

CHAPTER 22. GRANT AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

SUBCHAPTER P. EXEMPTION PROGRAM FOR CLINICAL PRECEPTORS
AND THEIR CHILDREN

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22.302. Authority and Purpose.

(a) Authority. Authority for this subchapter is provided in the Texas Education Code, Section 54.356 (previously 54.222), Preceptors for Professional Nursing Education Programs. These rules establish procedures to administer this exemption program.

(b) Purpose. The purpose of this program is to provide partial exemptions from the payment of tuition to eligible persons employed as clinical preceptors and to their children in order to encourage the preceptors to continue their employment and induce others to seek such employment in the state of Texas.

22.303. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

(1) Board – the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

(2) Child – a child 25 years of age or younger, including an adopted child.

(3) Clinical preceptor or preceptor – a registered nurse or other license health professional who meets the requirements below, not paid as a faculty member by the governing board of an institution of higher education, but who directly supervises a nursing student's clinical learning experience in a manner prescribed by a signed written agreement between the educational institution, preceptor and affiliating agency. A clinical preceptor has the following qualifications:

(A) competence in designated areas of practice,

(B) a philosophy of health care congruent with that of the nursing program,

(C) current licensure or privilege as a registered nurse in the State of

Texas, and

(D) if not a registered nurse, holds a current license in Texas as a health care professional with a minimum of a bachelor's degree in that field.

(4) Commissioner – the Commissioner of Higher Education, the Chief Executive Officer of the Board.

(5) Institution of Higher Education or Institution – any public technical institute, public junior college, public senior college or university, medical or dental unit or other agency of higher education as defined in Texas Education Code, Section 61.003(8).

(6) Program – the Exemption Program for Clinical Preceptors and Their Children.

(7) Resident of Texas – a resident of the State of Texas as determined in accordance with Chapter 21, Subchapter B of this title (relating to Determination of Resident Status). Nonresident students who are eligible to pay resident tuition rates are not residents of Texas.

(8) Tuition – includes statutory tuition, designated tuition and Board-authorized tuition.

(9) Undergraduate professional nursing program – a public educational program for preparing students for initial licensure as registered nurses.

22.304. Tuition Exemption.

Each institution of higher education shall exempt all eligible persons from the payment of up to \$500 of tuition per term or semester.

22.305. Eligible Preceptors.

To receive an exemption under this program, a preceptor must:

(1) be a resident of Texas,

(2) be a registered nurse,

(3) serve, on an average, at least one day per week under a written preceptor agreement with an undergraduate professional nursing program as a clinical preceptor for students enrolled in the program for:

(A) the time period the program conducts clinicals during the semester or other academic term for which the exemption is sought; or

(B) the time period the program conducts clinicals during a semester or other academic term that ended less than one year prior to the beginning of the semester or term in which the exemption is to be used; and

(4) have a statement on file with the institution of higher education indicating the student is registered with the Selective Service System as required by federal law or is exempt from Selective Service registration under federal law.

22.306. Eligible Children.

To receive an exemption under this program, a child must:

- (1) be a resident of Texas;
- (2) be the child of a clinical preceptor as described in Subsection 22.305 (1) - (3) of this title (relating to Eligible Preceptors) whether or not the preceptor is receiving or has received an exemption based on the same period of service;
- (3) be enrolled as an undergraduate student; and
- (4) have a statement on file with the institution of higher education indicating the student is registered with the Selective Service System as required by federal law or is exempt from Selective Service registration under federal law.

22.307. Discontinuation of Eligibility.

(a) A person who is otherwise eligible for the program under Section 22.306 of this title (regarding Eligible Children) shall be considered ineligible if the person has:

- (1) previously received exemptions under this subchapter for 10 semesters or summer sessions at any institution or institutions of higher education, or
- (2) received a baccalaureate degree.

(b) For the purposes of this program, a summer session that is less than nine weeks in duration is considered one-half of a summer session.

22.308. Value of the Exemption.

The value of an exemption granted under this program is equal to \$500 or the student's tuition, whichever is less.

22.309. Application Process.

To apply for an exemption under this program, a student shall complete the Clinical Preceptor Exemption Application, developed by the Board and distributed and processed by participating institutions.