

## CHAPTER 4811

### HIGHER EDUCATION SERVICES OFFICE

### MIDLEVEL PRACTITIONER EDUCATION ACCOUNT

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#### 4811.0100 SCOPE.

Parts 4811.0100 to 4811.0170 apply to the midlevel practitioner education account program.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 136A.04; 136A.16*

**History:** *17 SR 1021*

#### 4811.0110 DEFINITIONS.

Subpart 1. **Scope.** The terms defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1356, are applicable to parts 4811.0100 to 4811.0170.

Subp. 2. **Designated rural area.** "Designated rural area" means the area defined in part 4830.0100, subpart 3a.

Subp. 3. **Eligible program participant.** An "eligible program participant" is a midlevel practitioner, which includes a nurse practitioner, nurse-midwife, nurse anesthetist, advanced clinical nurse specialist, or physician assistant as defined in part 5600.2600, subpart 11, and Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1356, subdivisions 1c, 1d, and 1e. The eligible participant must work as a midlevel practitioner at least 30 hours per week in a designated rural area.

Subp. 4. **Emergency circumstances.** "Emergency circumstances" means those conditions that make it impossible for the participant to fulfill the service commitment. The conditions include death, total and permanent disability, or temporary disability lasting more than two years.

Subp. 5. **Qualified loans.** "Qualified loans" means:

- A. Perkins Loans/National Direct Student Loans (NDSLs);
- B. Stafford Loans/Guaranteed Student Loans (GSLs);
- C. Supplemental Loans for Students (SLs)/Auxiliary Loans to Assist Students (ALASs);
- D. Student Educational Loan Fund (SELF); and
- E. loan consolidation programs that only consolidate loan payments for loans specified in this subpart.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 136A.04; 136A.16*

**History:** *17 SR 1021*

#### 4811.0120 CRITERIA FOR SELECTION.

Subpart 1. **Classification of applicants.** The executive director shall place applicants in one of the following classifications:

A. Minnesota residents who fulfill midlevel practitioner training in Minnesota or in a state with which the office has entered into a higher education tuition reciprocity agreement;

B. Minnesota residents who fulfill midlevel practitioner training outside Minnesota;

C. applicants who are not Minnesota residents, but fulfill midlevel practitioner training in Minnesota; or

D. applicants who are not Minnesota residents and do not fulfill midlevel practitioner training in Minnesota.

Subp. 2. **Insufficient award availability.** If more than eight applicants start to serve at least 30 hours per week as midlevel practitioners in a designated rural area in any given year,

the executive director shall choose participants in the order specified in subpart 1 for participation. Within each classification specified in subpart 1, applicants will be divided into the midlevel practitioner specialty types specified in part 4811.0110, subpart 2, and chosen for participation by lot within each specialty type. One participant will be selected by lot from each specialty type that has at least one applicant. The remaining participants must be chosen by lot from among all the remaining applicants for that year. Applicants not chosen to participate initially must be placed on an alternate list from which additional participants will be chosen if a chosen participant declines to participate.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 136A.04; 136A.16*

**History:** *17 SR 1021; L 1995 c 212 art 3 s 59*

#### 4811.0130 APPLICATION PROCESS.

**Subpart 1. Acknowledgment letter.** On receipt of a letter of interest from a prospective midlevel practitioner, the executive director shall send the prospective midlevel practitioner more detailed information about the program.

**Subp. 2. Application form and contract.** Before completing the first year of the midlevel practitioner program, the prospective midlevel practitioner must complete and return the application form and contract provided by the executive director. The prospective midlevel practitioner agrees to serve at least two of the first four years following graduation from the midlevel practitioner program in a designated rural area if chosen as a participant. Failure to complete and return the application form and contract by the specified deadline date results in the elimination of the applicant from the classification list.

**Subp. 3. Notification of service.** A program participant must notify the executive director in writing immediately after starting service as a midlevel practitioner in a designated rural area. A program participant must work as a midlevel practitioner in a designated rural area at least 30 hours per week.

**Subp. 4. Agreement or promissory note.** Before any payments are made by the executive director on qualified loans designated by the midlevel practitioner, the participant must sign the agreement or promissory note provided by the executive director.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 136A.04; 136A.16*

**History:** *17 SR 1021*

#### 4811.0140 LOAN PAYMENT.

**Subpart 1. Designation of loans.** Each program participant must designate which eligible loans the executive director must make payments on. Payments by the executive director cannot exceed \$3,500 per year for each participant.

**Subp. 2. Payment billings.** The participant must provide necessary information for payment purposes on eligible loans to the executive director in a timely manner. The participant must provide the executive director with all payment books for the designated loans or forward monthly billing statements for the loans so that the executive director has ample time to make the monthly payments on time.

**Subp. 3. Terms of payments.** The executive director shall make loan payments according to the terms and conditions of the designated loans to the lenders or servicers in an amount that, when annualized, does not exceed \$3,500 per year. The participant must continue to serve as a midlevel practitioner in a designated rural area during the period the executive director is making loan payments for the participant.

**Subp. 4. Discontinuation of service.** The participant must reimburse the executive director for payments made during any period when the participant is not serving as a midlevel practitioner in a designated rural area.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 136A.04; 136A.16*

**History:** *17 SR 1021*

#### 4811.0150 PENALTY FOR NONFULFILLMENT.

**Subpart 1. Payment amount.** If a participant fails to fulfill the service requirement of this program, the amount paid on designated loans by the executive director must be repaid with interest at a rate established according to Minnesota Statutes, section 270.75, subdivi-

sion 5. Interest accrues from the date the participant ceases to practice as a midlevel practitioner in a designated rural area.

Subp. 2. **Payment plan.** The executive director shall set up a payment plan after consulting with the participant. The participant must repay the money within four years.

Subp. 3. **Waiver.** A participant may request a waiver from the repayment obligation from the executive director. The request must be in writing and must provide written documentation on the emergency circumstances that support the need for the waiver. The executive director shall review the documentation and shall grant a full or partial waiver if the executive director finds that the emergency circumstances justify the waiver.

Subp. 4. **Release of information.** The following information about the participant may be released to a consumer credit reporting agency until the participant has repaid in full all money owed the office:

- A. the name and address of the participant;
- B. the date the repayment started;
- C. the outstanding balance;
- D. the amount past due;
- E. the number of payments past due;
- F. the number of late payments in the previous 12 months; and
- G. the status or remarks code.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 136A.04; 136A.16*

**History:** *17 SR 1021; L 1995 c 212 art 3 s 59*

#### **4811.0160 PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBILITIES.**

Subpart 1. **Service status verification.** Annually, the participant must complete and return to the executive director, by the deadline, the service status verification form provided by the executive director.

Subp. 2. **Status change.** The participant must inform the executive director in writing within 30 days of a change of address or service location.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 136A.04; 136A.16*

**History:** *17 SR 1021*

#### **4811.0170 INFORMATION; FORMS; TERMS.**

Subpart 1. **Additional information.** The executive director may require additional information from the participant that is not inconsistent with law that is helpful in the executive director's judgment to efficiently administer the program.

Subp. 2. **Forms.** The executive director may provide to participants and require the use of uniform forms in the administration of the program.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 136A.04; 136A.16*

**History:** *17 SR 1021*