



SPONSOR: Rep. Baumbach & Sen. Sokola  
Reps. Carson, Keeley, Kowalko, Lynn, Ramone; Sens.  
Bushweller, Lavelle, Marshall, McDowell, Townsend

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE BILL NO. 34

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR  
HIGHER EDUCATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE:

1 Section 1. Amend § 3423, Title 14 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strikethrough and insertions as  
2 shown by underline as follows:

3 § 3423. Ada Leigh Soles Memorial Professional Librarian and Archivist Incentive Program.

4 (a) Purpose — It is the intent and purpose of this Program to enable and encourage academically talented  
5 Delawareans to pursue careers as librarians and archivists in ~~the public libraries, public school libraries, state agencies and~~  
6 ~~political subdivisions of Delaware.~~

7 (b) Awards —

8 (1) Awards shall be provided for graduate education in master's degree programs of library and information  
9 studies that are accredited by the American Library Association. Preference shall be given to persons currently  
10 employed by a Delaware public library, county department of libraries, public school library or state agency library, a  
11 member library of the Delaware Library Consortium, or archive.

12 (2) Awards may also be provided for a course of study leading to a bachelor's degree prior to the master's  
13 degree and/or a doctoral degree following the master's degree. Awards shall be limited to persons who have been  
14 employed at a Delaware public library, county department of libraries, public school library, a member library of the  
15 Delaware Library Consortium, or state agency library or archive for a minimum of 2 years.

16 (3) Selection criteria may include consideration of community service, academic achievement and financial  
17 need.

18 (c) Repayment and forgiveness —

19 (1) For purposes of this program, qualifying employment shall be employment as a librarian or archivist in a  
20 public library, public school library, a member library of the Delaware Library Consortium, state agency or political  
21 subdivision in Delaware.

- 22                   (2) Loans will be forgiven at the rate of 1 year of employment for 1 year of loan for bachelor's degree  
23                   students, and 2 years of employment for 1 year of loan for master's and doctoral degree students.

#### SYNOPSIS

This bill expands the list of persons eligible to participate in the Ada Leigh Soles Memorial Professional Librarian and Archivist Incentive Scholarship Program to include employees of non-public libraries in Delaware that join the Delaware Library Consortium.