

HIGHER EDUCATION

(a)

HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY

**Grant and Scholarship Programs
Tuition Aid Grant Programs**

Adopted New Rule: N.J.A.C. 9A:9-3.6

Proposed: June 17, 2024, at 56 N.J.R. 1063(a).
 Adopted: October 23, 2024, by the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, Christy Van Horn, Chairperson.
 Filed: November 4, 2024, as R.2024 d.116, **without change**.
 Authority: P.L. 2023, c. 34 and P.L. 2023, c. 283; and N.J.S.A. 18A:71B-19.

Effective Date: December 2, 2024.
 Expiration Date: May 2, 2029.

Summary of Public Comment and Agency Response:
 The comment period ended on August 16, 2024. **The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority received no comments.**

Federal Standards Statement

A Federal standards analysis is not required as the adopted new rule is not intended to implement, comply with, or participate in any program established pursuant to Federal law or a State law that incorporates or refers to Federal law, standards, or requirements.

Full text of the adopted new rule follows:

SUBCHAPTER 3. TUITION AID GRANT PROGRAMS

9A:9-3.6 Summer tuition aid grants

(a) Summer tuition aid grants shall be applied toward the student's tuition costs outside of the academic year, as "academic year" is defined at N.J.S.A. 18A:71B-4. The receipt of a summer tuition aid grant shall not reduce the amount of a tuition aid grant awarded to the student during the academic year.

(b) An eligible student shall:

1. Be enrolled for six or more credits in the summer term;
2. Be enrolled in courses leading to an undergraduate degree at the same institution at which the student was enrolled during the student's most recent semester of enrollment in the preceding academic year;
3. Be enrolled in courses for which the credits may be applied toward the student's graduation or academic major requirements; and
4. Have received a tuition aid grant award in the preceding academic year.

(c) An eligible student enrolled in a summer term with six to eight credits shall receive one-half of the value of a full-time tuition aid grant semester award, and an eligible student enrolled with nine to 11 credits shall receive three-quarters of a full-time tuition aid grant semester award.

(d) Summer tuition aid grant payments to eligible students shall not be included when determining the maximum number of semester payments for tuition aid grant awards for which students are eligible.

(e) The provisions at N.J.A.C. 9A:9-2 shall apply to receiving summer tuition aid grants, except at N.J.A.C. 9A:9-2.11, Payments. As certified by the Authority, payments for eligible students will be made by the Department of the Treasury directly to institutions on behalf of student recipients. The Authority shall provide each institution the corresponding list of eligible students' accounts to be credited.

(b)

HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY

**Student Loan and College Savings Programs
Nursing Faculty Loan Redemption Program**

Adopted Amendments: N.J.A.C. 9A:10-4.1 through 4.5

Adopted Repeal: N.J.A.C. 9A:10-4.8

Proposed: June 17, 2024, at 56 N.J.R. 1064(a).
 Adopted: October 23, 2024, by the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, Christy Van Horn, Chairperson.
 Filed: November 4, 2024, as R.2024 d.117, **without change**.
 Authority: N.J.S.A. 18A:71C-57; and P.L. 2023, c. 244.

Effective Date: December 2, 2024.
 Expiration Date: January 29, 2031.

Summary of Public Comment and Agency Response:
 The comment period ended on August 16, 2024. **The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority received no comments.**

Federal Standards Statement

A Federal standards analysis is not required because the adopted amendments and repeal are not subject to any Federal standards or requirements.

Full text of the adoption follows:

SUBCHAPTER 4. NURSING FACULTY LOAN REDEMPTION PROGRAM

9A:10-4.1 Purpose and scope

The rules established by this subchapter provide the policies and procedures for participation in the Nursing Faculty Loan Redemption Program administered by the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority. This Program is intended to address the current and projected critical shortage of nurses in the State by providing an incentive for individuals with advanced degrees to serve as teaching faculty for undergraduate nursing education programs in New Jersey. This Program provides redemption of eligible student loan expenses incurred by Program participants in exchange for full-time faculty or part-time faculty employment at a school of nursing in the State for a five-year period following completion of the approved graduate degree program.

9A:10-4.2 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

...
 "Full-time faculty employment" means employment with a teaching load of 24 or more academic credits over the course of an academic year.

...
 "Part-time faculty employment" means employment with a minimum teaching load of three credits over the course of an academic year.

9A:10-4.3 Eligibility requirements for Program participation
 (a) To be eligible for participation in the Program, an applicant must:

1. (No change.)
2. Have obtained a degree from an approved graduate degree program;
3. After being initially hired for full-time or part-time faculty employment at an eligible institution, maintained continuous full-time or part-time faculty employment at an eligible institution;
 Recodify existing 5.-6. as 4.-5. (No change in text.)

9A:10-4.4 Application procedures

- (a) In order to apply for participation in the Program, an applicant must complete a loan redemption program application and submit it to the Authority by the deadline the Authority posts on its website.
1. (No change.)

2. Inclusive within the Program application, an applicant must also have his or her employer, or potential employer, certify the applicant's start date for faculty employment at an eligible institution before submitting the application to the Authority.

3. (No change.)

(b) The Authority will consider applications for approval of Program participation from among those applicants who meet the eligibility criteria established pursuant to N.J.A.C. 9A:10-4.3, subject to available funding.

(c) In the event there are insufficient funds to select all of the applicants who meet the eligibility criteria, the Authority will rank all of the applications received during the application submission period using predetermined scoring evaluation criteria. The scoring evaluation criteria will be posted on the Authority's website no later than one month prior to the date on which applications will be available online each year.

9A:10-4.5 Terms for loan redemption

(a) (No change.)

(b) For each year of full-time faculty employment at an eligible institution, loan redemption shall not exceed \$10,000 of principal and interest of eligible student loan expenses. The total loan redemption amount for a Program participant shall not exceed \$50,000. No amount of loan redemption shall be provided for service performed for less than a full year. Loan redemption will be applied first to outstanding State loans and then to outstanding Federal loans.

(c) For each year of part-time faculty employment at an eligible institution, loan redemption shall not exceed \$5,000 of principal and interest of eligible student loan expenses for teaching three to 17 credits per year and shall not exceed \$8,000 of principal and interest of eligible student loan expenses for teaching 18 to 23 credits per year.

(d) (No change in text.)

(e) In order to continue eligibility for loan redemption under the Program, a participant must submit certification, prior to the annual redemption of loan indebtedness, of his or her continuous employment as a full-time or part-time faculty member at an eligible institution to the Authority. A participant may change employment to another eligible institution, as long as he or she remains continuously employed as a full-time or part-time faculty member at an eligible institution.

9A:10-4.8 (Reserved)

HUMAN SERVICES

(a)

DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES

Notice of Readoption

Screening and Screening Outreach Program

Readoption with Technical Changes: N.J.A.C. 10:31

Authority: N.J.S.A. 30:1-12 and 30:4-27.1 et seq., specifically 30:4-27.5; and Reorganization Plan No. 001-2018.

Authorized By: Sarah Adelman, Commissioner, Department of Human Services.

Effective Dates: November 4, 2024, Readoption;
December 2, 2024, Technical Changes.

New Expiration Date: November 4, 2031.

Take notice that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1, the rules at N.J.A.C. 10:31, Screening and Screening Outreach Program, were scheduled to expire on December 20, 2024.

N.J.A.C. 10:31 sets forth standards for the operation of the Screening and Screening Outreach Program (the Program). The Program is designed to provide screening and crisis stabilization services in every geographic area in the State of New Jersey. The Program is provided through screening services designated by the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (the Division) in the Department of Human Services (the Department).

N.J.A.C. 10:31 is comprised of the following subchapters.

Subchapter 1, General Provisions, describes the scope and purpose of the rules, and defines words and terms used throughout the chapter.

Subchapter 2, Program Requirements, delineates the functions of screening services and affiliated emergency services; explains screening and rehospitalization procedures; provides staff availability requirements; and sets forth the standards related to policies and procedures, including development, content, and revision.

Subchapter 3, Screening and Screening Outreach Personnel Requirements, sets forth staff qualification requirements and responsibilities for screening and screening outreach staff.

Subchapter 4, Affiliated Emergency Service (AES) Personnel Requirements, describes staff qualification requirements and responsibilities for AES staff.

Subchapter 5, Systems Review in the Acute Care System, prescribes the development, composition, and role of the systems review committee.

Subchapter 6, Termination, delineates standards for the termination of screening services.

Subchapter 7, Police Involvement, covers transportation of consumers to a screening center, police requests for evaluation of consumers, and the provision of security.

Subchapter 8, Consumers' Rights, describes consumers' rights relating to screening services.

Subchapter 9, Continued Quality Improvement, sets forth requirements for the monitoring and evaluation of screening services and AES.

Subchapter 10, Planning, delineates standards for the designation of screening services, withdrawal of screening service designation status, and emergency termination or suspension of screening service designation status.

Subchapter 11, Waiver, addresses waiver standards, procedures, renewal requests, and extensions.

Also, N.J.A.C. 10:31 includes the following appendices: Appendix A, Screening Document for Adults; Appendix B, Certification for Return Following Conditional Release; Appendix C, Order for Temporary Rehospitalization Following Conditional Release; and Appendix D, Screening Outreach, Authorization for Police Transport Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:4-27.5.

In addition to readopting the existing rules, the Department is making technical changes throughout N.J.A.C. 10:31, including to update references to the Division, ensure consistent use of terminology, and reflect Reorganization Plan No. 001-2018 pursuant to which the Division retained responsibility for screening services upon transfer to the Department from the Department of Health.

While the Department is readopting these rules with technical changes, it recognizes that further rulemaking may be necessary to update these rules to reflect current practices. Thus, the Department will continue to review the rules and may consider making substantive amendments prior to the next scheduled expiration.

The Department has reviewed the rules and has determined them to be necessary, reasonable, and proper for the purpose for which they were originally promulgated, as required by Executive Order No. 66 (1978). Therefore, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:1-12 and 30:4-27.5, and in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1c(1), these rules are readopted and shall continue in effect for a seven-year period.

Full text of the technical changes follows (additions indicated in boldface **thus**; deletions indicated in brackets [thus]):

SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

10:31-1.3 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

...
"Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Department of [Health] **Human Services**.

...
"Division" means the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Department of [Health] **Human Services**.

...
"Screening [center] **service** coordinator" means an individual who is employed by a designated screening center, who meets the educational