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Notice of Rulemaking Hearing

Hearings will be conducted in the manner prescribed by the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, T.C.A. § 4-5-204. For questions and copies of the notice, contact the person listed below.

Agency/Board/Commission:	State Board of Education
Division:	N/A
Contact Person:	Angie Sanders
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Any Individuals with disabilities who wish to participate in these proceedings (to review these filings) and may require aid to facilitate such participation should contact the following at least 10 days prior to the hearing:

ADA Contact:	Angie Sanders
Address:	500 James Robertson Parkway, 5 th Floor, Nashville, TN 37243
Phone:	615 741-2966
Email:	Angela.C.Sanders@tn.gov

Hearing Location(s) (for additional locations, copy and paste table)

Address 1:	500 James Robertson Parkway		
Address 2:	Davy Crockett Building, Conference Room 1C, 1 st Floor		
City:	Nashville, TN		
Zip:	37243		
Hearing Date :	12/20/2019		
Hearing Time:	11:00 am	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CST/CDT	<input type="checkbox"/> EST/EDT

Additional Hearing Information:

Please bring identification so that you may be checked into the building by security.

Revision Type (check all that apply):

- Amendment
- New
- Repeal

Rule(s) (ALL chapters and rules contained in filing must be listed. If needed, copy and paste additional tables to accommodate more than one chapter. Please enter only **ONE** Rule Number/Rule Title per row.)

Chapter Number	Chapter Title
0520-02-05	Occupational Educator Scholarship Program
Rule Number	Rule Title
0520-02-05-.01	Purpose
0520-02-05-.02	Definitions

Rule Number	Rule Title
0520-02-05-.03	Eligibility
0520-02-05-.04	Application and Selection
0520-02-05-.05	Terms of Scholarship

**RULES
OF
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
CHAPTER 0520-02-05
OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

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0520-02-05-.01 PURPOSE.

The purpose of these rules is to effectuate the Occupational Educator Scholarship Program as required by T.C.A. § 49-11-102. The program provides a scholarship for prospective educators seeking a Tennessee occupational teaching license.

Authority: T.C.A. § 49-1-302 and 49-11-102. **Administrative History:**

0520-02-05-.02 DEFINITIONS.

- (1) "Candidate" means an individual seeking a Tennessee occupational teaching license and enrolled in an eligible educator preparation program.
- (2) "Distressed rural county" means any county that qualifies as an "eligible county" under T.C.A. § 67-6-104(b)(3)(B).
- (3) "EPP" means an educator preparation provider that is approved by the State Board of Education for the preparation of educators.
- (4) "Full-time teaching service" means a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the recipient's weekly workload is devoted to teaching, exclusive of administrative, teaching assistance, after-school programs, counseling, or other assigned duties.
- (5) "Good standing" means a satisfactory standard of progress toward completion of an educator preparation program as defined by the EPP the recipient attends.
- (6) "Occupational teacher license" means an occupational teacher license, as defined by Rule 0520-02-03, that meets the qualifications to teach occupational career and technical education courses in a Tennessee public school.
- (7) "Rural community" means any community located outside of a major urban or suburban area.
- (5) "Tuition and mandatory fees" means those fees required for the enrollment or attendance of a student at an eligible institution that are charged to all students, and shall not include fees charged for books, supplies, or other fees, even if such fees are considered necessary for enrollment.

Authority: T.C.A. § 49-1-302 and 49-11-102. **Administrative History:**

0520-02-05-.03 ELIGIBILITY.

- (1) In order to be eligible for an occupational educator scholarship, the prospective educator must:
 - (a) Be a Tennessee resident for one (1) year immediately preceding the date of application for a scholarship;
 - (b) Submit to the Department an application for an occupational educator scholarship;
 - (c) Be admitted to an eligible EPP;
 - (d) Agree to teach occupational career and technical education courses in a Tennessee public school for a minimum of four (4) consecutive academic years, unless prevented by an extraordinary circumstance approved by the Department; and
 - (e) Sign a promissory note agreeing to repay the scholarship according to a repayment schedule if the prospective educator does not fulfill the four (4) consecutive academic years of teaching required under (d), unless it is impossible for the prospective educator to fulfill the requirements of (d) because of the prospective educator's death or permanent disability under the standards established by T.C.A. Title 8 Chapter 36, Part 5, for determining disability for members of, the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System, or for other extraordinary circumstance approved by the Department.

Authority: T.C.A. § 49-1-302 and 49-11-102. **Administrative History:**

0520-02-05-.04 APPLICATION AND SELECTION.

- (1) In order to receive an occupational educator scholarship, eligible individuals must submit an application to the Department that includes:
 - (a) Verification of enrollment in a Tennessee educator preparation provider approved by the State Board of Education;
 - (b) Verification of employment in a Tennessee public school or a letter of intent to hire from a Tennessee director of schools or public charter school leader; and
 - (c) A signed statement of intent to teach at least four (4) years in a Tennessee public school in an occupational career and technical education course.
- (2) Preference for the scholarship program shall be as follows:
 - (a) First priority shall be given to applicants from rural communities or who are seeking employment in a rural community with additional priority for employment in a distressed, rural county.
 - (b) Second priority shall be given to applicants seeking endorsement in occupational subject areas that are in-demand as determined by the Department.
 - (c) All other eligible individuals.

Authority: T.C.A. § 49-1-302 and 49-11-102. **Administrative History:**

0520-02-05-.05 TERMS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP.

- (1) Each recipient shall remain in good standing with the education preparation provider during the time of enrollment in order to continue to receive funding.
- (2) Each recipient shall maintain an active and valid occupational teaching license for the required four (4) years of service.
- (3) A recipient shall not accept any other financial assistance that carries with it a conflicting service obligation after graduation or program completion.
- (4) The total amount of a scholarship shall not exceed the full cost of tuition and mandatory fees at the educator preparation provider with the highest cost or the actual tuition and mandatory fees of the EPP where the recipient is enrolled, whichever is less.
- (5) Funds shall be disbursed by the Department directly to the eligible EPP on behalf of the recipient. No funds shall be disbursed directly to scholarship recipients.
- (6) The award may be transferred from one eligible EPP to another provided it is approved by the Department.
- (7) Repayment
 - (a) If the recipient is determined to have received the award based on inaccurate application information, the full amount received shall become due immediately.
 - (b) The scholarship must be repaid should the recipient fail to complete the educator preparation program or fail to honor the terms and conditions of the scholarship agreement. Repayment for recipients shall begin on the first day of the month following notification to the recipient from the EPP of failure to complete the funded program or notification of failure to honor the terms and conditions of the scholarship agreement.
 - (c) For each consecutive academic year of teaching, the recipient shall receive a credit of twenty-five percent (25%) of the scholarship amount. This credit shall not begin until the recipient completes the EPP for which the scholarship was provided.
 - (d) Repayment may be made in whole or in monthly installments over a period of not more than four (4) years from the date of notification to the recipient of failure to complete the program or notification of failure to honor the terms and conditions of the scholarship.
 - (c) Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-4-404, the Attorney General assumes the legal responsibility for enforcing the collection of any such indebtedness against the recipient.
 - (d) If a borrower issues a check, draft, warrant, or electronic funds transfer which is subsequently returned to the Department of Education for reason of insufficient funds, a stop payment order by the issuer, or any other reason, it will be considered non-payment.

Authority: T.C.A. § 49-1-302 and 49-11-102. **Administrative History:**

I certify that the information included in this filing is an accurate and complete representation of the intent and scope of rulemaking proposed by the agency.

Date: 10/29/19

Signature: Angela C Sanders

Name of Officer: Angela Sanders

Title of Officer: General Counsel

Subscribed and sworn to before me on: 10/29/19

Notary Public Signature: [Signature]

My commission expires on: 3-8-21

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Filed with the Department of State on: 10/29/19



Tre Hargett

Tre Hargett
Secretary of State

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