Nursing students who have already earned a baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher learning are not required to complete any general education requirements. Instead, these students only need to complete the coursework necessary for licensing as a registered nurse.

The District shall consider all of the following when screening nursing students:

(A) Academic degrees or diplomas, or relevant certificates, held by an applicant.

(B) Grade-point average in relevant coursework.

(C) Any relevant work or volunteer experience.

(D) Grant requirements

(E) Life experiences or special circumstances of an applicant, including, but not necessarily limited to, the following experiences or circumstances:

   (i) Disabilities
   (ii) Low family income
   (iii) First generation of family to attend college
   (iv) Need to work
   (v) Disadvantaged social or educational environment
   (vi) Difficult personal and family situations or circumstances
   (vii) Refugee or veteran status

(F) Proficiency or advanced level coursework in languages other than English. Credit for languages other than English shall be received for languages that are identified by the chancellor as high-frequency languages, as based on census data. These languages may include, but are not necessarily limited to, any of the following:

   (i) American Sign Language
   (ii) Arabic
   (iii) Chinese, including its various dialects
Should the District have a nursing instructor that successfully applies for a position and qualifies for a State Nursing Assumption Program of Loans for Education (SNAPLE) the following will act as the minimum criteria.

(A) Loan assumption agreements may be awarded to individuals who at a minimum possess a baccalaureate degree in nursing or a field related to nursing who have agreed to teach nursing on a full-time or part-time basis commencing not more than 12 months after receiving a loan assumption awarded. The loan assumption program is referred to as the State Nursing Assumption Program of Loans for Education (SNAPLE). The loan assumption agreement will be considered no longer effective and deemed terminated, if a program participant fails to complete a minimum of three academic years of teaching on a full-time basis or the equivalent on a part-time basis.

(B) Loan assumptions payments will not be made on behalf of the participant until the participant has completed one academic year, or the equivalent of full-time teaching nursing students at one or more regionally accredited, eligible Districts. The commission can assume liability for loans incurred by the participant to pay for the participants’ undergraduate and graduate’s degrees.

(C) The terms of the loan agreement program can be extended for one academic year, unless extended by the commission on a case-by-case basis, for the following reasons:

- Pregnancy
- Serious illness
- Natural causes, or
- Being called to military active duty status

(D) In addition, when an interruption of instruction because of a natural disaster prohibits a loan program participant from completing one of the required years of teaching service, the term of the loan assumption agreement shall be extended for a period of time equal to the period of interruption of instruction.

Adopted: September 17, 2018