

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

H.B. 408
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH10189-MKa-103B

Short Title: Expand Teaching Fellows Program. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Gill, Clemmons, Hawkins, and Brockman (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO EXPAND THE NORTH CAROLINA TEACHING FELLOWS PROGRAM TO
3 INCLUDE PARTICIPATION BY ALL CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS OF THE
4 UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA WITH EDUCATOR PREPARATION
5 PROGRAMS.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 116-209.62(b) reads as rewritten:

8 "(b) Trust Fund. – There is established the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program
9 Trust Fund to be administered by the Authority, in conjunction with the System Office of The
10 University of North Carolina. All funds (i) appropriated to, or otherwise received by, the Program
11 for forgivable loans and other Program purposes, (ii) received as repayment of forgivable loans,
12 and (iii) earned as interest on these funds shall be placed in the Trust Fund. The purpose of the
13 Trust Fund is to provide financial assistance to qualified students for completion of teacher
14 education and licensure programs to fill STEM or special education licensure areas in the public
15 schools of the State. Funds appropriated to the Fund that are unexpended and unencumbered at
16 the end of each fiscal year shall not revert, but shall remain available to the Authority for the
17 purposes established in this Part."

18 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 116-209.62, as amended by Section 1 of this act, reads as
19 rewritten:

20 "**§ 116-209.62. North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program established; administration.**

21 ...

22 (c) Uses of Monies in the Trust Fund. – The monies in the Trust Fund may be used only
23 for (i) forgivable loans granted under the Program, (ii) administrative costs associated with the
24 Program, including recruitment and recovery of funds advanced under the Program, (iii)
25 mentoring and coaching support to forgivable loan recipients, and (iv) extracurricular
26 enhancement activities of the Program in accordance with the following:

27 (1) The Authority shall transfer the greater of six hundred thousand dollars
28 (\$600,000) or ten percent (10%) of the available funds from the Trust Fund to
29 the ~~General Administration~~ System Office of The University of North
30 Carolina at the beginning of each fiscal year for the Program's administrative
31 costs, the salary of the Director of the Program and other Program staff,
32 expenses of the Commission, and to provide the Commission with funds to
33 use for the extracurricular enhancement activities of the Program.

34 (2) The Authority may use the greater of two hundred fifty thousand dollars
35 (\$250,000) or four percent (4%) of the funds appropriated to the Trust Fund
36 each fiscal year for administrative costs associated with the Program.



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- 1 (3) The Authority shall provide the Commission with up to six hundred thousand
2 dollars (\$600,000) from the Trust Fund in each fiscal year for the Commission
3 to provide mentoring and coaching support to forgivable loan recipients
4 through the North Carolina New Teacher Support Program as follows:
- 5 a. Up to two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for each Program recipient
6 serving as a teacher in a North Carolina public school identified as
7 low-performing under G.S. 115C-105.37.
 - 8 b. Up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each Program recipient
9 serving as a teacher in a North Carolina public school not identified as
10 low-performing under G.S. 115C-105.37.

11 ...

12 (f) Program Selection Criteria. – The Authority shall administer the Program in
13 cooperation with ~~five~~ all of the constituent institutions of ~~higher education~~ The University of
14 North Carolina with approved educator preparation ~~programs selected by the programs.~~ The
15 Commission that represent both postsecondary constituent institutions of The University of North
16 Carolina and may also select up to two private postsecondary institutions operating in the State.
17 ~~The Commission shall adopt~~ State to participate in the Program if the institutions meet stringent
18 standards for selection of the most effective educator preparation programs, including the
19 following:

- 20 (1) Demonstrates high rates of educator effectiveness on value-added models and
21 teacher evaluations, including using performance-based, subject-specific
22 assessment and support systems, such as edTPA or other metrics of evaluating
23 candidate effectiveness that have predictive validity.
- 24 (2) Demonstrates measurable impact of prior graduates on student learning,
25 including impact of graduates teaching in STEM or special education
26 licensure areas.
- 27 (3) Demonstrates high rates of graduates passing exams required for teacher
28 licensure.
- 29 (4) Provides curricular and co-curricular enhancements in leadership, facilitates
30 learning for diverse learners, and promotes community engagement,
31 classroom management, and reflection and assessment.
- 32 (5) Requires at least a minor concentration of study in the subject area that the
33 candidate may teach.
- 34 (6) Provides early and frequent internship or practical experiences, including the
35 opportunity for participants to perform practicums in diverse school
36 environments.
- 37 (7) Is approved by the State Board of Education as an educator preparation
38 program.

39 (g) Awards of Forgivable Loans. – The Program shall provide forgivable loans to selected
40 students to be used at the ~~five~~ constituent institutions and any other selected institutions for
41 completion of a program leading to initial teacher licensure as follows:

- 42 (1) North Carolina high school seniors. – Forgivable loans of up to four thousand
43 one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$4,125) per semester for up to eight
44 semesters.
- 45 (2) Students applying for transfer to ~~a selected~~ an educator preparation program
46 at an institution of higher education. – Forgivable loans of up to four thousand
47 one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$4,125) per semester for up to six semesters.
- 48 (3) Individuals currently holding a bachelor's degree seeking preparation for
49 teacher licensure. – Forgivable loans of up to four thousand one hundred
50 twenty-five dollars (\$4,125) per semester for up to four semesters.

1 (4) Students matriculating at institutions of higher education who are changing to
2 ~~enrollment in a selected~~ an approved program of study at an educator
3 preparation program. – Forgivable loans of up to four thousand one hundred
4 twenty-five dollars (\$4,125) per semester for up to four semesters.

5 Forgivable loans may be used for tuition, fees, the cost of books, and expenses related to
6 obtaining licensure.

7 (h) Identification of STEM and Special Education Licensure Areas. – The Superintendent
8 of Public Instruction shall identify and provide to the Commission and the Authority a list of
9 STEM and special education licensure areas and shall annually provide to the Commission the
10 number of available positions in each licensure area relative to the number of current and
11 anticipated teachers in that area of licensure. The Commission shall make the list of STEM and
12 special education licensure areas readily available to applicants.

13 (i) Administration of Forgivable Loan Awards. – Upon the naming of recipients of the
14 forgivable loans by the Commission, the Commission shall transfer to the Authority its decisions.
15 The Authority, in coordination with the Director, shall perform all of the administrative functions
16 necessary to implement this Part, which functions shall include rule making, disseminating
17 information, acting as a liaison with participating institutions of higher education, implementing
18 forgivable loan agreements, loan monitoring, loan cancelling through service and collection,
19 determining the acceptability of service repayment agreements, enforcing the agreements, and
20 all other functions necessary for the execution, payment, and enforcement of promissory notes
21 required under this Part.

22 (j) Annual Report. – The Commission, in coordination with the Authority, the
23 Department of Public Instruction, and the ~~selected~~ educator education programs participating in
24 the Program shall report no later than January 1, 2019, and annually thereafter, to the Joint
25 Legislative Education Oversight Committee regarding the following:

26"

27 **SECTION 3.** Section 1 of this act becomes effective June 30, 2019. Section 2 of this
28 act becomes effective July 1, 2019, and applies to the award of forgivable loans beginning with
29 the 2020-2021 academic year. The remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.