

283—25.3 (261) Eligibility requirements.

25.3(1) The commission will annually determine and communicate the number of physician assistant and advanced registered nurse practitioner recommendations that can be funded at each eligible university. The intent of this determination will be to ensure that an equal number of students in each program at eligible universities are able to enter into an agreement. Priority will be given to applicants who are Iowa residents upon enrolling in the eligible university. The criteria used by the state board of regents to determine residency for tuition purposes, Iowa Administrative Code rule 681—1.4(262), are adopted for this program. If fewer than the maximum number of physician assistants or advanced registered nurse practitioners are recommended at an eligible university, the commission may obtain additional recommendations from the other eligible universities to award the remaining agreements.

25.3(2) An applicant must enter into an agreement with the commission during the applicant's final year of study leading to eligibility for licensure as an advanced registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant.

25.3(3) An applicant must be enrolled on a full-time basis and graduate from an eligible university with a graduate-level credential that qualifies the applicant to work as a physician assistant or advanced registered nurse practitioner. The commission may waive the full-time enrollment requirement for a temporary time frame only in the instance of a leave of absence approved by an eligible university. The applicant must request a waiver from the commission in writing.

25.3(4) Within nine months of graduating from an eligible university, an applicant must receive a permanent license to practice nursing or to work as a physician assistant in the state of Iowa and engage in full-time practice, as defined by the service commitment area, as an advanced registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant for a period of five consecutive years in a service commitment area.

25.3(5) An applicant must annually complete and return to the commission an affidavit of completion of the employment obligation in a service commitment area.

25.3(6) Prior to or upon engagement in full-time employment in a service commitment area, the advanced registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant must contract with the service commitment area to provide a nonrefundable \$2,000 contribution for deposit in the rural Iowa advanced registered nurse practitioner and physician assistant trust fund. Payment must be received by the commission from the service commitment area prior to payment of any loan repayment awards to the advanced registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant.

25.3(7) Failure by the applicant to meet all eligibility requirements under these rules and in the agreement will result in forfeiture of all remaining unpaid payments.