



STATE GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS (SGS) GUIDANCE MEMO

REFERENCE:	<b>SGS 10-008</b>
TOPIC:	<b>NURSE EDUCATION ASSISTANCE LOAN PROGRAM (NEALP)</b>
AUTHOR:	<b>CHAD FOUST, SGS DIRECTOR</b>
DATE:	<b>15 SEPTEMBER 2009</b>
RELEVANT STATUTE:	<b>OHIO REVISED CODE, SECTION 3333.28</b>

The passage of Am. Sub. H.B. 1 (the biennial budget for fiscal years 2010 and 2011) brought one significant change to the Nurse Education Assistance Loan Program (NEALP). In the past, statute has required funding for NEALP to be disbursed in the following manner: 50% to nurse instructor applicants, 25% to registered nurse (RN) applicants and the remaining 25% to licensed practical nurse (LPN) applicants. Am. Sub. H.B. 1 amended the statute to remove the requirement that 25% of the funding be allocated to LPN candidates. Due to a combined saturation of LPN candidates and increased need for RN and nurse instructor candidates, the updated statute re-assigns the 25% allocation originally reserved for LPN applicants to an area of higher need designated by the Chancellor. **Therefore, LPN applicants will not be eligible for NEALP funding for the 2009-2010 academic year.** All LPN applicants have been informed of this development.

Over the past several weeks, our office has been collecting HEI NEALP Verification Files from institutions to confirm final eligibility criteria for students who have applied for a NEALP loan for the 2009-2010 academic year. The only institutions that have been contacted are those that offer qualified nursing programs and those that were listed as schools of enrollment by any of the applicants. Due to the changes noted above, LPN candidates were not included in any of the initial verification files.

With these final details in hand, we have identified the 2009-2010 NEALP recipients and have set the corresponding award amounts. We will begin to notify the recipients immediately. Students must be enrolled at least half-time in order to receive NEALP benefits in any given term of study.

Those schools with NEALP recipients will need to access and submit the **NEALP Certification File** in order to officially request payment on behalf of their eligible students. For schools already 15 days into their fall term (according to the HEI academic calendar as submitted by each institution), these certification files will be accessible in the next few days. For those schools yet to begin their fall term, these certification files will be accessible 15 days after the first day of the term. Recipients have been notified that schools will not be able to request payments until 15 days into any given term. Schools will repeat this process 15 days into their winter and/or spring terms for those students continuing to enroll at least half-time in future terms.

For RN applicants, the 2009-2010 maximum **annual** award amount is \$1,500\*. For nurse instructor applicants, the 2009-2010 maximum **annual** award amount is \$5,000.

Financial aid personnel should direct questions to the Nurse Education Assistance Loan Program Administrator, Carlos Bing, 614.466.4818, [cbing@regents.state.oh.us](mailto:cbing@regents.state.oh.us).

*\*For RN applicants, schools were initially encouraged to verify maximum eligibility of \$3,000. As such, the certification files for these students will reflect term award amounts based on \$3,000. However, the 2009-2010 funding for the program only allows for a maximum award of \$1,500 so schools should request term payments based on \$1,500 and not \$3,000.*