

(B) THERE IS A PROGRAM OF WORKFORCE SHORTAGE STUDENT ASSISTANCE GRANTS UNDER THIS SECTION FOR STUDENTS WHO PLEDGE TO WORK IN FIELDS OF CRITICAL SHORTAGE IN THE STATE ON COMPLETION OF THEIR STUDIES.

(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO:

(1) PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS ENROLLED AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE; AND

(2) ADDRESS THE WORKFORCE SHORTAGE NEEDS OF THE STATE.

(D) A RECIPIENT OF A WORKFORCE SHORTAGE STUDENT ASSISTANCE GRANT UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL:

(1) BE A RESIDENT OF THE STATE;

(2) BE SELECTED BY THE OFFICE FROM QUALIFIED APPLICANTS;

(3) SIGN A LETTER OF INTENT TO ENROLL AT AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION IN THE STATE IN AN ELIGIBLE PROGRAM AS SPECIFIED FOR EACH FIELD IN WHICH THERE IS A CRITICAL SHORTAGE IN THIS STATE AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION;

(4) SIGN A LETTER OF INTENT TO PERFORM THE SERVICE OBLIGATION ON COMPLETION OF THE RECIPIENT'S REQUIRED STUDIES;

(5) ACCEPT ANY OTHER CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO THE GRANT;

(6) SATISFY ANY ADDITIONAL CRITERIA THE COMMISSION MAY ESTABLISH; AND

(7) AFTER COMPLETION OF STUDIES IN AN ELIGIBLE PROGRAM, PERFORM THE SERVICE OBLIGATION AS SPECIFIED FOR EACH FIELD IN WHICH THERE IS A CRITICAL SHORTAGE, AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION.

(E) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (5) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE COMMISSION SHALL ON A BIENNIAL BASIS:

(I) IDENTIFY WORKFORCE SHORTAGE FIELDS IN THE STATE;

(II) DESIGNATE ELIGIBLE WORKFORCE SHORTAGE FIELDS UNDER THE GRANT PROGRAM; AND

(III) REMOVE FROM THE GRANT PROGRAM ANY FIELD THAT THE COMMISSION DETERMINES NO LONGER QUALIFIES AS A WORKFORCE SHORTAGE.

(2) THE SECRETARY SHALL APPOINT AN ADVISORY COUNCIL ON WORKFORCE SHORTAGE TO:

(I) IDENTIFY WORKFORCE SHORTAGE FIELDS IN THE STATE; AND

(II) RECOMMEND TO THE COMMISSION:

1. PRIORITY WORKFORCE SHORTAGE FIELDS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE GRANT PROGRAM; AND