

CHAPTER 175
FORMERLY
HOUSE BILL NO. 58
AS AMENDED BY
HOUSE AMENDMENT NO. 1

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE DELAWARE NURSING INCENTIVE PROGRAM.

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

Section 1. Amend § 3421, Title 14 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strikethrough and insertions as shown by underline as follows:

§ 3421. Delaware Nursing Incentive Program.

(a) *Purpose* — It is the intent and purpose of the General Assembly through this subchapter to enable and encourage academically talented Delawareans to pursue nursing careers at State-operated hospitals or non-profit hospitals located in this state.

(b) *Awards* —

(1) Awards shall be provided for undergraduate education at regionally accredited institutions of higher education or accredited hospital schools of nursing for the following objectives:

~~a. A course of study leading to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree, if the award recipient is a registered nurse employed by this State, and also has 5 years or more of state service; or~~

a. A course of study leading to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree, if the award recipient is a registered nurse with an aggregate of 5 years or more employment with the State or with non-profit hospitals located in this State;

b. For all other recipients, a course of study leading to certification as a registered nurse or practical nurse.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, awards may be made available, on a prorated basis, to employees of the State who are enrolled as part-time nursing students.

(3) The Delaware residence requirement shall not apply to any employee of the State who is enrolled as a part-time nursing student and who has 5 or more years of state service.

(c) *Repayment and forgiveness* —

(1) For the purposes of this program, qualifying employment shall be employment as a licensed practical nurse or a registered nurse at a state-owned hospital or clinic or a non-profit hospital located in this state.

(2) Loans will be forgiven at the rate of 1 year of employment for 1 year of loan.

Approved July 31, 2019