

**TUITION PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS SEEKING
TEACHER LICENSURE IN DISABILITY
OR SPECIAL EDUCATION**

2005 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Ronda Rudd Menlove

Senate Sponsor: Beverly Ann Evans

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies the Terrel H. Bell Teaching Incentive Loans program.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ modifies the eligibility of students for the Terrel H. Bell Teaching Incentive Loans program;
- ▶ directs the State Board of Education's prioritization of critical areas of need for teaching expertise within the state; and
- ▶ makes technical corrections.

Monies Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53B-10-101, as last amended by Chapter 86, Laws of Utah 2001

53B-10-102, as last amended by Chapter 86, Laws of Utah 2001

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **53B-10-101** is amended to read:

**53B-10-101. Terrel H. Bell Teaching Incentive Loans program -- Eligible students
-- Cancellation of incentive loans -- Repayment by recipient who fails to meet requirements
-- Duration of incentive loans.**

(1) (a) A Terrel H. Bell Teaching Incentive Loans program is established to recruit and train superior candidates for teaching in Utah's public school system as a component of the teacher quality continuum referred to in Subsections 53A-1a-104(7) and 53A-6-102(2)(a).

(b) Under the program, the incentive loans may be used in any of Utah's state-operated institutions of higher education or at a private institution of higher education in Utah that offers a state-approved teacher education program.

(2) (a) The State Board of Education or the State Board of Regents shall award the incentive loans to students who have been admitted to, or have made application to and are prepared to enter into, a program preparing students for licensure and who declare an intent to complete the prescribed course of instruction [required for a teaching license] and to teach in [the public schools of] this state in accordance with the priorities described under Subsection (5)(c).

(b) The incentive loan may be canceled at any time by the institution of attendance if:

(i) the student fails to make reasonable progress towards completion of licensing requirements; or

(ii) it appears to be a reasonable certainty that the student does not intend to teach in Utah.

(c) The State Board of Regents may grant leaves of absence to incentive loan holders.

(3) The State Board of Regents may require an incentive loan recipient who fails to complete the requirements for licensing without good cause to repay all tuition and fees provided by the loan, together with appropriate interest.

(4) (a) The State Board of Regents may require an incentive loan recipient who does not work in the state's public school system or a private school within the state within two years after graduation to repay all tuition and fees provided by the loan, together with appropriate interest, unless waived for good cause.

(b) (i) A recipient who does not teach for a term equal to the number of years of the

incentive loan within a reasonable period of time after graduation shall repay a graduated portion of the tuition and fees based upon the uncompleted term.

(ii) One year of teaching is credit for one year's tuition and fees.

(c) All repayments made under this Subsection (4) are for use in the Terrel H. Bell Teaching Incentive Loans program.

(5) (a) Each incentive loan is valid for up to four years of full-time equivalent enrollment, or until requirements for licensing or advanced licensing have been met, whichever is less.

(b) (i) Incentive loans apply to both tuition and fees in amounts and are subject to conditions approved by the State Board of Regents, based upon criteria developed to insure that all recipients of the loans will pursue an education career [~~in Utah's public education system or a private school~~] within the state.

(ii) An incentive loan for tuition and fees at a private institution may not exceed the average scholarship amounts granted for tuition and fees at public institutions of higher education within the state.

(c) Incentive loans shall be awarded in accordance with prioritized critical areas of need for teaching expertise within the [~~state's public education system~~] state as determined by the State Board of Education[~~], and may include preparing persons as:~~

(i) a special education teacher;

(ii) a speech or language pathologist; or

(iii) another licensed professional providing services in the public schools to pupils with disabilities.

Section 2. Section **53B-10-102** is amended to read:

53B-10-102. Number of incentive loans -- Criteria for awarding -- Additional awards.

(1) (a) A total of 365 Terrel H. Bell Teaching Incentive Loans shall be maintained each year in accordance with criteria and procedures established by the State Board of Education and State Board of Regents.

(b) The number of incentive loans to be awarded shall be reviewed annually based on the need to prepare individuals to teach as determined by the supply of and demand for teachers in the ~~[state's public education system]~~ state.

(2) These incentive loans shall be awarded in the following categories:

(a) incentive loans for persons who were originally awarded their loans as high school juniors and seniors selected through statewide competition; ~~[and]~~

(b) incentive loans for persons who have successfully completed not less than the equivalent of two semesters of formal higher education study[-]; and

(c) incentive loans for persons described in Subsection 53B-10-101(5)(c), including:

(i) part-time students;

(ii) students who already hold a bachelor's degree; and

(iii) other nontraditional students.

(3) (a) Additional awards may be given each year to a limited number of scholarship holders to include the following:

(i) 20 state-funded premier scholarships, which provide an additional \$3,000 per year for winners of a widely publicized statewide competition, but the number may be increased through private donations; and

(ii) 100 supplementary stipends paying \$750 per semester, available each year for students granted scholarships under Subsection (1)(b) who declare an intent to be licensed in areas of critical teacher shortage as determined by the State Board of Education.

(b) Subsection (1)(b) applies to the awards made under Subsection (3)(a).