

ORIGINAL HOUSE
BILL NO. 0173

ENROLLED ACT NO. 69, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SIXTIETH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING
2009 GENERAL SESSION

AN ACT relating to the Wyoming teacher shortage loan repayment program; expanding loan program to specified additional teaching endorsements; excluding federal financial assistance as loan eligibility requirement for specified programs; specifying loan amount; and providing for an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1. W.S. 21-7-601(b)(i) through (iii), (c) through (e) and (j) by creating a new paragraph (iv) is amended to read:

21-7-601. Wyoming teacher shortage loan repayment program; eligibility criteria; procedures; program reporting.

(b) To qualify for a loan under this section, the applicant shall first:

(i) Be enrolled in good standing in a teacher education program at the University of Wyoming leading to:

(A) Certification as a special education, math, science or foreign language teacher; or

(B) Eligibility for an additional endorsement to teach reading or English as a second language.

(ii) If in a program leading to certification under subparagraph (i)(A) under this subsection, have class standing of at least a junior for the first semester for which application for a loan under this program is made;

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(iii) If in a program leading to certification under subparagraph (i)(A) of this subsection, apply for federal financial assistance.

(c) Subject to the availability of funds appropriated for this program, loans under this section may be granted to qualified applicants to pay:

(i) The unmet financial need, as determined by the Wyoming community college commission, of attendance at the teacher education program specified under paragraph ~~(b)(i)~~ subparagraph (b)(i)(A) of this section; or

(ii) The cost of attendance at the teacher education program specified under subparagraph (b)(i)(B) of this section.

(d) Except for a loan for teacher education programs specified under subparagraph (b)(i)(B) of this section, a loan provided under this section shall not exceed the cost of attendance for the approved program, reduced by the amount of any Pell or other federal grant and any employer based financial assistance received by the applicant.

(e) A recipient of a loan under this section may repay the loan without cash payment by teaching at least fifty percent (50%) of his working hours as a teacher in special education, math, science, ~~or~~ foreign language, reading or English as a second language as a certified teacher in a Wyoming public school as provided in subsection (f) of this section. To qualify as repayment under this subsection, work shall be performed within the minimum amount of time necessary to repay the loan, plus two (2) years, which shall begin with the calendar month following the month in which the student completed the academic program.

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(j) The Wyoming community college commission shall have the powers and duties specified under W.S. 21-18-202(c) to implement this section and shall establish terms and conditions of loans issued under this section, including:

(iv) Criteria for determining the cost of attendance as used in establishing the loan amount for teacher education programs specified under paragraph (b)(i)(B) of this section, based upon each semester or summer school session of full or part-time program attendance.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2009.

(END)

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Governor

TIME APPROVED: _____

DATE APPROVED: _____

I hereby certify that this act originated in the House.

Chief Clerk