

CHAPTER 64E-23 NURSING STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

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64E-23.001 Application.

(1) In accordance with the Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program Application Package, June 2002, in order to apply for enrollment into the Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program, applicants must submit: a completed Initial Application, DH 1932, 06/02; a completed Employment Verification, DH 1935, 06/02; a completed Loan Principle Certification, DH 1936, 06/02; a photocopy of the applicant's current nursing license; and a photocopy of the applicant's nursing school diploma. The Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program Application Package and forms are incorporated by reference and available from the Department of Health, Division of Emergency Medical Services and Community Health Resources, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-15, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1735.

(2) The entire application, including a photocopy of the applicant's current nursing license and a photocopy of the applicant's nursing school diploma, must be received by the deadline date for each quarterly enrollment. Deadline dates are: December 1 for January 1 enrollment; March 1 for April 1 enrollment; June 1 for July 1 enrollment; September 1 for October 1 enrollment. Applications received after the deadline date will be processed and prioritized, as specified in Section 240.4075(7)(a), F.S., for the following quarters.

Specific Authority 1009.66 FS. Law Implemented 1009.66 FS. History--New 3-10-02, Amended 1-7-03.

64E-23.002 Renewal.

(1) In order to continue in the Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Program, program participants must renew. The Renewal Application, DH 1933, 06/02, which is incorporated by reference and available from the department, will be mailed to program participants, by the department, within 30 days before the ending date, each year, of the program participant's employment years.

(2) The program participant's Renewal Application must be received by the department, each year, no later than 30 days after the start of the program participant's next employment year, in order to continue as a participant in the program.

Specific Authority 1009.66 FS. Law Implemented 1009.66 FS. History--New 3-10-02, Amended 1-7-03.

64E-23.003 Payment.

(1) The department will provide for the delivery of funds directly to the federal or state program, or commercial lending institution, or holder of the program participant's loan principle, on behalf of the program participant, by use of the Loan Principle Repayment Invoice, DH 1934, 06/02, which is incorporated by reference and available from the department, requesting the State Comptroller to issue warrants made payable to the federal or state program, or commercial lending institution, or holder of the program participant's loan principle and forwarded to the federal or state program, commercial lending institution, or holder of the program participant's loan principle.

(a) The Loan Principle Repayment Invoice will be mailed to program participants, by the department, within 30 days before the ending date, each year, of the program participant's employment years.

(b) The program participant's Loan Principle Repayment Invoice must be received by the department, each year, no later than 30 days after the start of the program participant's next employment year, in order for payment to be made.

(2) Program participants must maintain the payment schedule agreed upon with the federal or state program, commercial lending institution, or holder of the program participant's loan, while enrolled in the program.

Specific Authority 1009.66 FS. Law Implemented 1009.66 FS. History--New 3-10-02, Amended 1-7-03.

64E-23.004 Match Site Facilities Payment Requirement.

(1) Match site facilities are Florida licensed hospitals, birth centers and nursing homes, considered to be match site facilities, that employ program participants. They must match funds awarded from the program on a dollar-for-dollar basis, by contributions from the employing facility.

(2) Florida licensed hospitals, birth centers and nursing homes, considered to be match site facilities, must annually pay 50% of the amount to be forwarded to the federal or state program, commercial lending institution, or holder of the program participant's loan. The maximum amount a match site facility is required to pay is \$2,000 per year, per program participant employee.

(3) The department will notify those Florida licensed hospitals, birth centers and nursing homes, considered to be match site facilities, of the amount due from that facility, as the match portion of the annual payment, for each program participant employed at that facility, within 30 days before the ending date, each year, of the program participant's employment years.

(4) Matching funds payments from Florida licensed hospitals, birth centers and nursing homes, considered to be match site facilities, must be received by the department, no later than 30 days after notification by the department, each year, that the match payment is due.

(5) The department will not authorize a payment to a federal or state program, commercial lending institution or holder of the program participant's loan, on behalf of the program participant employee of Florida licensed hospitals, birth centers and nursing homes, considered to be match site facilities, until the matching funds payment is received by the department.

(6) Program participants, employed at Florida licensed hospitals, birth centers and nursing homes, considered to be match site facilities, whose employing facility does not provide the matching funds payment, will not have a payment forwarded to the federal or state program, commercial lending institution or holder of the program participant's loan, can not renew participation in the program and the program participant's agreement will be terminated. Terminated program participants, who meet eligibility requirements in the future, may reapply for participation in the program.

(7) Affected program participants will be notified by the department of their program status.

Specific Authority 240.4075 FS. Law Implemented 240.4075 FS. History—New 3-10-02.