

# HOUSE BILL No. 1021

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 21-13; IC 21-44; IC 25-1-20; IC 25-14-5.

**Synopsis:** Health workforce student loan repayment program. Establishes the following: (1) The health workforce student loan repayment program (program). (2) The health workforce council (council). (3) The health workforce student loan repayment program fund (fund) for the purpose of providing funds to repay outstanding student loans of certain health providers who meet the program requirements. Provides that the professional licensing agency (agency) shall, in coordination with the council, administer the program. Establishes: (1) the imposition of fees at the time a license is issued or renewed for certain health profession licenses; and (2) qualifications to receive a student loan repayment award under the program. Provides that, beginning July 1, 2022: (1) each board may award loan repayment to an eligible applicant who is a provider licensed by the board; and (2) the council may award loan repayment to an eligible applicant who is an eligible provider. Requires, not later than July 1, 2023, and not later than July 1 every two years thereafter, the agency to submit a report concerning the program and fund to the governor and the general assembly. Provides that money in the fund is continuously appropriated. Repeals provisions concerning the following: (1) The primary care physician loan forgiveness program. (2) The mental health services development programs. (3) The dental underserved area and minority recruitment program.

**Effective:** July 1, 2021.

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## Manning, Barrett, Vermilion

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January 4, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Ways and Means.

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First Regular Session of the 122nd General Assembly (2021)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2020 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

# HOUSE BILL No. 1021

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning professions and occupations and to make an appropriation.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 21-13-1-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.148-2016,  
2 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 5. "Fund":  
4 (1) for purposes of IC 21-13-2, refers to the William A. Crawford  
5 minority teacher scholarship fund established by IC 21-13-2-1;  
6 (2) for purposes of IC 21-13-4, refers to the National Guard  
7 tuition supplement program fund established by IC 21-13-4-1;  
8 (3) for purposes of IC 21-13-5, refers to the National Guard  
9 scholarship extension fund established by IC 21-13-5-1; **and**  
10 ~~(4) for purposes of IC 21-13-6, refers to the primary care~~  
11 ~~physician loan forgiveness fund established by IC 21-13-6-3; and~~  
12 ~~(5) (4) for purposes of IC 21-13-6.5, refers to the medical~~  
13 ~~residency education fund established by IC 21-13-6.5-1.~~  
14 SECTION 2. IC 21-13-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
15 2021]. (Primary Care Physician Loan Forgiveness Program).  
16 SECTION 3. IC 21-44-1-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.190-2015,  
17 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE



1 JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 3. (a) "Board", for purposes of IC 21-44-5, refers  
2 to the medical education board established by IC 21-44-5-1.

3 (b) "Board", for purposes of IC 21-44-6, refers to the mental health  
4 and addiction services development programs board established by  
5 IC 21-44-6-1.

6 (c) (b) "Board", for purposes of IC 21-44-7, refers to the graduate  
7 medical education board established by IC 21-44-7-2.

8 SECTION 4. IC 21-44-1-16 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
9 2021]. Sec. 16. "Training track program", for purposes of IC 21-44-6,  
10 refers to the program for individuals in the public sector psychiatry  
11 development program.

12 SECTION 5. IC 21-44-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
13 2021]. (Mental Health Services Development Programs).

14 SECTION 6. IC 25-1-20 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS  
15 A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
16 1, 2021]:

17 **Chapter 20. Health Workforce Student Loan Repayment**  
18 **Program**

19 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "agency" means the Indiana**  
20 **professional licensing agency established by IC 25-1-5-3.**

21 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "board" refers to any of the**  
22 **following:**

- 23 (1) The state board of dentistry (IC 25-14-1-2).
- 24 (2) The medical licensing board of Indiana (IC 25-22.5-2-1).
- 25 (3) The Indiana state board of nursing (IC 25-23-1-2).
- 26 (4) The occupational therapy committee (IC 25-23.5-2-1).
- 27 (5) The behavioral health and human services licensing board  
28 (IC 25-23.6-2-1).
- 29 (6) The Indiana optometry board (IC 25-24-1-1).
- 30 (7) The Indiana board of pharmacy (IC 25-26-13-3).
- 31 (8) The physician assistant committee (IC 25-27.5-3-1).
- 32 (9) The board of podiatric medicine (IC 25-29-2-1).
- 33 (10) The state psychology board (IC 25-33-1-3).
- 34 (11) The speech-language pathology and audiology board  
35 (IC 25-35.6-2).

36 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "council" refers to the health**  
37 **workforce council established by section 9 of this chapter.**

38 **Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the health**  
39 **workforce student loan repayment program fund established by**  
40 **section 10 of this chapter.**

41 **Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "license" means:**

- 42 (1) an unlimited license, permit, certificate, or certificate of



1 registration;

2 (2) a temporary, limited, or probationary license, permit,  
3 certificate, or certificate of registration;

4 (3) an intern permit; or

5 (4) a provisional license;

6 issued by a board to a provider.

7 Sec. 6. As used in this chapter, "program" refers to the health  
8 workforce student loan repayment program established by section  
9 8 of this chapter.

10 Sec. 7. As used in this chapter, "provider" means any of the  
11 following:

12 (1) A dentist licensed under IC 25-14.

13 (2) A physician licensed under IC 25-22.5.

14 (3) A nurse licensed under IC 25-23, including nursing faculty.

15 (4) An occupational therapist licensed under IC 25-23.5.

16 (5) A clinical social worker licensed under IC 25-23.6-5.

17 (6) A marriage and family therapist licensed under  
18 IC 25-23.6-8.

19 (7) A mental health counselor licensed under IC 25-23.6-8.5.

20 (8) A clinical addiction counselor licensed under  
21 IC 25-23.6-10.5.

22 (9) An optometrist licensed under IC 25-24.

23 (10) A pharmacist licensed under IC 25-26.

24 (11) A physician assistant licensed under IC 25-27.5-4.

25 (12) A podiatrist licensed under IC 25-29.

26 (13) A psychologist licensed under IC 25-33-1.

27 (14) A speech-language pathologist licensed under IC 25-35.6.

28 (15) An audiologist licensed under IC 25-35.6.

29 Sec. 8. (a) The health workforce student loan repayment  
30 program is established.

31 (b) The agency, in coordination with the council, shall  
32 administer the program.

33 Sec. 9. (a) The health workforce council is established.

34 (b) The council consists of the following members:

35 (1) The executive director of the agency or the executive  
36 director's designee.

37 (2) The commissioner of the department of workforce  
38 development or the commissioner's designee.

39 (3) The secretary of family and social services or the  
40 secretary's designee.

41 (4) The commissioner of the state department of health or the  
42 commissioner's designee.



- 1           **(5) The commissioner of the Indiana commission for higher**  
 2           **education or the commissioner's designee.**  
 3           **(6) The secretary of education.**  
 4           **(7) One (1) member of the senate, appointed by the president**  
 5           **pro tempore of the senate.**  
 6           **(8) One (1) member of the house of representatives, appointed**  
 7           **by the speaker of the house of representatives.**  
 8           **(9) One (1) member who is a member of the Indiana**  
 9           **commission to combat drug abuse.**  
 10          **(10) One (1) representative from the governor's workforce**  
 11          **cabinet.**  
 12          **(11) One (1) representative from the Indiana Hospital**  
 13          **Association.**  
 14          **(12) One (1) representative from the Indiana Rural Health**  
 15          **Association.**  
 16          **(13) One (1) representative from the Indiana Primary Health**  
 17          **Care Association.**  
 18          **(14) One (1) representative from the Indiana Health Care**  
 19          **Association.**  
 20          **(15) One (1) representative from the Bowen Center for Health**  
 21          **Workforce Research and Policy at Indiana University.**  
 22          **(16) One (1) representative from an insurance company**  
 23          **licensed to do business in Indiana.**  
 24          **(c) The members under subsection (b)(9) through (b)(16) shall**  
 25          **be appointed by the governor.**  
 26          **(d) If a vacancy occurs on the council, the appointing authority**  
 27          **that appointed the member whose position is vacant shall appoint**  
 28          **an individual to fill the vacancy.**  
 29          **(e) The members shall annually elect a chairperson of the**  
 30          **council. The council shall meet upon the call of the chairperson.**  
 31          **(f) The affirmative votes of a majority of the voting members**  
 32          **appointed to the council are required for the council to take action.**  
 33          **(g) Each member of the council who is not a state employee is**  
 34          **entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by**  
 35          **IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). The member is also entitled to reimbursement**  
 36          **for traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4 and other**  
 37          **expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties**  
 38          **as provided in the state policies and procedures established by the**  
 39          **Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget**  
 40          **agency.**  
 41          **(h) The agency shall ensure staff support to the council.**  
 42          **Sec. 10. (a) The health workforce student loan repayment**



1 program fund is established for the purpose of providing funds to  
 2 repay outstanding student loans of providers who meet the  
 3 requirements under this chapter.

4 (b) The fund consists of the following:

5 (1) Appropriations made by the general assembly.

6 (2) Fees collected under section 11 of this chapter.

7 (3) Gifts, grants, devises, or bequests made to the agency to  
 8 achieve the purposes of the fund.

9 (c) The agency shall administer the fund.

10 (d) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from  
 11 money in the fund in an amount that does not exceed a total of two  
 12 hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) each biennium.

13 (e) Money in the fund is continuously appropriated to:

14 (1) carry out the purposes of the fund; and

15 (2) subject to subsection (d), cover the costs incurred by the  
 16 agency and council in administering the program.

17 (f) The agency shall establish a separate account within the fund  
 18 for each board. On June 30, 2023, and on June 30 every two (2)  
 19 years thereafter, any money in a separate account under this  
 20 subsection reverts to the fund.

21 (g) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not  
 22 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same  
 23 manner as other public funds may be invested. Interest that  
 24 accrues from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.

25 (h) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not  
 26 revert to the state general fund but remains available to be used for  
 27 the purposes of this chapter.

28 Sec. 11. (a) Beginning not later than October 1, 2021, and in  
 29 addition to any other fee imposed for the issuance or renewal of a  
 30 license, each board shall, at the time a license is issued or renewed,  
 31 impose a fee in the following amounts:

32 (1) Ten dollars (\$10), if a fee for the issuance or renewal of a  
 33 license is not more than one hundred dollars (\$100).

34 (2) Twenty dollars (\$20), if a fee for the issuance or renewal  
 35 of a license is more than one hundred dollars (\$100).

36 (b) Each board shall deposit fees collected by the board under  
 37 this section into the fund.

38 Sec. 12. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), the money in  
 39 the fund shall be divided and used as follows:

40 (1) An amount that does not exceed two hundred fifty  
 41 thousand dollars (\$250,000) each biennium shall remain in the  
 42 fund for use by the agency to cover the costs incurred by the



1 agency and the council in administering the program.

2 (2) An amount equal to the amount determined in STEP  
3 THREE of the following formula shall remain in the fund for  
4 use by the council to award loan repayment to an eligible  
5 provider under this chapter:

6 STEP ONE: Determine the total amount of money in the  
7 fund minus any gifts, grants, devises, or bequests that have  
8 been directed to be used as described in subsection (b).

9 STEP TWO: Subtract the amount retained by the agency  
10 under subdivision (1) from the amount determined under  
11 STEP ONE.

12 STEP THREE: Determine the result of:

13 (A) the amount determined under STEP TWO;  
14 multiplied by

15 (B) fifty percent (50%).

16 (3) An amount equal to the amount determined in STEP  
17 THREE of the following formula shall be transferred to each  
18 board's account for use by the respective board to award loan  
19 repayment to eligible providers licensed by that board:

20 STEP ONE: Subtract the amount determined in STEP  
21 THREE of subdivision (2) from the amount determined in  
22 STEP TWO of subdivision (2).

23 STEP TWO: For each board, divide the total number of  
24 providers licensed by that board by the total number of  
25 providers licensed by all of the boards.

26 STEP THREE: Multiply the amount determined under  
27 STEP ONE by the quotient determined under STEP TWO  
28 for each respective board.

29 (b) A person providing a gift, grant, devise, or bequest to the  
30 fund may direct that the gift, grant, devise, or bequest be used for  
31 loan repayments for providers of a specific profession.

32 (c) If a person has directed that a gift, grant, devise, or bequest  
33 be used for loan repayments for providers of a specific profession,  
34 the agency shall transfer the amount of the gift, grant, devise, or  
35 bequest to the applicable board's account for loan repayments to  
36 providers of that profession. A board may only use a gift, grant,  
37 devise, or bequest described under this subsection to award loan  
38 repayments to providers of the specified profession.

39 Sec. 13. (a) Beginning July 1, 2022, each board may award  
40 student loan repayments to any eligible applicant who:

41 (1) is a provider licensed by the board; and

42 (2) meets the requirements of this chapter.



1           **(b) Beginning July 1, 2022, the council may award student loan**  
 2 **repayments to any eligible applicant who is a provider and meets**  
 3 **the requirements of this chapter.**

4           **(c) To be eligible to receive a student loan repayment award**  
 5 **under this chapter, an applicant must meet the following:**

6               **(1) Apply on a form prescribed by the agency.**

7               **(2) Be a provider and practice a profession that is licensed by**  
 8 **a board.**

9               **(3) Have an outstanding student loan balance.**

10              **(4) Provide essential services to Indiana residents.**

11              **(5) Agree in writing to:**

12                   **(A) practice full time the applicable profession and provide**  
 13 **essential services for a specified number of years in a**  
 14 **health workforce shortage area in Indiana, as determined**  
 15 **by the council; and**

16                   **(B) meet any other requirements established by the agency.**

17              **(6) Meet any other requirements established by the agency.**

18           **(d) The agency shall determine the amount of a student loan**  
 19 **repayment award that an eligible applicant receives under this**  
 20 **chapter.**

21           **(e) If the council or a board awards student loan repayment to**  
 22 **an eligible applicant under this chapter, the council or board:**

23               **(1) shall, subject to subdivision (2), make the student loan**  
 24 **repayment award in an amount determined by the agency at**  
 25 **the end of each state fiscal year; and**

26               **(2) may not make the student loan repayment award to the**  
 27 **eligible applicant unless the eligible applicant:**

28                   **(A) met the requirements of this chapter during that state**  
 29 **fiscal year; and**

30                   **(B) has, for at least one (1) year, practiced full time the**  
 31 **applicable profession and provided essential services in a**  
 32 **health workforce shortage area as described in subsection**  
 33 **(c)(5)(A).**

34           **(f) The council or board may make student repayment awards**  
 35 **under this chapter until the balance of the eligible applicant's**  
 36 **student loans are paid in full.**

37           **Sec. 14. Each board shall provide information and make**  
 38 **recommendations to the agency and council regarding areas of**  
 39 **need for workforce and workforce development in the respective**  
 40 **professions that the board licenses.**

41           **Sec. 15. (a) The agency shall prepare a report that includes the**  
 42 **following:**





- 1           (1) The receipt, disbursement, and uses of money from the  
2 fund and the separate accounts within the fund.
- 3           (2) The number of applications submitted for student loan  
4 repayment under the program.
- 5           (3) The number and amount of student loan repayment  
6 awards that have been provided by the council and each  
7 board.
- 8           (4) An evaluation of the short and long term impact of the  
9 program on Indiana health workforce shortages.
- 10          (5) Any other information collected concerning the fund,  
11 program, or student loan repayments awarded under this  
12 chapter.
- 13          (b) Not later than July 1, 2023, and not later than July 1 every  
14 two (2) years thereafter, the agency shall submit the report  
15 described in subsection (a) to the following:
- 16           (1) The governor.
- 17           (2) The general assembly in an electronic format under  
18 IC 5-14-6.
- 19          Sec. 16. (a) The council shall provide recommendations to the  
20 agency regarding eligibility requirements and award amounts for  
21 the award of student loan repayments under this chapter.
- 22          (b) The agency, in consultation with the council, shall adopt  
23 rules under IC 4-22-2 to:
- 24           (1) establish eligibility requirements to receive student loan  
25 repayment awards under the program; and
- 26           (2) otherwise administer the program.
- 27          Sec. 17. This chapter expires July 1, 2032.
- 28          SECTION 7. IC 25-14-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
29 2021]. (Dental Underserved Area and Minority Recruitment Program).

