COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 07



JULY 20, 2001

COMMONWEALTH

REGISTER

COMMONWEALTH REGISTER

Volume 23 Number 07 July 20, 2001

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Department of Public Safety



Pedro P. Tenorio Governor

Lesus R Sahlan Lieutenant Governor

NOTICE AND CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION OF AMENDED REGULATIONS

REGARDING SAFETY INSPECTION STATIONS RULES AND Emergency (24 hrs.) 911 REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO LIGHTING AND ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS,

VEHICLE GLAZING AND INSPECTIONS THEREOF **PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 5-22**

(670) 664-9000 Office of the Commissioner

DPS Main Switchboard

Police Division

664-9022

664-9001 Fire Division 564-9003

664-9058

664-9066

Training and Develops 664-9094

ministrative Support 664-9000

664-9120

Rota DPS Tel: (670) 532-9433 Fax: (670) 532-9434

Tinian DPS Tel: (670) 433-9222 Fax: (670) 433-9259

I. Charles W. Ingram, Jr., Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, which is adopting the Rules and Regulations Regarding Safety Inspection Stations Regulations Pursuant to Public Law 5-22, 9 CMC Subsection 3108 (Safety Inspection Division of Correction Stations: Regulations) proposed as "Amended Regulations Regarding Lighting and Electrical Systems, Vehicle Glazing and Inspections Thereof' on June 30, 1989 and Bureau of Motor Vehicle published in the Commonwealth Register Vol. 11 No. 07 on July 15, 1989 at pages 6281 through and including 6297 by signature below hereby certify that as published such Amended Regulations are a true, complete and correct copy of the Regulations Regarding Safety Inspection Stations: previously proposed by the Department of Public which, after expiration of the appropriate time for public comment, have been adopted without Office of Special Programodification. I further request and direct that this Notice and Certification be published in the CNMI Commonwealth Register.

> I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on the 16+h day of July 2001 at Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

> > W. Ingram, Jr., Commissioner Department of Public Safety



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Department of Public Safety



Pedro P. Tenorio Governor

Jesus R. Sablan Lieutenant Governor

NOTICE AND CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS REGARDING THE LICENSING AND OPERATION OF SHOOTING GALLERIES **PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 8-5**

Emergency (24 hrs.) 911

DPS Main Switchboard (670) 664-9000

I. Charles W. Ingram, Jr., Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, Office of the Commission which is adopting the Rules and Regulations Regarding the Licensing and Operation of 664-9022 Shooting Galleries Pursuant to Public Law 8-5 proposed as Regulations on February 12, Police Division 1993 and published in the Commonwealth Register Vol. 15 No. 02 on February 15, 1993 664-9001 at pages 10446 through and including 10471 by signature below hereby certify that as Fire Division published such Regulations are a true, complete and correct copy of the Regulations 664-9003 Regarding the Licensing and Operation of Shooting Galleries, previously proposed by the Division of Correction Department of Public Safety which, after expiration of the appropriate time for public 664-9058 Bureau of Motor Vehicles comment, have been adopted without modification. I further request and direct that this Notice and Certification be published in the CNMI Commonwealth Register.

664-9066

Training and Development 664-9094

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that Administrative Support this declaration was executed on the 12th day of July 2001 at Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Office of Special Programs 664-9120

Rota DPS Tel: (670) 532-9433 Fax: (670) 532-9434

Tinian DPS Tel: (670) 433-9222 Fax: (670) 433-9259

W. Ingram, Jr., Commissioner Department of Public Safety



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE

CALLER BOX 10007 • SAIPAN, MP • 96950

Phone: (670) 664-4750/51 • Fax: (670) 664-4759 • Email: CNMIEAP@gtepacifica.net

July 11, 2001

NOTICE OF EMERGENCY AND ADOPTION OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS FOR FINANCIAL AID FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

EMERGENCY: The Acting Administration of the Scholarship Program finds that under 1 CMC §9104(b) the public interest and welfare requires the adoption of emergency regulations for financial aid for postsecondary education involving CNMI students. The Acting Administrator finds that the public interest and welfare mandates adoption of these emergency regulations upon fewer than thirty (30) days notice, and that these regulations shall become effective immediately after filing with Registrar of Corporations, subject to the approval of the Attorney General and the concurrence of the Governor and shall remain in effect for 120 days.

REASON FOR EMERGENCY: Current Rules and Regulations are not in compliance with the recent passage of P.L. 11-77 limiting awards for the Post secondary Scholarship Act of 1990 (P.L. 7-32). Further more the Attorney General's opinion of June 1999 stating that P.L. 10-58 as amended by P.L. 11-34 applies only to Students in their Junior and Senior years in postsecondary education requires changes in the current regulations governing this program. Also, as a result of reductions in award amounts, and revised grade point average requirements, among other issues, changes are required in the Educational Assistance Program. Since several of these changes are the result of very recent actions by the Legislature and Acting Attorney General, and because the beginning of the school year is very near, students who are enrolling and students who are enrolled in postsecondary education institutions, are in danger of losing their enrollment status or eligibility for enrollment unless financial aid awards can be release in the immediate future. These awards cannot be release until the current regulations are revised. Failure to release the awards will result in significant harm to several hundred CNMI students attending colleges and universities in the CNMI, Guam and in the mainland.

These emergency regulations attached hereto are necessary to immediately adopt the postsecondary financial assistance rules and regulations regarding award amounts, award criteria and selections criteria, grade point average requirements, and related issues.

CONTENTS: These rules and regulations provide for the general operation and administration of postsecondary financial assistance programs in compliance with the appropriate public laws.

INTENT TO ADOPT: these regulations are intended to be permanent pursuant to 1 CMC §9104(a)(1) and (2), and therefore publication in the Commonwealth Registrar, and notice of opportunity for comment will be provided. Comments on the contents of these regulations may be sent to the Acting Administrator, Scholarship Office, Office of the Governor, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950, or by phone to 664-4750, or by facsimile to 664-4759.

AUTHORITY: Promulgation of these regulations is authorized by P.L. 6-13.

Meliza S. Guajardo Acting Administrator Scholarship Office 7 /11/67 Date

Pedro P. Tenørio Governor 7/12/0/ Date

Soledad B. Sasamoto
Registrar of Corporations

7/13/0/ Date

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 2153, as amended by P.L. 10-50, the emergency regulations attached hereto have been reviewed and approved by the Office of the Attorney General.

Herbert D. S. Il Attorney General 7/13/O1 Date



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE

CALLER BOX 10007 • SAIPAN, MP • 96950

Phone: (670) 664-4750/51 • Fax (670) 664-4759 • Email: CNMIEAP@gtepacifica.net

PROPOSED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND SCHOLARSHIP RULES AND REGULATIONS

Citation of

Statutory Authority:

The Scholarship Office proposes to promulgate Rules and

Regulations pursuant to Public Law 7-32 as amended by Public

Law 11-77, Public 10-58 as amended by Public Law 11-34 and the

Educational Assistance Program.

Short Statement of Goals

and Objectives:

The proposed Rules and Regulations are promulgated to

implement the Teacher Scholarship Act P.L. 10-58 as amended; the

Postsecondary Scholarship Act. of 1990, P.L. 7-32 as amended; and

the Educational Assistance Program.

Brief Summary of the

Proposed Regulation: Provides clear guidelines and criteria to applicants for postsecond-

ary education financial assistance and scholarship assistance from

the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Government.

For Further

Information Contact:

Meliza S. Guajardo, Acting Scholarship Director, telephone number

664-4750, or fax no. 664-4764.

Citation of Related and/or Affected

Statuses, Regulations,

and orders:

P.L. 7-32 now codified at 3 CMC Section 1341; P.L. 11-77; P.L.

10-58; P.L. 11-34 and Executive Order 94-3, Sec. 211.

Submitted by:

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

1. PURPOSE

The Scholarship Advisory Board hereby establishes an Educational Assistance Program (EAP) for the purpose of assisting, through locally funded grants, eligible resident of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) who desire to pursue a postsecondary studies from within or outside of the Commonwealth.

2. DEFINITION FOR IMPLEMENTING EAP RULES AND REGULATIONS

- A. "PERMANENT RESIDENT": A person who resided in the Commonwealth continuously for the past two (2) years preceding the award and who intends to continue doing so indefinitely.
- B. GRANTS: Financial assistance awarded for the purpose of post-secondary
- C. INCENTIVE AWARD: An additional award awarded to undergraduate students majoring in areas considered "priority majors". Priority Majors are areas of studies determined to be essential to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Scholarship Advisory Board may change priority majors based on the need of the Commonwealth.
- D. REMEDIAL PREPARATORY COURSES: Courses that are below college level courses. Recipient who are solely taking remedial preparatory courses are not eligible for incentive award.
- E. FULLTIME STATUS: Fulltime status for undergraduate is 12 credits per semester or term. Fulltime status for graduate program will be determined on the Institutions definition of a graduate program per semester/term. Courses that are repeated are not counted towards fulfillment of a fulltime status.
- F. CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL: A school that teaches nonresident students by mailing them lessons and exercises, which upon completion are returned to the school for grading.
- G. ON-LINE COURSES: Courses available through a computer telecommunication systems.
- H. EQUIVALENT: Equivalent of a High School Graduation is a General Education Development (GED) or other similar evidence of successful completion of education at a 12th grade level.

3. SCHOLARSHIP ADVISORY BOARD

The Scholarship Advisory Board is created under Executive Order 94-3 Sec. 211. Members are appointed by the Governor. The Board members serve on a voluntary basis without compensation. The duties and responsibilities of the Board are:

A. To review and submit to the Governor recommendations pertaining to scholarship awards and incentive awards.

PROPOSED Rules & Regulation Educational Assistance Program Page 1 of 7

- B. To review and submit determination on cases which have been appealed by students to the Scholarship Office and to the Governor.
- C. To advise/assist the Scholarship Administrator on Rules and Regulation and matters concerning student's financial assistance and budgetary allocation.

4. FUNDING FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EAP)

Funding for Educational Assistance Program is from the scholarship funds appropriated by the legislature on a fiscal year basis. The level of funding, if any, is contingent on the balance of funds available after all statutory scholarship programs have been paid. Because circumstances vary from year to year, and EAP award for one year is no assurance of the same assistance in subsequent years. Thus, there may be variations in the amount of assistance offered to a student from one year to the next because of changes in the availability of funds appropriated by the legislature or the number or amount of statutory scholarships awarded.

5. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR EAP

TO RECEIVE EAP, A STUDENT MUST:

- A. Be accepted and enrolled fulltime in an accredited college or institution.
- B. Be a United States Citizen.
- C. Be a permanent resident of the Commonwealth.
- D. Maintain a satisfactory progress in a course study according to the standards established by the Scholarship Office.
- E. Have a high school diploma or equivalent.

6. NEW APPLICANTS

- A. An Application Form must be completed and signed; and,
- B. The most recent sealed official transcript from high school or post secondary institution must be mailed directly from the institution to the Scholarship Office. A transcript faxed directly from the Institutions Records Office may be accepted as an unofficial transcript until such time the original is received, as required; and,
- C. A letter of acceptance from institution as proof of admission for new students; and,
- D. Documents to meet requirements of citizenship and residency, and any other document as required; (Original Passport or Original Birth Certificate and CNMI annual Tax Return, Drivers License, CNMI Affidavit Card or other documents as appropriate).

7. CONTINIUING STUDENTS

- A. A Renewal Application Form must be completed and signed; and,
- B. A most recent sealed official transcript from post secondary institution must be mailed directly from the institution to the Scholarship Office. A transcript faxed

PROPOSED Rules & Regulation Educational Assistance Program Page 2 of 7 directly from the Institutions Records Office may be accepted as an unofficial transcript until such time the original is received, as required; and

C. A letter of acceptance from institution as proof of admission for transferring students.

8. RETURNING STUDENTS

A student who did not receive Financial Assistance from the Scholarship Office for a period of one year as a result of ineligibility and/or break in attendance is considered a returnee and must provide the following:

- A. An Application Form must be completed and signed; and,
- B. A letter of re-acceptance from the institution for those took a break in enrollment, or a letter of acceptance into the institution for transferring students.
- C. A most recent sealed official transcript post-secondary institution must be mailed directly from the institution to the Scholarship Office. A transcript faxed directly from the Institutions Records Office may be accepted as an unofficial transcript until such time the original is received, as required; and
- D. Documents to meet requirements of citizenship and residency, and any other document as required; (Original Passport or Original Birth Certificate and CNMI annual Tax Return, Drivers License, CNMI Affidavit Card or other documents as appropriate).

9. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Upon award of EAP, the Applicant must complete and sign the Memorandum of Agreement to return to the Commonwealth and other Terms and Conditions established by Law or these Rules and Regulations by the Scholarship Office.

10. TIME TO RETURN

A recipient must return to the CNMI within three (3) months after his/her completion or having ceased his/her educational pursuit.

11. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT FOR INCENTIVE PROGRAM

To be considered for an incentive in addition to EAP, an undergraduate student must meet all the following criteria's

- A. Must meet all of the EAP requirement.
- B. Must declare a major, which is in the priority majors as approved by the Scholarship Advisory Board.

PROPOSED Rules & Regulation Educational Assistance Program Page 3 of 7

- C. Must submit a certified copy of acceptance into the priority major program from the Respective Department, and
- D. Must have a cumulative GPA of 2.25.

NOTE: Incentive Program is contingent upon availability of funds. Recipients who are solely taking remedial preparatory courses are not eligible for incentive award.

12. APPLICATION DEADLINE

It is the student's responsibility to obtain and fill all the forms by the established deadline in order to be considered for EAP. A completed APPLICATION must be received or post-marked by: July 1st for Fall Semester/Quarter; December 15th for Winter/Spring Semester/Quarter.

NOTE: If the deadline falls on a weekend or a holiday, the deadline will be the next working day.

13. SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP)

A student is qualified to receive EAP only if SAP is being maintained. SAP for EAP and incentive for credit students is defined as:

- A. Completion of the minimum number of units for full-time students (twelve credit hours). Courses that are repeated are not counted towards fulfillment of a fulltime status; and,
- B. Maintaining the following cumulative grade point average (GPA):

Undergraduate

2.25

Graduate and Professional

as required by the institution to

remain enrolled.

C. Exceptions: New Incoming Freshmen & Post-secondary student First-Time Recipient

An applicant who is an incoming freshman or a first-time recipient of EAP funds who will be attending a post-secondary institution will be considered for financial assistance even if his/her cumulative GPA is below the 2.25 cumulative GPA requirement. In order to continue in the EAP program the applicant has one semester to raise his/her cumulative GPA to the cumulative GPA requirement of 2.25.

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14. STUDENTS WHO EITHER DROP OR WITHDRAW FROM CLASSES

- A. Students who accepted funds and either drop or withdraw will be suspended. EAP recipients who do not maintain SAP will be placed on suspension and are disqualified from further participation in the EAP unless and until they meet the requirements for reinstatement as set forth herein.
- B. Recipients of EAP who fail to maintain the required cumulative GPA and/or fail to maintain a full-time enrollment status during each term shall not be eligible for EAP until he/she fulfills the requirements of the award given. Courses that are repeated are not counted towards fulfillment of a fulltime status.
- C. Students on suspension may be reinstated upon meeting the required cumulative GPA and completing hours lacking from previous term awarded.
- D. Summer sessions are governed by the same SAP standards as Fall, Winter, or Spring semesters/quarters. Students may use summer course work to makeup hours and/or cumulative GPA deficiency from the previous semester/quarter preceding the summer session to restore them to good standing. Summer course work must be part of the student's declared academic field of study. Summer session is an option for students to enroll, however the Scholarship Office will not fund for summer session.

15. DURATION OF AWARD

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

- A. Two and half (2 ½) academic years for undergraduate programs leading toward an associate's degree.
- B. Four and a half (4 1/2) academic years for undergraduate programs leading toward a bachelor's degree. A maximum of five (5) years is allowed for completion of specialized majors, as required by the Institution.
- C. EAP Assistance provided for Certificate and Associate's Degree will be included when determining the duration for award for a Bachelor's degree program.
- D. Remedial preparatory courses or non-credit courses for first year students required by the institution may be eligible for financial assistance for one (1) quarter/semester. However this does not exempt the recipient in completing the program within the established duration period.
- E. All programs that the Scholarship Office administers will be considered towards the duration of award.

GRADUATE DEGREES

- F. Two (2) academic years for graduate level students, leading to a masters degree or Registry and Licensure.
- G. Three (3) academic years for a Juris Doctor Degree.
- H. Six and half (6 ½) academic years for advance degree directly providing health care (not Administrative), e.g. MD, DDS, DO which generally require additional

PROPOSED Rules & Regulation Educational Assistance Program Page 5 of 7

- years of study as specified in the catalog in force at the time the student is enrolled.
- I. NO EAP will be awarded once a recipient has completed a "level of education" EAP grants will then only be awarded for the next level of education.
- J. EAP and incentive awards will not be granted to fund Religious Studies or advanced non-health care degree programs.
- K. EAP will not be granted to students attending Correspondence School.
- L. On-line programs will be determined on a case-by-case basis. However, On-line programs must be taken within the CNMI.

16. FRAUDULENT INFORMATION

All documents received by the Scholarship Office are subject to verification from the Institution and sources from which it came. The applicant is individually responsible for the integrity of these documents. Recipients and/or their authorized representative who submit documents that are false or tampered with in any way will result in the recipients' immediate and permanent removal from any the Scholarship program administered by the Scholarship Office. Documents include but not limited to application, supporting documents, grade reports, transcript, letters of reference or letters or recommendation, etc.

17. AGREEMENT OF GRANTS AND/OR INCENTIVE

- A. In recognition of the scarcity of trained manpower in the Commonwealth all recipients of grants and/or incentives are required to return to the CNMI three (3) months after completion of their educational degree to work in the Commonwealth.
- B. Recipients, who after a good-faith effort are unsuccessful in finding employment in the Commonwealth within the time given, may request, in writing an extension of time to secure employment in the Commonwealth. Documentation justifying non-employment must accompany the request for an extension.
- C. Recipients who do not comply with the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) will be subjected to repay the total amount of grants and/or incentives awarded. The amount may either be repaid in full or in installments as determined by the Scholarship Office and the Board.
- D. Legal proceedings will be taken to recover the total amount of EAP awarded should a recipient fail to return to the CNMI within three (3) months after receipt of his/her degree or the conclusion of his/her educational pursuit. The recipient shall pay all legal expenses incurred by the government in the effort to recover EAP and/or incentive awards.
- E. No penalty shall be imposed on a recipient who decides to return to the CNMI and find employment in the CNMI before the completion of study and the

PROPOSED Rules & Regulation Educational Assistance Program Page 6 of 7 appropriate cancellation rates shall be applied. However, should the individual decides to return to school, applies, and is awarded a grant and/or incentive the cancellation shall cease immediately and shall be added toward the new EAP.

18. APPEALS

- A. A recipient who is denied EAP has the right to appeal a decision of the Scholarship Office to the Scholarship Advisory Board. Any applicant or recipient may also appeal a decision by the Scholarship Administrator.
- B. Appeals must be in writing addressed to the Chairperson of the Scholarship Advisory Board. All Appeals on the actions of the Scholarship Administrator shall initially be to the Scholarship Advisory Board
- C. The Appeal must be postmarked or hand-delivered no later than twenty-one (21) calendar days after notification of the decision by the Scholarship Administrator. Notification if mailed shall be given via certified mail, return receipt requested.
- D. The appeal to the Scholarship Advisory Board shall be heard and decided pursuant to applicable CNMI law, including, but not limited to, the CNMI Administrative Procedure Act, 1 CMC Section 9101 et. sec.
- E. All Decisions by Scholarship Advisory Board on Appeals are final regarding the administrative review process.

14. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Rules and Regulation shall take effect Fall 2001 semester/quarter.

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE PUBLIC LAW 7-32 AS AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 11-77

PURPOSE

Pursuant to P.L. 7-32, now codified at 1 CMC Section 1341 et seq. of the Commonwealth Code, as amended by P.L. 11-77, scholarships are to be awarded to ten graduating high school students for the purposes of pursuing post secondary education at an accredited US Institutions in and outside the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island. These Rules and Regulations are to implement the scholarship program.

1. DEFINITIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING PUBLIC LAW 7-32 AS AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 11-77 SCHOLARSHIP.

- 1.1. TERM GRADE POINT AVERAGE: Grade Point Average for particular enrollment period ending. The recipient must have a 3.50 GPA on a 4.00 scale on either term or cumulative.
- 1.2. CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE: The Grade Point Average for all terms combined. The recipient must have a 3.50 GPA on a 4.00 scale on either term or cumulatively.
- 1.3. FULLTIME STATUS: Twelve (12) credits per enrollment period. Courses that are repeated are not counted towards fulfillment of a fulltime status.
- 1.4. PROBATION: A condition placed on a student who fails to comply with the statutory requirement or in any of the Rules and Regulation promulgated by the Scholarship Office.
- 1.5. TERMINATION: Discontinued from the program.

2. APPLICATION

2.1. All Applications and required documents must be received by the Scholarship Office, Office of the Governor, on or before June 30th of the year for which the scholarship is to be commenced.

NOTE: If the Deadline falls on a weekend or a holiday, deadline will be the next working day.

- 2.2. The required documents include, but are not limited to: a) an official high school transcript, inclusive of the last quarter's 12th grade; b) a letter of acceptance from an accredited college or university; c) proof of compliance with statutory requirements, as demonstrated by, but not limited to, documents such as a U.S. passport, parents' tax forms, CNMI voter registration, or other similar documents deemed acceptable or appropriate by the Scholarship Advisory Board.
- 2.3. On-going recipients must submit the appropriate documentations necessary to maintain their scholarship at the beginning of each academic year.

3. SELECTION CRITERIA

PROPOSED Rules and Regulation
Public Law 7-32 as amended by Public Law 11-77 Scholarship
Page 1 of 4

- 3.1. The Scholarship Advisory Board shall meet after July 15th for the purposes of selection the scholarship recipients.
- 3.2. The Scholarship Advisory Board shall evaluate the applicants using the criteria established by law.

4. SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

- 4.1. Either the actual cost of the scholarship benefits as established by Pl. 7-32, §3 (3 CMC §1342(a)) or the amount of Fifteen Thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) which ever is less, will be awarded to each recipient for each academic year.
- 4.2. A maximum of Seven Thousand five hundred (\$7,500) per semester and Five Thousand dollars (\$5,000) per trimester or Three Thousand seven hundred fifty (\$3750.00) per quarter will be paid to the recipient.
- 4.3. If a recipient either drops out of school or is terminated by the school, all scholarship privileges will be terminated immediately.

5. SCHOLARSHIP MAINTENANCE AND CONDITIONS

- 5.1. The recipient may continue to receive full scholarship no more than five (5) academic years, as long as he/she maintains the required GPA of 3.50 on a 4.00 scale on either term or cumulatively.
- 5.2. The recipient must submit a certified copy of the Institutions' Cost of Attendance each academic year. If the recipient fails to submit the Institutions' Cost of Attendance all scholarship privileges will be deferred until the Scholarship Office receives this document.
- 5.3. The recipient must enroll and maintain a full-time status each enrollment period.
- 5.4. At the end of each enrollment period the recipient must provide the Scholarship Office with a copy of his/her grade report for the enrollment period ending. At the end of each academic year the student must provide the Scholarship Office with an official sealed transcript. If the recipient fails to submit the official transcript or the grade report all scholarship privileges will be deferred until the Scholarship Office receives such document(s).
- 5.5. The recipient must sign and have notarized a Memorandum of Agreement approved by the Scholarship Advisory Board for each academic year in order to receive scholarship benefits. This Memorandum of Agreement shall set forth the terms and conditions pursuant to which scholarship benefits will be granted to the receipt. Each Agreement must be notarized and returned to the Scholarship Office before the recipient will receive any scholarship benefits.
- 5.6. A recipient who is enrolled in a two-year institution must have prior approval from the Scholarship Office prior to enrolling in any two-year institution for a third (3rd) academic year.
- 5.7. All scholarship recipients must declare their field of study before the beginning of their second year in college. The Scholarship Office will hold awards until this information is received in writing, via fax, or email or via an appropriate mail service to the following address:

Scholarship Office Office of the Governor Caller Box 10007 Saipan, MP 96950

Facsimile: 670-664-4759 Email Address: cnmischolarship.com

5.8. All scholarship recipients must advise the Scholarship Office of both their school and CNMI address each time there is a change.

6. PROBATION AND TERMINATION

- 6.1. The recipient must maintain a fulltime status and have a GPA of 3.50 on a 4.0 scale on either term or cumulatively. If the recipient fails to maintain a GPA of 3.50 term or cumulative, or if the number of credit hours drop below that of a full-time students at the end to each enrollment period or the students fails to comply with the statutory requirements and the Memorandum of Agreement, the student will be placed on probation for the following enrollment period.
- 6.2. Scholarship benefits will be awarded during the probation period. However, in order to continue in the scholarship program the student must makeup the credits lacking while also maintaining the full-time (12 credits) status and by the end of the probationary enrollment period must meet the minimum GPA requirement and be in compliance with the statutory requirement and the Memorandum of Agreement.
- 6.3. If the student does not meet the required GPA or does not complete the credits lacking in addition to the full-time status or is not in compliance with the statutory requirement and the Memorandum of Agreement during the probationary enrollment period, the scholarship benefits will terminate immediately, and the recipient will not be allowed any further participation in the program.

7. TRANSFER OR CHANGE OF FIELD OF STUDY

7.1. Permission must first be obtained from the Scholarship Administrator if a recipient wants to transfer to another institution or change his/her field of study. A request shall be in writing and, if the request is to another institution, an acceptance letter from the institution to which a student is transferring must be submitted with the request for an approval of transfer.

8. REPAYMENT

- 8.1. All recipients of such scholarship are required to return to the CNMI no later than three (3) months after completion of their degree program.
- 8.2. Recipient, who fails to complete his/her educational degree program, will be required to repay the amount of scholarship awarded. The amount may either be

PROPOSED Rules and Regulation Public Law 7-32 as amended by Public Law 11-77 Scholarship Page 3 of 4

- repaid in full or in installments as determined by the Scholarship Office and the Board.
- 8.3. Legal proceedings will be taken to recover the total amount of scholarships awarded in order to enforce the requirements provided in §8.1 and 8.2 above. The recipient shall also pay all legal expenses and fees incurred by the government in the effort to recover scholarship awards.
- 8.4. No penalty shall be imposed on a recipient who obtain their baccalaureate degree and decides to enter a post-graduate Degree Program. The repayment or cancellation of such scholarship will be deferred until the student obtains of their post-graduate degree whether or not the student is receiving scholarship funds. However, should the student cease his/her post-graduate program, he/she must return to the CNMI within three (3) months to commence work. Failure to return will result in the student being required to repay all scholarship awards previously received.

9. FRAUDULENT INFORMATION

9.1 All documents received by the Scholarship Office are subject to verification from the Institution and sources from which it came. The applicant and his or her family or authorized representative are individually responsible for the integrity of these documents. Recipients and the authorized representative who submit documents that are false or tampered with in any way will result in the recipients' immediate and permanent removal from any the Scholarship program administered by the Scholarship Office. Documents include but not limited to application, supporting documents, grade reports, transcript, etc.

10. APPEALS

- 10.1 A recipient who is denied P.L. 7-32 as amended by P.L. 11-77 has the right to appeal to the Scholarship Advisory Board.
- 10.2 Recipient may appeal a decision by the Scholarship Administrator. The appeal must be in writing addressed to the Chairperson of the Scholarship Advisory Board.
- 10.3 The appeal must be postmarked or hand-delivered no later than twenty-one (21) calendar days after notification of the decision by the Scholarship Administrator. If notification is via mail it shall be given via a certified mail, return receipt requested.
- 10.4 The appeal to the Scholarship Board shall be heard and decided pursuant to applicable CNMI law, including, but not limited to, the CNMI Administrative Procedure Act, 1 CMC Section 9101 et. seg.
- 10.5 All decisions by Scholarship Advisory Board on appeals are final regarding the administrative review process.

11. EFFECTIVE DATE

11.1 This Rules and Regulation shall take effect Fall 2001 semester/quarter.

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RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE PUBLIC LAW 10-58 AS AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 11-34

PURPOSE

The Rules and Regulations are to implement Public Law 10-58, as amended by Public Law 11-34, a law to establish a Post Secondary Teacher Education Program (PSTEP).

1. DEFINITIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING PUBLIC LAW 10-58 AS AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 11-34

- 1.1 CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA): The Grade Point Average for all terms combined.
- 1.2 FULLTIME STATUS: Twelve (12) credits per semester/term/quarter. Courses that are repeated are not counted towards maintaining a fulltime status.
- 1.3 PROBATION: A condition placed on a student who fails to comply with the statutory requirement or any of the Rules and Regulation promulgated by the Scholarship Office.
- 1.4 TERMINATION: Discontinued from the program.

2. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

2.1 Applications must be received or postmarked on or before July 1st for fall semester/quarter or December 15th for winter/spring quarter/semester for which the scholarship is to award.

NOTE: If the deadline falls on a weekend or a holiday, deadline will be the next working day.

- 2.2 The required documents to be submitted with the Application include but are not limited to: A) an official sealed transcript from the institution B) a letter of acceptance from an accredited college or university; C) A Certification letter from the institution stating the institutions Education Program Accreditation status and accrediting agency, D) Certification letter stating acceptance into an Accredited Teacher Training Program and student class status and E) proof of compliance with statutory requirements as demonstrated by, but not limited to, documents such as a US passport, parent's tax forms, or other similar documents deemed acceptable or appropriate by the Scholarship Office.
- 2.3 Once accepted, recipients must continue to submit the appropriate information and documentation necessary to maintain their scholarship as required by the Scholarship Office.

3. ELIGIBILITY

In addition to meeting all statutory requirements an applicant must meet the following criteria to be eligible:

- 3.1 A scholarship awarded to undergraduate students enrolled in an accredited teacher-training program will commence at the beginning of the students' junior year in college/university.
- 3.2 For the purpose of these Rules and Regulations, students are defined as PSTEP recipients who either meet the criteria of Sections 3 paragraph 3.1 above, have obtained their undergraduate, baccalaureate degree and their teacher education certificate or similar teaching credentials and immediately after completion of their baccalaureate program pursue a Masters Degree in Education. A PSTEP scholarship award will be granted to one seeking an advanced degree in Education only for a period, which is provided by law.
- 3.3 The recipient must sign and have notarized a Memorandum of Agreement approved by the Scholarship Advisory Board for each academic year in order to receive scholarship benefits. This Memorandum of Agreement shall set forth the terms and conditions pursuant to which scholarship benefits will be awarded to the recipient. Each Memorandum of Agreement must be notarized and returned to the Scholarship Office before the recipient will receive any scholarship benefits.

4. **DURATION OF ELIGIBILITY**

4.1 Unless otherwise provided by law, applicants are allowed to benefit from the PSTEP program for a period of up to four (4) years. The Scholarship Administrator will determine when the applicant will be eligible based on Sections 3 of the Rules and Regulations. Students graduating from the program should be qualified to be classroom teachers. Thus, the 4-year scholarship period allowed by law may also include teacher certification programs and/or other internship necessary to acquire the highest standard of credential and certification to be professional teacher.

5. PERSONS ELIGIBLE

- 5.1 Initial eligibility for the PSTEP program shall be as provided by law.
- 5.2 Persons on educational or government administrative leave with or without pay are eligible to receive benefits under this program.

6. MINIMUM SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT

6.1 Undergraduate Recipients who initially qualify under this program must, as provided by law, remain and continue as a full time student without interruption or break during the 4-year period in order to continue benefiting from the program. A transfer or change of college or university

PROPOSED Rules and Regulation Public Law 10-58 as amended by Public Law 11-34 Page 2 of 5 may be allowed provided that the transfer is completed without interruption of a session or semester.

7. AMOUNT AND DISTRIBUTION OF AWARDS

7.1 Changes in the annual appropriation level funding this program and/or the number of participants in the program will determine the level of awards to each participant in the PSTEP. All awards will be consistent with the provisions of applicable CNMI Law. Recipients will be advised of the changes in award levels necessitated by either an increase or decrease in funding and/or an increase or decrease in the number of participants in the PSTEP.

8. PROBATION AND TERMINATION

- 8.1 The recipient must maintain a fulltime status and have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale to continue in the PSTEP program. If the recipient fails to maintain the required cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale or if the number of credits hours drop below that of a full-time student, fails to comply with the statutory requirement and all terms and condition of the Memorandum of Agreement the student will be placed on probation for one following enrollment period.
- 8.2 Scholarship benefits will be awarded during probationary period. However, in order to continue in the scholarship program the student must make-up the credits lacking while also maintaining the full-time (12 credits) status and by the end of the probationary enrollment period must meet the minimum cumulative GPA and be in compliance with the statutory requirement and the Memorandum of Agreement.

If the student does not meet the required cumulative GPA or does not complete the credits lacking with the full-time status or is not in compliance with the statutory requirement and the Memorandum of Agreement during the probationary enrollment period, the scholarship benefit will be terminated immediately, and the recipient will not be allowed any further participation in the PSTEP.

9. REPAYMENT

- 9.1 All recipients of such scholarship are required to return to the CNMI no later than three (3) months after completion of their degree program.
- 9.2 Recipient, who fails to complete his/her educational degree program, will be required to repay the amount of scholarship awarded. The amount may either be repaid in full or in installments as determined by the Scholarship Office and the Board.

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- 9.3 Legal proceedings will be taken to recover the total amount of scholarships awarded in order to enforce the requirements provided in §9.1 and 9.2 above. The recipient shall also pay all legal expenses and fees incurred by the government in the effort to recover scholarship awards.
- 9.4 No penalty shall be imposed on a recipient who obtain their baccalaureate degree and decides to enter a post-graduate Teacher Training Program. The repayment or cancellation of such scholarship will be deferred until the student obtains of their postgraduate degree whether or not the student is receiving PSTEP scholarship funds. However, should the student cease his/her post-graduate program, he/she must return to the CNMI within three (3) months to commence work. Failure to return will result in the student being required to repay all scholarship awards previously received.

10. FRAUDULENT INFORMATION

10.1 All documents received by the Scholarship Office are subject to verification from the Institution and sources from which it came. The applicant and his or her family or authorized representative are individually responsible for the integrity of these documents. Recipients and the authorized representative who submit documents that are false or tampered with in any way will result in the recipients' immediate and permanent removal from any the Scholarship program administered by the Scholarship Office. Documents include but not limited to application, supporting documents, grade reports, transcript, etc.

11. APPEALS

- 11.1 A recipient who is denied PSTEP funds has the right to appeal to the Scholarship Advisory Board. .
- 11.2 Recipient may appeal a decision by the Scholarship Administrator. The appeal must be in writing addressed to the Chairperson of the Scholarship Advisory Board.
- 11.3 The appeal must be postmarked or hand-delivered no later than twenty-one (21) calendar days after notification of the decision by the Scholarship Administrator. If notification is via mail it shall be given via a certified mail, return receipt requested.
- 11.4 The appeal to the Scholarship Advisory Board shall be heard and decided pursuant to applicable CNMI law, including, but not limited to, the CNMI Administrative Procedure Act, 1 CMC Section 9101 et. seg.
- 11.5 All decisions by Scholarship Advisory Board on appeals are final regarding the administrative review process.

12. EFFECTIVE AND EXPIRATION DATES

Public Law 10-58 was signed into law May 15, 1997. The implementation of the program commenced on August 1997, (Fall Semester 1997). As provided by Section 4 of Public Law 11-34, the Program will expire six years after it became effective on September 4, 1998. Therefore, unless this program is renewed or extended by the legislature, scholarship funds enrolled in the PSTEP for those may not be available on or after September 4, 2004. Funding for the PSTEP is part of the scholarship budget appropriated by the Legislature on an annual basis. The PSTEP program will continue only if subsequently funded by the CNMI Legislature after September 4, 2004.