

STATE OF NEW YORK

4164

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 2, 2021

Introduced by Sen. COMRIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to the New York state dental faculty loan forgiveness incentive program

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 679-k
2 to read as follows:

3 § 679-k. New York state dental faculty loan forgiveness incentive
4 program. 1. Purpose. a. Process. The president shall grant student loan
5 forgiveness awards for the purpose of increasing the number of educators
6 and adjunct clinical faculty teaching in the field of dental education
7 in New York state. Such awards shall be made on a competitive basis as
8 promulgated by the corporation through rules and regulations, to appli-
9 cants who are licensed dentists with previous clinical experience in
10 dentistry who have completed coursework that qualifies them as dental
11 faculty or adjunct clinical faculty. The president may contract with a
12 third party for purposes of administering the competitive process
13 required under this paragraph.

14 b. Eligibility. To be eligible for an award pursuant to this section,
15 applicants shall:

16 (i) be licensed as a dentist;

17 (ii) have an outstanding student loan debt from a dental degree
18 program;

19 (iii) have taken coursework that qualified them as dental faculty or
20 adjunct clinical faculty;

21 (iv) be employed as a faculty member at a dental school located in New
22 York state; and

23 (v) comply with subdivisions three and five of section six hundred
24 sixty-one of this part.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 c. Award. An award of forty thousand dollars shall be made annually
2 to recipients who have provided classroom or clinical instruction of not
3 less than twelve academic credit hours, or its equivalent, as dental
4 faculty or in clinical teaching service in the academic year preceding
5 the granting of the award, provided that no recipient shall receive
6 cumulative awards, pursuant to this section, in excess of one hundred
7 sixty thousand dollars.

8 d. Other awards. Award recipients shall be eligible to apply for other
9 awards.

10 e. Curriculum development. The president shall contract with a third
11 party for purposes of developing a uniform curriculum on academic
12 dentistry, which shall serve as the basis for the coursework required
13 under paragraph a of subdivision one of this section. Notwithstanding
14 any contrary provision of this section, sections one hundred twelve and
15 one hundred sixty-three of the state finance law, or any other provision
16 of law, such contract shall be awarded to an association representing
17 the New York state academic dental centers without a competitive bid or
18 request for proposal process.

19 2. Duration. Loan forgiveness awards shall be made annually to appli-
20 cants whom the corporation has certified are eligible to receive such
21 awards and have provided dental faculty or clinical dental faculty
22 services required pursuant to this article; provided that no award shall
23 be granted for more than four years.

24 3. Amount. The corporation shall grant such awards within the amounts
25 appropriated for such purpose and based on availability of funds in an
26 amount not to exceed the total cost of the student loan debt.

27 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.