

## Article - Education

18-1401.

(a) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) "Public school" means a school in the public elementary and secondary education system in this State.

(c) "Eligible institution" means an accredited college or university that has a program of undergraduate or graduate studies that would certify the recipient to teach in this State in an area of critical shortage and which is:

(1) Authorized by the State Board for Higher Education; and

(2) Approved by the State Board of Education.

(d) Area of "critical shortage" means those fields identified by the State Board of Education pursuant to the provisions of Section 18-405 of this subtitle as having projected employment vacancies substantially exceeding projected qualified graduates.

(e) "Degreed recipient" means a recipient of tuition assistance under this subtitle who possesses an undergraduate or graduate degree [in an area of critical shortage].

(f) "Nondegreed recipient" means a recipient of tuition assistance awarded under this subtitle who does not possess an undergraduate or graduate degree in an area of critical shortage.

(g) "Teacher recipient" means a recipient of tuition assistance awarded under this subtitle employed or certified as a teacher in a field which is not a critical shortage area.

(h) "Tuition assistance" means any funds provided for the cost of basic instructional charges, fees, room, board, or other related educational expenses.

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(b) A recipient of a tuition assistance award shall:

(1) Be a resident of this State;

(2) Qualify as follows:

(i) {Have earned 60 credits of undergraduate collegiate education} ~~BE-AT-LEAST-A-GRADUATING-HIGH-SCHOOL-SENIOR~~ and be enrolled in or sign a letter of intent to enroll in a program leading to certification to teach in an area of critical shortage and be selected by the State Scholarship Board on a