

## APPENDIX N

### **Future Teachers of North Carolina Scholarship Loan Fund Annual Report January 31, 2006**

The first annual report of the Future Teachers of North Carolina Scholarship Loan Fund responds to Senate Bill 622, Part IX, Section 9.11 which provides the following:

***SECTION 9.11.(a) Article 23 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes is amended by adding the following new section:***

***"§ 116-209.38. Future Teachers of North Carolina Scholarship Loan Fund.***

*(a) There is established the Future Teachers of North Carolina Scholarship Loan Fund. The purpose of the Fund is to provide a two-year scholarship loan of six thousand five hundred dollars (\$6,500) per year for any North Carolina student pursuing a college degree to teach in the public schools of the State. The scholarship loan shall be paid only for the student's junior and senior years. The scholarship loan is available if the student is enrolled in a State institution of higher education or a private institution of higher education located in this State that has an accredited teacher preparation program for students planning to become certified teachers in North Carolina. The State Education Assistance Authority shall administer the Fund and shall award 100 scholarship loans annually.*

*(b) The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, in consultation with the State Board of Education and the State Board of Community Colleges, shall develop the criteria for awarding the scholarship loans under this section and shall adopt very stringent standards for awarding these scholarship loans to ensure that only the best students receive them. Additional criteria for awarding a scholarship loan under this section shall include all of the following:*

*(1) The student is one who either: (i) maintained a "B" or better average in college and is enrolled as a junior or senior in a teacher preparation program at any of the institutions described by subsection (a) of this section; or (ii) completed a college transfer curriculum at a community college in the State's Community Colleges System, maintained a "B" or better average in the community college courses, and is accepted and enrolled in a teacher preparation program at one of the institutions described by subsection (a) of this section.*

*(2) The student agrees to become certified in math, science, special education, or English as a Second Language and teach full-time in that subject area in a North Carolina public school for three years within five years after graduation.*

*(3) Any additional criteria that the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, in consultation with the State Board of Education and the State Board of Community Colleges, considers necessary to administer the Fund effectively.*

*(c) If a student who is awarded a scholarship loan under this section fails to comply with the provisions of this section or the terms of the agreement awarding the scholarship loan, then the student shall repay the full amount of the scholarship loan provided to the student and the appropriate amount of interest as determined by the State Education Assistance Authority.*

*(d) The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, the State Board of Education, and the State Board of Community Colleges shall: (i) prepare a clear written explanation of the Future Teachers of North Carolina Scholarship Fund and the information regarding the availability and criteria for awarding the scholarship loans, and (ii) shall provide that information to the appropriate counselors in each local school system and the appropriate institutions of higher education and shall charge those counselors to inform students about the scholarship loans and to encourage them to apply for the scholarship loans.*

*(e) The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall adopt rules to implement this section.*

*(f) The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by March 1 each year regarding the Fund and scholarship loans awarded from the Fund."*

**SECTION 9.11.(b)** *Of the funds appropriated in this act to the State Education Assistance Authority the sum of six hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$650,000) for the 2005-2006 fiscal year and the sum of one million three hundred thousand dollars (\$1,300,000) for the 2006-2007 fiscal year shall be used to implement this act.*

## **Program Establishment**

In October 2005 officials from the State Education Assistance Authority (SEAA) consulted with schools of education representatives as well as UNC General Administration to establish the criteria for eligibility and selection for the Future Teachers of North Carolina (FTNC) scholarship/loan. The University staff consulted with the State Board of Education and the State Board of Community Colleges prior to obtaining the approval of the UNC Board of Governors in November 2005. In preparation for launching the new program, the State Education Assistance Authority developed a promissory note and procedures for implementing FTNC.

For the 2005-06 academic year, all public universities and private non-profit four-year institutions in North Carolina with teacher education programs have been solicited for nominations of juniors and seniors for the scholarship/loan. In future years, community colleges also will be asked in the spring semester to identify students who will transfer to four-year teacher education programs in the following fall semester, and nominations of those identified will be accepted from the community colleges. Since the current academic year had already begun, nominations from community colleges were not solicited for the 2005-06 year.

Further study will be given to other criteria that would enhance the selection of FTNC recipients.

## **Scholarship Guidelines**

- 100 awards will be made each year valued at \$6,500 per year.
- Students must be juniors or seniors in a teacher education program of study and seeking licensure in math, science, special education or English as a second language.
- Recipients who are classified as juniors may renew their award for one additional year.
- Recipients may not receive other scholarship/loan programs designed for teachers such as Teaching Fellows, Prospective Teachers Scholarship Loan or the Physical Education-Coaching Scholarship Loan.
- Students must have a 3.0 grade cumulative point average.
- Recipients must sign promissory notes requiring three years of service in exchange for the funding received. Those who fail to repay in service will be required to repay the loan in cash with an interest rate of 10%.

## **Application Procedure**

In January 2006, applications for the FTNC program for the 2005-06 academic year were distributed to the 47 four-year institutions with teacher education programs. Each education school or department was asked to nominate six students to be considered for the scholarship/loan by mid-February. Final selections will be made by the State Education Assistance Authority with consideration given to field of study and student's grade point average by the end of February. As a result of the limited number of nominations permitted by each institution, it is expected that the recipients will be students at many institutions, both public and private non-profit.

Information was also posted on the CFNC.org website to educate the public and direct interested applicants to the teacher education departments on their respective campuses to obtain applications.

Final selections for the 2005-06 year will be made in late February with promissory notes being sent to the selected candidates. Funds will be available within approximately two weeks of receiving the completed promissory note; disbursement is expected to occur in mid-March.

## **Outcomes**

There are no figures available at this time with regard to expenditures, the number of recipients or demographics of the applicants and awardees. However, every effort will be made to identify and fund 100 qualified students from a variety of North Carolina institutions for the 2005-06 academic year.