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ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULES

- 1) Heading of the Part: Veterans' Home Nurse Loan Repayment Program
- 2) Code Citation: 23 Ill. Adm. Code 2757
- 3) Section Numbers: Proposed Action: New Section New Section 2757.20 New Section New Section New Section
- 4) <u>Statutory Authority</u>: Implementing Public Act 95-0576 and authorized by Sections 20(f) and 10 of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/10 and 20(f)]
- 5) <u>A Complete Description of the Subjects and Issues Involved</u>: These rules govern the administration of the new Veterans' Home Nurse Loan Repayment Program. The rulemaking sets forth the applicant eligibility and program procedures.
- 6) Published studies or reports, and sources of underlying data, used to compose this rulemaking: Public Act 95-0576, effective July 1, 2007
- 7) Will this rulemaking replace any emergency rules currently in effect? Yes
- 8) Does this rulemaking contain an automatic repeal date? No
- 9) Does this rulemaking contain incorporations by reference? No
- 10) Are there any other proposed rulemakings pending on this Part? No
- Statement of Statewide Policy Objectives: This rulemaking does not create or expand a State mandate as defined in Section 3(b) of the State Mandates Act [30 ILCS 805/3(b)] and does not necessitate a local government to establish, expand or modify its activities in such a way as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues.
- 12) Time, Place, and Manner in which interested persons may comment on this proposed rulemaking: Persons who wish to comment on this proposed rulemaking may submit written comments no later than 45 days after the publication of this Notice to:

Lynn Hynes
Agency Rules Coordinator
Illinois Student Assistance Commission

ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULES

1755 Lake Cook Road Deerfield, Illinois 60015

847/948-8500, ext. 3304 email: lhynes@isac.org

- 13) Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis:
 - A) Types of small businesses, small municipalities and not for profit corporations affected: None
 - B) Reporting, bookkeeping or other procedures required for compliance: None
 - C) Types of professional skills necessary for compliance: None
- 14) Regulatory Agenda on which this rulemaking was summarized: This rulemaking was not included on either of the 2 most recent regulatory agendas because this rulemaking was created after the filing period ended.

The full text of the proposed rules are identical to the text of the emergency rules which appear in this issue of the *Illinois Register* on page 13449.

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NOTICE OF EMERGENCY RULES

- 1) Heading of the Part: Veterans' Home Nurse Loan Repayment Program
- 2) Code Citation: 23 Ill. Adm. Code 2757
- 3) Section Numbers: Emergency Action:
 2757.10 New Section
 2757.20 New Section
 2757.30 New Section
- 4) <u>Statutory Authority</u>: Implementing Public Act 95-576 and authorized by Sections 20(f) and 10 of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/10 and 20(f)]
- 5) Effective Date of Rules: September 24, 2007
- 6) <u>If these emergency rules are to expire before the end of the 150-day period, please specify the date on which it is to expire:</u> These emergency rules will expire when the proposed rules are adopted.
- 7) <u>Date Filed with the Index Department</u>: September 17, 2007
- 8) A copy of these emergency rules, including any material incorporated by reference, is on file in the agency's principal office and is available for public inspection.
- 9) Reason for Emergency: This emergency rulemaking implements Public Act 95-576, effective July 1, 2007, which created the Veterans' Home Nurse Loan Repayment Program. Emergency action is needed in order to permit the timely performance of activities necessary to implement this new program for the 2008 fiscal year.
- 10) A Complete Description of the Subjects and Issues Involved: These emergency rules govern the administration of the new Veterans' Home Nurse Loan Repayment Program. The rulemaking sets forth the applicant eligibility and program procedures. ISAC intends to adopt permanent rules through the regular rulemaking process prior to the expiration of these emergency rules.
- 11) Are there any proposed rulemakings pending on this Part? No
- 12) <u>Statement of Statewide Policy Objectives</u>: This rulemaking does not create or expand a State mandate as defined in Section 3(b) of the State Mandates Act [30 ILCS 805/3(b)]

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and does not necessitate a local government to establish, expand or modify its activities in such a way as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues.

13) Information and questions regarding these emergency rules shall be directed to:

Lynn Hynes Agency Rules Coordinator Illinois Student Assistance Commission 1755 Lake Cook Road Deerfield, Illinois 60015

847/948-8500, ext. 3304 email: lhynes@isac.org

The full text of the Emergency Rules begins on the next page:

ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

NOTICE OF EMERGENCY RULES

TITLE 23: EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES
SUBTITLE A: EDUCATION
CHAPTER XIX: ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

PART 2757 VETERANS' HOME NURSE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

Section

2757.10 Summary and Purpose EMERGENCY

2757.20 Applicant Eligibility

EMERGENCY

2757.30 Program Procedures

EMERGENCY

AUTHORITY: Implementing Public Act 95-0576 and authorized by Sections 10 and 20(f) of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act [110 ILCS 947/10 and 20(f)].

SOURCE: Emergency rules adopted at 31 Ill. Reg. 13449, effective September 24, 2007, for a maximum of 150 days.

Section 2757.10 Summary and Purpose EMERGENCY

- a) The Veterans' Home Nurse Loan Repayment Program is intended to pay eligible educational loans as an incentive for nurses to pursue and continue their careers at State of Illinois Veterans' Homes.
- b) This Part governs the Veterans' Home Nurse Loan Repayment Program.

 Additional rules and definitions are contained in General Provisions (23 Ill. Adm. Code 2700).

Section 2757.20 Applicant Eligibility EMERGENCY

- a) A qualified applicant shall be:
 - 1) a resident of Illinois;

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NOTICE OF EMERGENCY RULES

- 2) a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen;
- an individual who for each year during which a grant is received fulfills a separate 12 month period as a registered professional nurse or licensed practical nurse in a State of Illinois Veterans' Home;
- 4) a borrower with an outstanding balance due on an eligible educational loan;
- an individual who is not in default on a federally guaranteed educational loan and does not owe a refund on a grant or scholarship program administered by ISAC;
- a nurse who meets licensing requirements of the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation; and
- 7) a nurse who has completed the prescribed employment probationary period and whose employment is in good standing as determined by the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Section 2757.30 Program Procedures EMERGENCY

- a) Eligible educational loans include:
 - 1) Stafford Loans;
 - 2) Graduate PLUS Loans;
 - 3) consolidation loans;
 - 4) nursing student loans;
 - 5) Supplemental Loans for Students;
 - 6) alternative loans; and
 - 7) other types of government and institutional loans used for nursing education expenses.

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- b) Non-eligible loans include:
 - 1) credit card payments;
 - 2) Parent PLUS Loans;
 - 3) loans that have been paid in full;
 - 4) loans not governed by State or federal regulations obtained for the purpose of lending from private institutions or family members;
 - 5) any portion of a consolidated loan that cannot be directly attributed to the applicant; and
 - 6) any student loans that can be forgiven by a state or federal agency or a lending institution through a comparable educational debt repayment or forgiveness program.
- c) All applicants annually must complete an ISAC application for the loan repayment program.
 - 1) Applications are available at all State of Illinois Veterans' Homes, ISAC's web site, and ISAC's Springfield, Deerfield and Chicago offices.
 - 2) If the application is incomplete, ISAC will notify the applicant, who will have an opportunity to furnish the missing information. The application will only be considered for processing as of the date the application is complete and received at ISAC's Deerfield office.
 - 3) Renewal applicants may be required to submit a history of prior awards in order to show program proceeds were used for eligible educational loans.
- d) Grant assistance under this program may be received for up to 4 years.
- e) ISAC shall select the recipients from among those who have submitted complete applications, including qualified new applicants and those who filed timely renewal applications and have supplied information required in subsection (c).

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- f) The total number of grants awarded in a given fiscal year is contingent upon available funding. If funding is insufficient to pay all eligible applicants, awarding will be based on the date the completed application is received in ISAC's Deerfield office. Preference may be given to renewal applicants provided that the recipient continues to meet the eligibility requirements.
- g) The amount repaid by ISAC to the loan holder shall be no more than the borrower's remaining balance on eligible educational loans and shall not exceed \$5,000 per year.
- h) Proceeds will be remitted directly to the holder of the loans to be repaid.
- i) The recipient and loan holder shall submit information for eligible educational loans in sufficient time for ISAC to make payments for each year in which the funds are awarded.
- j) If the loan holder receives an overpayment, the loan holder shall return the amount of the overage to ISAC. A supplemental request must be made by the recipient and processed by ISAC for any funds to be paid to another holder.
- k) When multiple loans are held by a single lending institution, the loan holder shall distribute the payment to one loan until paid in full.
- l) When possible, all loans held at a single lending institution shall be paid in full before monies are distributed to another loan holder.