

(2) EACH APPLICANT SHALL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION PROVIDED BY THE ADMINISTRATION WHICH DEMONSTRATES THE APPLICANT'S MERIT AND ELIGIBILITY.

(3) (I) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL AWARD THE SCHOLARSHIPS TO THE RECIPIENTS.

(II) IF A RECIPIENT DOES NOT ACCEPT THE SCHOLARSHIP, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL AWARD IT TO ANOTHER ELIGIBLE APPLICANT.

(G) FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION, REPAYMENT SHALL BE MADE TO THE STATE WITHIN 10 YEARS AFTER THE REPAYMENT PERIOD BEGINS AND SHALL FOLLOW A REPAYMENT SCHEDULE ESTABLISHED BY THE ADMINISTRATION.

~~(G)~~ (H) FUNDS FOR THE MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIPS SHALL BE AS PROVIDED IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE COMMISSION BY THE GOVERNOR.

18-703.

(A) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(1) "PUBLIC SCHOOL" MEANS A SCHOOL IN THE PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION SYSTEM IN THIS STATE.

(2) "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:

(I) AUTHORIZED BY THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION; AND

(II) APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

(3) "AREA OF CRITICAL SHORTAGE" MEANS AN ACADEMIC FIELD IDENTIFIED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (H) OF THIS SECTION AS HAVING PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT VACANCIES WHICH SUBSTANTIALLY EXCEED PROJECTED QUALIFIED GRADUATES.

(4) "AREA OF GEOGRAPHIC SHORTAGE" MEANS A GEOGRAPHIC AREA OF THE STATE IDENTIFIED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AS LESS ABLE THAN OTHERS IN THE STATE TO SATISFY THE NEED FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS IN AN ACADEMIC FIELD IDENTIFIED FOR AT LEAST 3 YEARS AS AN AREA OF CRITICAL SHORTAGE.