

(C) A RECIPIENT OF A TUITION ASSISTANCE GRANT SHALL:

(1) QUALIFY AS FOLLOWS:

(I) HAVE EARNED 60 CREDITS OF UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGIATE EDUCATION 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 OR GEOGRAPHIC SHORTAGE AND BE SELECTED BY THE ADMINISTRATION ON A COMPETITIVE BASIS AMONG QUALIFIED APPLICANTS BASED ON ACADEMIC CRITERIA, NOT LIMITED TO STANDARDIZED TESTS, ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION; OR

(II) HAVE AN UNDERGRADUATE OR GRADUATE DEGREE AND BE ENROLLED IN OR SIGN A LETTER OF INTENT TO ENROLL IN COURSES LEADING TO CERTIFICATION TO TEACH IN AN AREA OF CRITICAL OR GEOGRAPHIC SHORTAGE AND BE SELECTED AMONG QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ON A COMPETITIVE BASIS BASED ON ACADEMIC CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION; OR

(III) PERSONS WHO ARE ALREADY TEACHERS SHALL:

1. BE NOMINATED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS OF THE SYSTEM IN WHICH THE PERSON TEACHES OR INTENDS TO TEACH; AND

2. ENROLL AS A STUDENT IN COURSES REQUIRED FOR TEACHER CERTIFICATION IN AN ACADEMIC AREA IN WHICH THERE IS A CRITICAL OR GEOGRAPHIC SHORTAGE OF TEACHERS; AND

3. BE SELECTED BY THE ADMINISTRATION ON A COMPETITIVE BASIS AMONG QUALIFIED APPLICANTS BASED ON CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION;

(2) SIGN A LETTER OF INTENT AS FOLLOWS:

(I) A NONDEGREED RECIPIENT WHO IS NOT ALREADY A TEACHER SHALL BE ENROLLED IN OR SIGN A LETTER OF INTENT TO ENROLL IN AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION AS A STUDENT IN AN UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM NECESSARY FOR TEACHER EDUCATION; OR

(II) A DEGREED RECIPIENT SHALL ENROLL IN OR SIGN A LETTER OF INTENT TO ENROLL IN COURSES LEADING TO CERTIFICATION TO TEACH IN AN AREA OF CRITICAL OR GEOGRAPHIC SHORTAGE; OR

(III) A RECIPIENT WHO IS ALREADY A TEACHER SHALL SIGN A LETTER OF INTENT TO ENROLL IN AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION AS A STUDENT IN A TEACHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM IN AN AREA IN WHICH THERE IS A CRITICAL OR GEOGRAPHIC SHORTAGE OF TEACHERS;