
**PRELIMINARY DRAFT
No. 3311**

**PREPARED BY
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
2018 GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

DIGEST

Citations Affected: IC 21-13; IC 25-23-1.

Synopsis: Nurse faculty loan repayment grant program. Establishes the nursing faculty loan repayment grant program (program) to increase the number of nursing faculty in Indiana. Requires the commission for higher education to administer the program. Establishes the nursing faculty loan repayment grant fund. Sets forth requirements for an individual to participate in the program. Funds the program using 10% of nursing licensure fees.

Effective: July 1, 2018.



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning higher education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 21-13-1-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.148-2016,
2 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2018]: Sec. 5. "Fund":

4 (1) for purposes of IC 21-13-2, refers to the William A. Crawford
5 minority teacher scholarship fund established by IC 21-13-2-1;

6 (2) for purposes of IC 21-13-4, refers to the National Guard
7 tuition supplement program fund established by IC 21-13-4-1;

8 (3) for purposes of IC 21-13-5, refers to the National Guard
9 scholarship extension fund established by IC 21-13-5-1;

10 (4) for purposes of IC 21-13-6, refers to the primary care
11 physician loan forgiveness fund established by IC 21-13-6-3; ~~and~~

12 (5) for purposes of IC 21-13-6.5, refers to the medical residency
13 education fund established by IC 21-13-6.5-1; **and**

14 **(6) for purposes of IC 21-13-9.5, refers to the nursing faculty
15 loan repayment grant fund established by IC 21-13-9.5-3.**

16 SECTION 2. IC 21-13-9.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
17 AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
18 JULY 1, 2018]:

19 **Chapter 9.5. Nursing Faculty Loan Repayment Grant Program**

20 **Sec. 1. (a) The nursing faculty loan repayment grant program
21 is established for the purpose of increasing the number of
22 educators and adjunct clinical faculty teaching in the field of
23 nursing education in Indiana by assisting in the repayment of
24 qualified student loans.**

25 **(b) The commission shall administer the program. The
26 commission may consult with the Indiana state board of nursing in
27 implementing and administering the program.**

28 **Sec. 2. To qualify for a grant under this chapter to assist in the
29 repayment of student loans, an individual must meet the following:**

30 **(1) Be a resident of Indiana and have resided in Indiana for
31 twelve (12) continuous months before applying for the grant.**



- 1 **(2) Be a United States citizen or an alien who is admitted into**
 2 **the United States for lawful, permanent residence.**
 3 **(3) Is a registered nurse licensed under IC 25-23.**
 4 **(4) Either:**
 5 **(A) holds a graduate degree in nursing or a doctoral degree**
 6 **for qualification as a nursing faculty or adjunct clinical**
 7 **faculty; or**
 8 **(B) is enrolled in a graduate degree program for**
 9 **qualification as nursing faculty or adjunct clinical faculty.**
 10 **(5) Be employed as a nursing faculty member or an adjunct**
 11 **clinical faculty member providing classroom or clinical**
 12 **instruction at a nursing school located in Indiana for the**
 13 **equivalent of at least twelve (12) credit hours during an**
 14 **annual period beginning July 1 and ending June 30.**
 15 **(6) Has an outstanding balance on an eligible student loan on**
 16 **an undergraduate, graduate, or doctorate level nursing degree**
 17 **for qualification as nursing faculty or adjunct clinical faculty,**
 18 **that:**
 19 **(A) holds a non-default status; and**
 20 **(B) is under any Indiana or federal education loan**
 21 **program.**
- 22 **Sec. 3. (a) The nursing faculty loan repayment grant fund is**
 23 **established to meet the purpose set forth in section 1 of this**
 24 **chapter. The fund consists of the following:**
 25 **(1) Appropriations from the general assembly.**
 26 **(2) Money collected and deposited under IC 25-23-1-12.5.**
 27 **(3) Gifts to the program.**
 28 **(b) The commission shall administer the fund.**
 29 **(c) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from**
 30 **money in the fund.**
 31 **(d) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not**
 32 **currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same**
 33 **manner as other public funds. Interest that accrues from those**
 34 **investments shall be deposited in the fund.**
 35 **(e) Money in the fund at the end of a fiscal year does not revert**
 36 **to the state general fund but remains available to be used to**
 37 **provide money for student loan forgiveness payments under this**
 38 **chapter.**
- 39 **Sec. 4. (a) The money in the fund must be used to provide**
 40 **annual student loan forgiveness payments to nurses who meet the**
 41 **requirements set forth in section 2 of this chapter and who are**
 42 **approved by the commission to participate in the program.**
 43 **(b) A grant awarded in a particular year under this chapter is**
 44 **equal to the lesser of the following amounts:**
 45 **(1) The balance of the recipient's total amount of eligible**
 46 **student loans.**



1 **(2) Five thousand dollars (\$5,000).**
 2 **(c) An individual may not be awarded more than twenty-five**
 3 **thousand dollars (\$25,000) under this program in the individual's**
 4 **lifetime.**

5 **Sec. 5. Each:**

6 **(1) applicant under this chapter; and**
 7 **(2) nurse approved under this chapter;**
 8 **shall provide to the commission any information that the**
 9 **commission determines is necessary to administer this chapter.**

10 SECTION 3. IC 25-23-1-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.134-2008,
 11 SECTION 29, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 12 JULY 1, 2018]: Sec. 11. (a) Any person who applies to the board for a
 13 license to practice as a registered nurse must:

14 (1) not have:

15 (A) been convicted of a crime that has a direct bearing on the
 16 person's ability to practice competently; or

17 (B) committed an act that would constitute a ground for a
 18 disciplinary sanction under IC 25-1-9;

19 (2) have completed:

20 (A) the prescribed curriculum and met the graduation
 21 requirements of a state accredited program of registered
 22 nursing that only accepts students who have a high school
 23 diploma or its equivalent as determined by the board; or

24 (B) the prescribed curriculum and graduation requirements of
 25 a nursing education program in a foreign country that is
 26 substantially equivalent to a board approved program as
 27 determined by the board. The board may by rule adopted under
 28 IC 4-22-2 require an applicant under this subsection to
 29 successfully complete an examination approved by the board
 30 to measure the applicant's qualifications and background in the
 31 practice of nursing and proficiency in the English language;
 32 and

33 (3) be physically and mentally capable of and professionally
 34 competent to safely engage in the practice of nursing as
 35 determined by the board.

36 The board may not require a person to have a baccalaureate degree in
 37 nursing as a prerequisite for licensure.

38 (b) The applicant must pass an examination in such subjects as the
 39 board may determine.

40 (c) The board may issue by endorsement a license to practice as a
 41 registered nurse to an applicant who has been licensed as a registered
 42 nurse, by examination, under the laws of another state if the applicant
 43 presents proof satisfactory to the board that, at the time that the
 44 applicant applies for an Indiana license by endorsement, the applicant
 45 holds a current license in another state and possesses credentials and
 46 qualifications that are substantially equivalent to requirements in



1 Indiana for licensure by examination. The board may specify by rule
2 what constitutes substantial equivalence under this subsection.

3 (d) The board may issue by endorsement a license to practice as a
4 registered nurse to an applicant who:

5 (1) has completed the English version of the:

6 (A) Canadian Nurse Association Testing Service Examination
7 (CNAT); or

8 (B) Canadian Registered Nurse Examination (CRNE);

9 (2) achieved the passing score required on the examination at the
10 time the examination was taken;

11 (3) is currently licensed in a Canadian province or in another
12 state; and

13 (4) meets the other requirements under this section.

14 (e) Each applicant for examination and registration to practice as a
15 registered nurse shall pay a fee set by the board, a part of which must
16 be used for the rehabilitation of impaired registered nurses and
17 impaired licensed practical nurses **and as specified in section 12.5 of**
18 **this chapter**. Payment of the fee or fees shall be made by the applicant
19 prior to the date of examination. The lesser of the following amounts
20 from fees collected under this subsection shall be deposited in the
21 impaired nurses account of the state general fund established by section
22 34 of this chapter:

23 (1) Twenty-five percent (25%) of the license application fee per
24 license applied for under this section.

25 (2) The cost per license to operate the impaired nurses program,
26 as determined by the Indiana professional licensing agency.

27 (f) Any person who holds a license to practice as a registered nurse
28 in:

29 (1) Indiana; or

30 (2) a party state (as defined in IC 25-23.3-2-11 (**before its**
31 **expiration**));

32 may use the title "Registered Nurse" and the abbreviation "R.N.". No
33 other person shall practice or advertise as or assume the title of
34 registered nurse or use the abbreviation of "R.N." or any other words,
35 letters, signs, or figures to indicate that the person using same is a
36 registered nurse.

37 SECTION 4. IC 25-23-1-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.134-2008,
38 SECTION 30, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
39 JULY 1, 2018]: Sec. 12. (a) A person who applies to the board for a
40 license to practice as a licensed practical nurse must:

41 (1) not have been convicted of:

42 (A) an act which would constitute a ground for disciplinary
43 sanction under IC 25-1-9; or

44 (B) a crime that has a direct bearing on the person's ability to
45 practice competently;

46 (2) have completed:



- 1 (A) the prescribed curriculum and met the graduation
 2 requirements of a state accredited program of practical nursing
 3 that only accepts students who have a high school diploma or
 4 its equivalent, as determined by the board; or
 5 (B) the prescribed curriculum and graduation requirements of
 6 a nursing education program in a foreign country that is
 7 substantially equivalent to a board approved program as
 8 determined by the board. The board may by rule adopted under
 9 IC 4-22-2 require an applicant under this subsection to
 10 successfully complete an examination approved by the board
 11 to measure the applicant's qualifications and background in the
 12 practice of nursing and proficiency in the English language;
 13 and
 14 (3) be physically and mentally capable of, and professionally
 15 competent to, safely engage in the practice of practical nursing as
 16 determined by the board.
- 17 (b) The applicant must pass an examination in such subjects as the
 18 board may determine.
- 19 (c) The board may issue by endorsement a license to practice as a
 20 licensed practical nurse to an applicant who has been licensed as a
 21 licensed practical nurse, by examination, under the laws of another
 22 state if the applicant presents proof satisfactory to the board that, at the
 23 time of application for an Indiana license by endorsement, the applicant
 24 possesses credentials and qualifications that are substantially
 25 equivalent to requirements in Indiana for licensure by examination. The
 26 board may specify by rule what shall constitute substantial equivalence
 27 under this subsection.
- 28 (d) Each applicant for examination and registration to practice as a
 29 practical nurse shall pay a fee set by the board, a part of which must be
 30 used for the rehabilitation of impaired registered nurses and impaired
 31 licensed practical nurses **and as specified in section 12.5 of this**
 32 **chapter.** Payment of the fees shall be made by the applicant before the
 33 date of examination. The lesser of the following amounts from fees
 34 collected under this subsection shall be deposited in the impaired
 35 nurses account of the state general fund established by section 34 of
 36 this chapter:
- 37 (1) Twenty-five percent (25%) of the license application fee per
 38 license applied for under this section.
- 39 (2) The cost per license to operate the impaired nurses program,
 40 as determined by the Indiana professional licensing agency.
- 41 (e) Any person who holds a license to practice as a licensed
 42 practical nurse in:
- 43 (1) Indiana; or
 44 (2) a party state (as defined in IC 25-23.3-2-11 (**before its**
 45 **expiration**));
 46 may use the title "Licensed Practical Nurse" and the abbreviation



1 "L.P.N.". No other person shall practice or advertise as or assume the
2 title of licensed practical nurse or use the abbreviation of "L.P.N." or
3 any other words, letters, signs, or figures to indicate that the person
4 using them is a licensed practical nurse.

5 SECTION 5. IC 25-23-1-12.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
6 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
7 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018]: **Sec. 12.5. Ten percent (10%) of the**
8 **fees collected under sections 11 and 12 of this chapter shall be**
9 **deposited in the nursing faculty loan repayment grant fund**
10 **established by IC 21-13-9.5-3 for the purposes specified in**
11 **IC 21-13-9.5-1.**

