



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 250

February Session, 2022



AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENT LOAN REIMBURSEMENT FOR CONNECTICUT RESIDENTS WHO GRADUATED FROM A STATE UNIVERSITY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) (a) For the purposes of this
2 section:

3 (1) "State university" means The University of Connecticut and the
4 state universities within the Connecticut State University System; and

5 (2) "Eligible student loan" means a loan issued or refinanced by the
6 Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority to finance
7 attendance at a state university.

8 (b) There is established a student loan reimbursement program for
9 residents of the state who graduated from a state university to be
10 administered by the Office of Higher Education. Said office shall
11 approve the participation of any person in the student loan
12 reimbursement program who (1) graduated with a bachelor's degree
13 from a state university, (2) is a resident of the state for not less than five
14 consecutive years since graduation from a state university, (3) is not
15 more than thirty-five years of age, (4) earns the majority of such person's
16 income through employment in the state, as evidenced on such person's

17 Connecticut tax return, for two years prior to participation in the
18 program, (5) has a Connecticut adjusted gross income of not more than
19 one hundred thousand dollars, and (6) has an eligible student loan.

20 (c) Persons who qualify under subsection (b) of this section may
21 apply to the Office of Higher Education to participate in the student loan
22 reimbursement program at such time and in such manner as the
23 executive director of said office prescribes.

24 (d) For each person approved to participate in the student loan
25 reimbursement program, the Office of Higher Education shall (1) within
26 available appropriations, pay an amount of not more than five thousand
27 dollars on an annual basis to the Connecticut Higher Education
28 Supplemental Loan Authority as a credit against the balance of such
29 person's eligible student loan, provided no person shall participate in
30 the student loan reimbursement program for more than four years or
31 receive more than twenty thousand dollars in aggregate student loan
32 payments, and (2) require such person to volunteer for an approved
33 nonprofit organization in the state for not less than one hundred unpaid
34 hours for each year of participation in the student loan reimbursement
35 program. Such volunteer hours may include, but need not be limited to,
36 service on a nonprofit board or military service.

37 (e) Any unexpended funds appropriated for purposes of this section
38 shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year but shall be available for
39 expenditure during the next fiscal year.

40 (f) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the Office of Higher
41 Education may use up to two and one-half per cent of the funds
42 appropriated for purposes of this section for program administration,
43 promotion and recruitment activities.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2022	New section

HED *Joint Favorable Subst.*

APP *Joint Favorable*