STATE OF NEW YORK

6616

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 6, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. McDONALD -- read once and referred to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law and the state finance law, in relation to establishing the Capital Region preceptor stipend program

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

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Capital Region preceptor stipend program".

§ 2. Legislative intent. New York state health care is in crisis from staffing shortages that are exacerbated by staff burnout. Quality preceptorships are an essential component of clinical professional development, and also a powerful tool for recruitment and retention in the healthcare industry. By providing supervision during clinical practice and facilitating the application of theory to practice for students and staff learners, preceptors can help promote self-awareness and critical thinking for students. That confidence and on-the-job training will foster a healthy mentorship and encourage future health care professionals to pursue their health career in New York state. Preceptorships, however, are a time-consuming commitment and health care workers in New York state are hard-pressed to add more to their plates. A stipend program would incentivize health care professionals to be preceptors and take on the responsibility of training future health professionals.

§ 3. The education law is amended by adding a new section 6505-f to read as follows:

§ 6505-f. Capital Region preceptor stipend program. 1. Program established. The chief administrative officer of the office of the professions shall create a "Capital Region preceptor stipend program" for preceptor clinicians. Under such program, a stipend shall be issued out of funds made available for such program pursuant to appropriation from the legislature from the office of the professions account under

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

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section ninety-seven-nnn of the state finance law, and shall be released in check form to qualified preceptor clinicians. The chief administrative officer of the office of the professions' responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to:

(a) Promulgating any necessary rules and regulations for the application and distribution of funds;

(b) Creating a process to accept and subsequently register preceptor clinicians into the Capital Region preceptor stipend program, and a process to deny unqualified preceptor clinicians;

(c) Creating an application process whereby certain criteria and qualifications shall be met by a preceptor clinician accepted to the program; and

(d) Creating a revocation process for qualified clinical preceptorships that are to be terminated.

2. Stipend. A resident of New York state who registers with and is accepted to the program and provides preceptor instruction as part of a clinical preceptorship in the Capital Region shall be issued a stipend upon admittance into the program. Such stipend shall equal five thousand dollars.

3. Annual review. After the program's first full year and each year thereafter during the month of December, there shall be an annual review conducted by the office of the professions which shall provide, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) An audit and record of all preceptor clinicians who applied and been either denied or accepted under the program; and

(b) A record and audit of all stipends distributed under the program.

4. Definitions. As used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Preceptor clinician" means any of the following who are employed within the Capital Region and who, without the provision of any form of compensation therefor, provides a clinical preceptorship or preceptorships including, but not limited to, both community and in-patient facilities, and certified or licensed providers under article thirty-six of the public health law, during the taxable year:

(i) a physician licensed pursuant to article one hundred thirty-one of this title;

(ii) a physician assistant licensed pursuant to article one hundred thirty-one-B of this title;

(iii) a specialist assistant registered pursuant to article one hundred thirty-one-C of this title;

(iv) a certified registered nurse anesthetist certified by the department;

(v) a registered professional nurse licensed pursuant to section sixty-nine hundred five of this title;

(vi) a nurse practitioner certified pursuant to section sixty-nine hundred ten of this title;

(vii) a clinical nurse specialist certified pursuant to section sixty-nine hundred eleven of this title; or

(viii) a midwife licensed pursuant to article one hundred forty of this title.

(b) "Capital Region" means the region of the state (i) containing the following eight counties: Albany, Columbia, Greene, Saratoga, Schenectady, Rensselaer, Warren, and Washington counties; and (ii) as further defined by the regional economic development councils.

(c) "Clinical preceptorship" means a preceptorship for a student enrolled in a New York state based educational program approved pursuant

to this title to become a physician, physician assistant, specialist assistant, certified registered nurse anesthetist, registered professional nurse, nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist or midwife, and which preceptorship provides preceptor instruction in family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, emergency medicine, psychiatry, home healthcare, general surgery, or gerontology under the supervision of a preceptor clinician.

(d) "Program" means the Capital Region preceptor stipend program created pursuant to subdivision one of this section.

(e) "Qualified preceptor clinician" means a preceptor clinician who has qualified for the Capital Region preceptor stipend program pursuant to the application process created pursuant to paragraph (b) of subdivision one of this section, and who is entitled to receive a stipend pursuant to subdivision two of this section.

§ 4. Subdivision 3 of section 97-nnn of the state finance law, as added by section 90 of part A of chapter 436 of the laws of 1997, is amended to read as follows:

3. Moneys of this account, following appropriation by the legislature, shall be available to the state education department for services and expenses of the office of the professions, including payment of stipends under the Capital Region preceptor stipend program established pursuant to section sixty-five hundred five-f of the education law, provided that the first year payments under such stipend program shall not exceed five million dollars.

§ 5. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.