

1 AN ACT concerning education.

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

4 Section 5. The Community Behavioral Health Care
5 Professional Loan Repayment Program Act is amended by changing
6 Sections 25 and 30 as follows:

7 (110 ILCS 996/25)

8 Sec. 25. Award; maximum loan time; maximum amount. Subject
9 to appropriation, the Commission shall award a grant to each
10 qualified applicant for a maximum of 4 years. The Commission
11 must encourage the recipient of a grant awarded under this Act
12 to use the grant award for payments towards the recipient's
13 educational loans. The amount of the grant shall not exceed
14 (i) \$40,000 ~~\$35,000~~ per year for a psychiatrist, (ii) \$20,000
15 ~~\$15,000~~ per year for an advanced practice registered nurse or
16 a physician assistant, (iii) \$20,000 ~~\$12,000~~ per year for a
17 psychologist who holds a doctoral degree, (iv) \$15,000 ~~\$6,500~~
18 per year for a licensed clinical social worker, or a licensed
19 clinical professional counselor, or a licensed marriage and
20 family therapist, and (v) \$4,000 ~~\$2,500~~ per year for a
21 substance use professional, a certified alcohol and drug
22 counselor, or a certified recovery support specialist, (vi)
23 \$12,000 per year for a professional possessing a master's

1 degree in counseling, psychology, social work, or marriage and
2 family therapy, and (vii) \$6,000 per year for a professional
3 possessing a bachelor's degree in counseling, psychology, or
4 social work.

5 No less than 30% of the funding for grants under this
6 Section each fiscal year shall be reserved for awards to
7 minority applicants of African American or Black, Hispanic or
8 Latinx, Asian, or Native American origin. If the Commission
9 does not receive enough applications from qualified minorities
10 on or before January 1 of a given fiscal year to award 30% of
11 the funding to qualified minority applicants, then the
12 Commission may award a portion of these reserved funds to
13 other qualified applicants.

14 (Source: P.A. 100-862, eff. 1-1-19.)

15 (110 ILCS 996/30)

16 Sec. 30. Eligibility; work requirement.

17 (a) To be eligible for assistance under the Community
18 Behavioral Health Care Professional Loan Repayment Program,
19 the Commission must find that the applicant satisfies all of
20 the following:

21 (1) He or she is a United States citizen or an eligible
22 noncitizen.

23 (2) He or she is a resident of this State.

24 (3) He or she has worked for at least 12 consecutive
25 months as a behavioral health professional in a community

1 mental health center, behavioral health clinic, substance
2 use treatment center, or State-operated psychiatric
3 hospital licensed or certified by the Department of Human
4 Services or the Department of Healthcare and Family
5 Services in an underserved or rural federally designated
6 Mental Health Professional Shortage Area in this State.

7 (4) He or she is a borrower with an outstanding
8 balance due on an educational loan.

9 (5) He or she has not defaulted on an educational
10 loan.

11 (b) The Commission may grant preference to a previous
12 recipient of a grant under the Program, provided that the
13 recipient continues to meet the eligibility requirements under
14 this Section.

15 (c) A recipient of a grant under the Program must complete
16 a separate 12-month period working in a community mental
17 health center in an underserved or rural federally designated
18 Mental Health Professional Shortage Area in this State for
19 each grant that he or she is awarded.

20 (Source: P.A. 100-862, eff. 1-1-19.)

21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
22 2024.