repayment of the recipient's educational loan. A recipient
7 may apply for additional grant funding in subsequent years
8 only if the recipient verifies that the grant amount allocated
9 in the prior year has been applied to reduce the balance of the
10 recipient's educational loan. Verification shall be provided
11 in a form and manner determined by the Commission, and the
12 recipient must meet all other qualifications set forth by this
13 Section. If an appropriation for this program for a given
14 fiscal year is insufficient to provide grants to all qualified
15 applicants, the Commission shall allocate the appropriation in
16 accordance with this subsection. If funds are insufficient to
17 provide all qualified applicants with a grant as authorized by
18 this Section, the Commission shall allocate the available
19 grant funds for that fiscal year to qualified applicants who
20 submit a complete application on or before a date specified by
21 the Commission, based on the following order of priority:

22 (1) first, to new, qualified applicants who are
23 members of a racial minority as defined in subsection (e);
24 and

25 (2) second, to other new, qualified applicants in
26 accordance with this Section.

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

3 (1) The person is a United States citizen or eligible
4 noncitizen.

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

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

9 (4) The person has been employed as a school social
10 worker by a public elementary school or secondary school
11 in this State for at least 12 consecutive months or as a
12 social worker for an Illinois municipality or county ~~who~~
13 ~~did not report directly to a police department.~~

14 (5) The person is currently employed as a school
15 social worker by a public elementary school or secondary
16 school in this State or as a social worker for an Illinois
17 municipality or county ~~who does not report directly to a~~
18 ~~police department.~~

19 (d) An applicant shall submit an application, in a form
20 determined by the Commission, for grant assistance under this
21 Section to the Commission. An applicant is required to submit,
22 with the application, supporting documentation as the
23 Commission may deem necessary.

24 (e) Racial minorities are underrepresented as school
25 social workers in elementary and secondary schools and in
26 municipalities in Illinois, and the General Assembly finds

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

13 (1) Black (a person having origins in any of the black
14 racial groups in Africa);

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

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

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

23 (Source: P.A. 102-622, eff. 7-1-22; 102-813, eff. 5-13-22;
24 102-1022, eff. 1-1-23.)