



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
GUAM

JUN 02 2000

The Honorable Joanne M. S. Brown
Legislative Secretary
I Mina'Bente Singko na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Twenty-Fifth Guam Legislature
Suite 200
130 Aspal Street
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

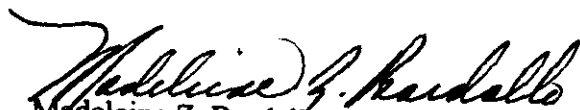
OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY	
ACKNOWLEDGMENT RECEIPT	
Received By	<u>JB</u>
Time	<u>1:42pm</u>
Date	<u>JUNE 02, 2000</u>

Dear Legislative Secretary Brown:

Enclosed please find Substitute Bill No. 412 (COR), "AN ACT TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM, THE MERIT AWARD PROGRAM AND THE PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL AWARDS PROGRAM WITH CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS AND CHANGES AS SPECIFIED HEREIN; TO AMEND §§15201, 15A301, 15A305 AND 15102 OF CHAPTER 15 OF TITLE 17 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO MAKING REFINEMENTS FOR CERTAIN STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND TO ALLOW FOR THE EXTENSION OF APPLICATIONS DEADLINES BEYOND APRIL 30, 2000 FOR THE CURRENT YEAR", which I have signed into law today as **Public Law No. 25-145**.

This legislation amends the rules and regulations of the University of Guam relative to student awards. The University submitted these rules and regulations directly to the Legislature. The amendments to the statutes contained in this legislation appear to make it possible for graduates of this school year, 1999-2000, to apply for student awards under the statutes in effect prior to Public Law No. 25-86, which reduced the number of awards available. Since many students graduating this year, who are not eligible for student awards under the new statutes, worked during their entire high school years with the assumption that they would be entitled to these awards, the students graduating this year may apply under the statutes in place during their high school years.

Very truly yours,


Madeleine Z. Bordallo
I Maga'Lahen Guåhan, Akto
Acting Governor of Guam

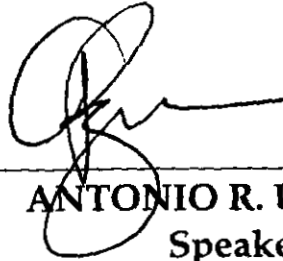
Attachment: copy attached for signed bill or overridden bill
original attached for vetoed bill

cc: The Honorable Antonio R. Unpingco
Speaker

MINA'BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN
2000 (SECOND) Regular Session

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'LAHEN GUAHAN

This is to certify that Substitute Bill No. 412 (COR) "AN ACT TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM, THE MERIT AWARD PROGRAM AND THE PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL AWARDS PROGRAM WITH CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS AND CHANGES AS SPECIFIED HEREIN; TO AMEND §§15201, 15A301, 15A305 AND 15102 OF CHAPTER 15 OF TITLE 17 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO MAKING REFINEMENTS FOR CERTAIN STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND TO ALLOW FOR THE EXTENSION OF APPLICATIONS DEADLINES BEYOND APRIL 30, 2000 FOR THE CURRENT YEAR," was on the 11th day of May 2000, duly and regularly passed.



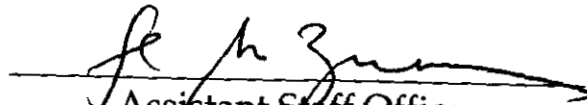
ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO
Speaker

Attested:

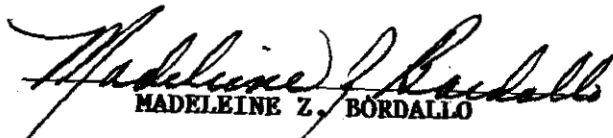


JOANNE M.S. BROWN
Senator and Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by I Maga'lahen Guahan this 22nd day of May, 2000,
at 4:10 o'clock P. M.


Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'lahi's Office

APPROVED:


MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO
I Maga'lahen Guahan, Akto

Date: 6/2/00

Public Law No. 25-145

MINA' BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2000 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 412 (COR)

As substituted by the
Committee on Education
and amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

L. F. Kasperbauer
F. B. Aguon, Jr.
K. S. Moylan
E. C. Bermudes
A. C. Blaz
J. M.S. Brown
E. B. Calvo
M. G. Camacho
Mark Forbes
A. C. Lamorena, V
C. A. Leon Guerrero
V. C. Pangelinan
J. C. Salas
S. A. Sanchez, II
A. R. Unpingco

**AN ACT TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE
RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE STUDENT
LOAN PROGRAM, THE MERIT AWARD
PROGRAM AND THE PROFESSIONAL
TECHNICAL AWARDS PROGRAM WITH
CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS AND CHANGES AS
SPECIFIED HEREIN; TO AMEND §§15201, 15A301,
15A305 AND 15102 OF CHAPTER 15 OF TITLE 17
OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE
TO MAKING REFINEMENTS FOR CERTAIN
STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
AND TO ALLOW FOR THE EXTENSION OF**

**APPLICATIONS DEADLINES BEYOND APRIL 30,
2000 FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.**

1 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:**

2 **Section 1.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, rule,
3 regulation, and Executive Order, the Administrative Rules and Regulations of
4 the Student Financial Assistance programs authorized by Articles 2, 3A and
5 4A of Chapter 15 of Title 17 of the Guam Code Annotated, as amended by
6 Public Law Number 25-85, and 3A and 4A of Chapter 15 of Title 17 of the
7 Guam Code Annotated, as added by Public Law Number 25-86 and filed with
8 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* on April 7, 2000, as required by the provisions of
9 Chapter 9 of Title 5 of the Guam Code Annotated (Administrative
10 Adjudication Law) and appended hereto as **Exhibit A**, **Exhibit B**
11 and **Exhibit C** are hereby approved as amended as follows:

12 **"STUDENT LOAN RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

13 **(As amended by P.L. No. 25-85)**

14 **1.0. STUDENTS ENTITLED TO LOANS.** Loans are provided
15 for graduate or undergraduate studies or training in occupational
16 priorities established by the Board, to qualified applicants who are
17 admitted to the University of Guam, the Guam Community College or
18 to a United States accredited off-Island college or university as a full-
19 time student on a regular status or by Distance Learning, that may
20 include classes by means of the internet, through a United States
21 accredited college or university or one (1) recognized by the Council on
22 Postsecondary Accreditation ('COPA').

1 **2.0. BACKGROUND AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY.**

2 The Board of Regents of the University of Guam is authorized under
3 Title 17 of the Guam Code Annotated to formulate rules and regulations
4 to equitably and efficiently administer the Student Financial Assistance
5 Programs, as listed in Chapter 15 of Title 17 of the Guam Code
6 Annotated.

7 **3.0 DEFINITIONS.** As used in these rules and regulations, the
8 following terms will have the following meaning:

9 (a) *'Academic Year'*: Fall and Spring Semesters for
10 semester calendar system, and Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters
11 for a quarter calendar system.

12 (b) *'Accredited'*: as recognized by the Council on
13 Postsecondary Accreditation ('COPA').

14 (c) *'Board'*: the Board of Regents of the University of
15 Guam.

16 (d) *'Bona fide resident'*: a United States citizen or a
17 permanent resident alien having resided on Guam for five (5)
18 years immediately preceding the starting date of the academic
19 year the assistance will be used.

20 (e) *'Cash repayment'*: monetary cash repayment for the
21 period the deficiency was made and no service credit allowed.

22 (f) *'Distance learning'*: the delivery of instruction to
23 students who cannot engage in traditional on-campus study and
24 delivered through the various means of television, audio or

1 computer transmission (Internet), satellite transmission, computer
2 conferencing, video cassettes or discs; or correspondence.

3 (g) '*FAFSA*': Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

4 (h) '*Fee*': general fees applied to all students plus
5 laboratory and course fees.

6 (i) '*Financial need*': institutional cost minus expected
7 family contribution, determined through the FAFSA, minus all
8 other student financial resources or benefits equal unmet need
9 (COA-EFC-SFA=Unmet need).

10 (j) '*Full-time status*': minimum of twelve (12) or more
11 credit hours per semester/quarter, quarter equivalent to twelve
12 (12) semester hours, for undergraduate studies for students
13 attending off-Island institutions; or minimum of nine (9) credit
14 hours per semester/quarter, quarter equivalent to nine (9)
15 semester hours, for student attending an off-Island institution for
16 graduate studies.

17 (k) '*Major program*': the specific academic program of
18 study which will be undertaken to achieve the desired degree.

19 (l) '*Off-Island recipient*': recipient attending a U.S.
20 accredited college or university in the United States because their
21 declared major, or its equivalent is *not* available at the University
22 of Guam.

1 (m) '*Promissory note*': document signed by the student
2 and their guarantors promising to repay the loan in accordance
3 with the rules and regulations specified under the program.

4 (n) '*Professional program*': the specialized programs in
5 Medical (M.D.), Dental (D.D.S.), or other Doctorate Degrees in
6 areas critical to Guam's professional needs (Ph.D., E.D.D., PsyD.,
7 D.B.A., etc.) degree programs.

8 (o) '*SAR*': Student Aid Report resulting from the
9 processed FAFSA.

10 (p) '*Service credit*': repayment of loan obligation through
11 employment service, upon completion of studies in which funding
12 was provided.

13 **4.0. ELIGIBILITY.** To be eligible for a Student Loan, the
14 applicant:

15 (a) must be a *bona fide* resident of Guam for at least five (5)
16 years immediately preceding award of the assistance and either:

17 (1) a citizen of the United States; *or*

18 (2) a permanent resident alien.

19 (b) must be a high school or college graduate, or a college
20 student enrolled in good standing at a U.S. accredited institution
21 of higher education;

22 (c) must have an overall grade-point average of *not less*
23 *than*:

1 (1) 2.0, or its equivalent, in the applicant's high
2 school studies; or upon satisfactory completion of *not less*
3 *than* sixty (60) credit hours, or quarter equivalent, at a U.S.
4 accredited college and/or university with a cumulative
5 grade point average of *not less than* 2.0;

6 (2) 2.0 cumulative grade point average in
7 undergraduate degree *if* applicant is pursuing an academic
8 graduate degree; *or*

9 (3) In lieu of (c)(2), an irrevocable letter of
10 acceptance from a professional school in an area of
11 particular need on Guam as determined by the Board of
12 Regents' Career Priority listing in effect;

13 (d) must have evidence of financial need through the
14 completion and processing of the '*Free Application for Federal*
15 *Student Aid*' as reported in the Student Aid Report ('SAR') or the
16 Institutional Student Information Report received from the U.S.
17 Department of Education Processing Center;

18 (e) must have been unconditionally accepted for
19 admission into a major program at GCC or UOG or any other U.S.
20 accredited institution of higher education or professional school,
21 as approved by the Board as a full-time student on a regular status
22 or distance learning; *and*

23 (f) must agree to the provisions of §15203 of Title 17 of the
24 Guam Code Annotated on the repayment of loan.

1 **5.0. MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF LOAN.** Loans are limited to
2 the following amounts for the cost of tuition and fees, room and board,
3 books, and educational supplies:

4 (a) *Not to exceed* Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) per year
5 for a period of *not more than* four (4) scholastic years for studies at
6 the University of Guam; and *not more than* two (2) years for
7 students attending the Guam Community College; *and*

8 (b) *not to exceed* Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) per
9 year for a period of *not more than* four (4) scholastic years for
10 studies at an off-Island institution to include distance learning.

11 The total amount of a loan is contingent on the availability of funds.

12 **6.0. APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS.**

13 An applicant for a loan must provide the following documents:

14 (a) a completed application must be received on or before
15 April 30, by the Financial Aid Office. The official application form
16 is obtainable in January at the Financial Aid Office;

17 (b) an official letter affirming that the applicant has been
18 *unconditionally* accepted for admission to a U.S. accredited
19 institution of higher education or recognized by the Council on
20 Postsecondary Accreditation ('COPA') as a regular, full-time
21 student in a specific major program. No loans shall be granted for
22 studies at an off-Island institution in a major program that is
23 available at the University of Guam or Guam Community College
24 (*However*, the Board may grant loans under special circumstances

1 involving legally blind and/or deaf applicants where facilities or
2 services are unavailable at the University of Guam.);

3 (c) a complete official high school and/or college
4 transcript;

5 (d) college/university catalogue or bulletin (preferred
6 latest edition/year of entrance) containing information regarding
7 the applicant's major program and institution's published annual
8 cost of attendance;

9 (e) the SAR or Institutional Student Information Report as
10 evidence of need for financial assistance as a result of the
11 processed FAFSA by the U.S. Department of Education Processing
12 Center. The FAFSA application is obtainable from the Financial
13 Aid Office, High School Counselor or apply directly to
14 *www.fafsa.ed.gov*;

15 (f) document attesting U.S. citizenship must provide:

16 (1) birth certificate;

17 (2) naturalization certificate; *or*

18 (3) passport;

19 permanent resident alien status must provide:

20 (1) permanent resident alien card and passport; *and*

21 (g) proof of five (5) years residency on Guam; student
22 must provide any two (2) of the following:

23 (1) copies of personal or parent's filed income tax
24 forms for a period of five (5) years; *or*

1 (2) certified statement from Department of Revenue;

2 *or*

3 (3) *If a recipient of public assistance applicant or*
4 *parent, must have certified statement from agencies*
5 *providing assistance that assistance was provided for a*
6 *period of five (5) years; or*

7 (4) *If an applicant is eighteen (18) years or younger,*
8 *must provide a copy of an official transcript from the*
9 *Department of Education Middle School or Guam Private*
10 *Elementary/Middle School; or*

11 (5) voter registration for the last three (3) recent
12 elections certified by Guam Election Commission;

13 (6) must be listed on all documents submitted by
14 parents or guardian.

15 **7.0. SELECTION OF LOAN RECIPIENTS.** The Board of
16 Regents shall direct the Financial Aid Office Student Financial
17 Assistance Program Staff to review and evaluate the applications of all
18 student loan applicants on the following:

19 (a) the applicant's scholastic record and financial need; *and*

20 (b) Guam's need for professional personnel as in the career
21 priorities determined by the Board.

22 **8.0. OBLIGATION OF LOAN RECIPIENTS.** The recipient
23 of a loan must fulfill the following obligations:

1 (a) Comply with all Student Loan regulations as
2 established by the Board of Regents.

3 (b) Must enroll for and maintain full-time student status,
4 minimum twelve (12) credit hours per semester/quarter, or
5 quarter equivalent of twelve (12) semester hours, undergraduate
6 level or nine (9) credits hours per semester/quarter, or quarter
7 equivalent of nine (9) semester hours, graduate level.

8 (c) Maintain a grade-point average of *not less than* 2.0 each
9 semester/quarter *if* the recipient is an undergraduate student, or
10 *not less than* 3.0 each semester/quarter *if* the recipient is a graduate
11 student. Students in graduate and professional schools who are
12 officially certified to be in good standing at the end of each term
13 shall be deemed to have fulfilled this requirement. Any student
14 who fails to comply with this regulation shall be placed on
15 probation and must meet the academic standard prescribed herein
16 by the end of the term immediately following the term in which
17 probationary status incurred.

18 (d) Submit an official copy of transcript within thirty (30)
19 days at the end of each semester/quarter.

20 (e) Obtain written approval by the Board *before*:

21 (1) transferring to another institution; transfer(s)
22 may be approved by the Board *if* such transfer(s) would *not*
23 extend the length of time required to complete the program;

1 (2) changing major program; change(s) may be
2 approved by the Board *if* such change(s) would *not* extend
3 the length of time required to complete the program (change
4 of major is *not* allowed during the last academic year of
5 attendance) (Such change must be within the established
6 career priorities determined by the Board for the initial year
7 the student loan was approved.); *or*

8 (3) withdrawing from any institution, *unless* such
9 withdrawal was due to circumstances beyond that person's
10 control and such withdrawal is subsequently approved in
11 writing by the Board.

12 (f) Be employed on Guam for a period of one (1) year for
13 each Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) received by the recipient
14 under the loan. The recipient's employment on Guam shall
15 commence within six (6) months after the completion of studies. *If*
16 a recipient continues that recipient's education as a full-time
17 student at a graduate or professional school, that person may
18 defer their return to Guam until such additional studies are
19 completed; *provided*, written approval is obtained from the Board.
20 A graduate requiring specialized training may postpone the
21 graduate's employment on Guam while undergoing specialized
22 training required for completion of professional certification as
23 long as the recipient is certified by the director of the training

1 program on an annual basis and upon written approval from the
2 Board.

3 Service credit may be postponed upon written approval
4 from the Board for up to six (6) years while the recipient is serving
5 in active duty in a branch of the U.S. Armed Services; *provided*,
6 however, that the student applies for postponement within ninety
7 (90) days of entering the Armed Services and continues to
8 maintain Guam as the student's place of residence.

9 (g) By accepting the award, the recipient agrees that the
10 University of Guam may obtain any or all information from the
11 recipient's respective institution as needed to comply with Board
12 rules and regulations. Additionally the recipient will be required
13 to attend:

14 (1) a pre-award interview *prior to* disbursement of
15 the loan; *and*

16 (2) an exit interview upon completion of degree
17 with staff from the Financial Aid Office.

18 **9.0. PROMISSORY NOTE.** Every student awarded a loan
19 pursuant to §15203 of Title 17 of the Guam Code Annotated shall
20 execute a promissory note agreeing to repay said loan over a period to
21 be determined by the Board, but *not in excess* of ten (10) years from the
22 contemplated date of the termination, or the completion of the course of
23 studies for which the loan was approved. Said promissory note shall be
24 non-interest bearing, *except* as to unpaid delinquent amounts due and

1 payable under the note, which shall be subject of interest at the annual
2 rate of ten percent (10%).

3 **10.0. CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUATION OF LOAN.**

4 The conditions for continuation of a loan shall include the following:

5 (a) the recipient must have maintained a status as a
6 regular full-time student at the institution to which the recipient
7 was admitted, and in the major program for which the loan was
8 granted, *unless* a transfer to another institution or change in
9 program major has been authorized in writing in accordance with
10 the Board's regulations 8(b), 8(c) and 8(e);

11 (b) the recipient must provide a copy of the recipient's
12 SAR and award letter from the recipient's institution to
13 determined continued financial need;

14 (c) the student must have complied with all other
15 regulations governing Student Loans; *and*

16 (d) no loan shall be continued beyond the number of years
17 normally required to complete studies as a full-time student in the
18 specific academic degree program for which the loan was granted,
19 *except* under exceptional circumstances as determined by the
20 Board.

21 **11.0. FORFEITURE OF LOAN.** Forfeiture of a loan shall result
22 from any of the causes listed below, and any loan found to be forfeited
23 shall be immediately due and payable:

1 (a) Failure to enroll in the Fall semester/quarter of the
2 academic year immediately following the granting of the Award,
3 *unless* deferment of enrollment in that semester/quarter is
4 approved in advance by the Board of Regents. An awardee
5 granted such deferment will forfeit the award for failure to enroll
6 in the next semester/quarter immediately following the approved
7 deferment.

8 (b) Failure to maintain a minimum semester grade point
9 average of 2.0 for undergraduate studies or 3.0 for graduates
10 studies at the end of each academic term, *except* a recipient may be
11 allowed one (1) academic term to regain this average without
12 cancellation of the loan.

13 (c) Failure to maintain status as a full-time student, *except*
14 where:

15 (1) a recipient may be allowed by the Board one (1)
16 academic term to regain full-time status without cancellation
17 of the award. However, *if* during such probationary period
18 the student fails to enroll, the loan shall be forfeited; *or*

19 (2) a recipient may be permitted to enroll less than
20 full-time in the recipient's last term *if* it would *not* affect the
21 normal graduation time it requires to complete the program
22 of studies.

23 (d) Suspension or dismissal for academic deficiency,
24 disciplinary reasons, or conviction of a felony.

1 (e) Withdrawal from the institution in anticipation of any
2 action under (d), above, or for any other reason(s) *not* authorized
3 by the Board.

4 (f) Change of institution and/or major without prior
5 written approval from the Board.

6 (g) Change of Guam residency status unless such is
7 necessary to obtain lower resident tuition and fee rates.

8 (h) In the event that the Board has made an exception
9 pursuant to §§11(b) or 11(c), and the recipient regained
10 entitlement of the recipient's award, such recipient will be
11 required to sign a cash repayment promissory note with two (2)
12 local guarantors. Repayment shall become due and payable until
13 after graduation or termination of studies for any other reason.
14 No service credit shall be allowed pursuant to §12(a) for the
15 period in which the academic deficiency occurred.

16 (i) Failure to comply with other Board rules and
17 regulations.

18 **12.0. SERVICE CREDIT.** For the purpose of repayment of the
19 student loan, the recipient shall receive:

20 (a) **Service Credit.** The recipient shall receive service
21 credit at the rate of for each year Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00)
22 each month, or its equivalence of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00)
23 per year when employed on Guam. *If* the recipient: (a) returns to
24 Guam *and* (b) begins employment on Guam within six (6) months

1 after graduation without interruption, the recipient is considered
2 to have met the obligation to the Board and will receive credit
3 beginning on the date of employment.

4 (b) **Postponement.** *If the recipient wishes not to begin*
5 *employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation to*
6 *continue studies on a full-time basis at an accredited institution of*
7 *higher education, the recipient may appeal in writing to the Board*
8 *for permission. Should permission be granted, the repayment*
9 *obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue*
10 *studies. If prior approval from the Board is not obtained, the*
11 *recipient who does not return and begin employment on Guam*
12 *within six (6) months must pay in cash Sixteen Dollars and Sixty-*
13 *six Cents (\$16.66) per day (Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) per*
14 *year) for each day the person is not employed on Guam. Once this*
15 *amount has been paid in full, the recipient is entitled to use service*
16 *credit for the remaining amount of the debt for each year of*
17 *employment on Guam.*

18 (c) **Interruption.** *If a person receiving service credit*
19 *wishes to temporarily terminate employment on Guam to*
20 *continue that person's studies on a full-time basis at an accredited*
21 *institution of higher education, as recognized by the Council of*
22 *Postsecondary Accreditation ('COPA'), an appeal in writing must*
23 *be submitted to the Board of Regents for approval. Should such*
24 *approval be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred*

1 for the period granted to continue studies. *If* prior approval of the
2 Board is *not* obtained, the recipient must pay in cash Sixteen
3 Dollars and Sixty-six Cents (\$16.66) per day (Six Thousand Dollars
4 (\$6,000.00) per year) for each day the person is *not* employed on
5 Guam. Once the amount is paid in full, the recipient is entitled to
6 use service credit on the remaining debt.

7 **(d) Ineligibility for Service Credit.** Any recipient who
8 did *not* receive the degree sought with assistance from the Board
9 of Regents, and who did *not* obtain prior approval, shall be
10 ineligible for service credit. All monies disbursed during
11 attendance under the Student Loan Program will become due and
12 payable in monthly monetary payments as determined by the
13 University of Guam Collections Department.

14 **(e) Annual Proof of Employment.** It is the
15 responsibility of the recipient to provide the Board of Regents
16 documentary evidence of such employment and, each year
17 thereafter, until such obligation is fulfilled.

18 **(f) Death or Total Disability.** In the event the recipient
19 should become totally disabled (physiological or psychological) or
20 upon death, while completing service credit, any obligation on the
21 note shall be terminated upon certification of two (2) physicians
22 licensed to practice in the United States.

23 **13.0. CONFLICT.** In the event any revised regulation herein
24 is found to be in conflict with a previous regulation under which a

1 student was awarded financial assistance, the regulation in effect at the
2 time of the award shall continue to apply to the student for the
3 remainder of the recipient's studies for which the award was made."

4 **"MERIT AWARD RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

5 **(As amended by P.L. No. 25-86)**

6 **1.0. STUDENTS ENTITLED TO MERIT AWARDS.** There
7 are established annual merit awards for high school students in the
8 graduating classes of a public and private high school licensed to do
9 business on Guam. The students entitled to these awards shall be the
10 students having the highest scholastic standing in the graduating classes
11 of each such public and non-public high school on Guam, *except* for
12 Department of Defense Schools.

13 **2.0. BACKGROUND AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY.**

14 The Board of Regents of the University of Guam is authorized under
15 Title 17 of the Guam Code Annotated, to formulate rules and
16 regulations to equitably and efficiently administer the Student Financial
17 Assistance Programs, as listed in Chapter 15 of Title 17 of the Guam
18 Code Annotated.

19 **3.0. DEFINITIONS.** As used in these rules and
20 regulations, the following terms will have the following meaning:

21 (a) '*Academic Standing*': rank according to cumulative
22 numeric grades, and is the same as scholastic standing.

1 **(b) 'Academic Year':** Fall and Spring Semesters for
2 semester calendar system and Fall, Winter and Spring Quarters for
3 a quarter calendar system.

4 **(c) 'Accredited':** as recognized by the Council on
5 Postsecondary Accreditation ('COPA').

6 **(d) 'Awardee':** the recipient of the Merit Award who was
7 selected on the basis of that recipient's high academic standing
8 from that recipient's high school graduating class.

9 **(e) 'Board':** the Board of Regents of the University of
10 Guam.

11 **(f) 'Cash Repayment':** monetary cash repayment for the
12 period the deficiency was made and no service credit allowed.

13 **(g) 'Cumulative Numeric Grades':** are computed on the
14 basis of freshman (9th), sophomore (10th), junior (11th), and
15 senior (12th) years in school on a scale of 0-100 points, or higher,
16 for honor courses and calculated to the thousandth decimal place.

17 **(h) 'Fee':** general fees applied to all students plus
18 laboratory and course fees.

19 **(i) 'Full-time Status':** minimum of twelve (12) or more
20 credit hours per semester/quarter (quarter equivalent to twelve
21 (12) semester hours) during the regular semesters and six (6)
22 credit hours (quarter equivalent to six (6) semester hours) for
23 Summer Sessions.

1 (j) *'Generally Open'*: those private, parochial and public
2 high schools under the jurisdiction of the government of Guam.

3 (k) *'Inter-session'*: the break period between Fall
4 Semester and Spring Semesters.

5 (l) *'Major Program'*: the specific academic program of
6 study which will be undertaken to achieve the desired degree.

7 (m) *'Nominee'*: a student selected by an eligible school
8 who has met the academic criteria and eligibility criteria as
9 established by the Merit Rules and Regulations of the University
10 of Guam.

11 (n) *'Off-Island Recipient'*: recipient attending a
12 four-year U.S. accredited college or university in the United States
13 because the declared major or its equivalent is *not* available at the
14 University of Guam.

15 (o) *'Promissory Note'*: Document signed by the student
16 and their guarantors promising to repay the loan in accordance
17 with the rules and regulations specified under the program.

18 (p) *'Resident'*: a resident of Guam for a continuous period
19 of *not less than* five (5) years immediately preceding June 15th of
20 the year the award is to be awarded.

21 (q) *'Service Credit'*: repayment of award obligation
22 through employment service, upon completion of studies.

23 (r) *'Stipend'*: payment disbursed on a monthly
24 installment.

1 (s) *'Total Disability'*: any physiological or psychological
2 condition that will prevent the recipient from obtaining or
3 maintaining any form of gainful employment for a period of *not*
4 *less than* three (3) years. Such condition will require the
5 certification of two (2) physicians licensed to practice in the United
6 States.

7 **4.0. NUMBER OF AWARDS.** Each graduating class of the
8 public and private high schools on Guam, is entitled to one (1) for every
9 fifty (50) graduates of a school's graduating class, rounded to the
10 nearest fifty (50), *however*, schools with less than fifty (50) graduating
11 seniors that meet all other requirements herein shall be entitled to one
12 (1) award. *If* there should be a tie of the equal scholastic standing of two
13 (2) or more graduates, the University of Guam will provide a
14 mechanism to break the tie using the cumulative numeric grades first
15 going to whatever decimal place is required to break the tie. *If* a tie still
16 exists, then the SAT scores will be used to break the tie. Each student
17 must meet the eligibility requirements established in §15301(a.1) of
18 Chapter 15 of Title 17 of the Guam Code Annotated. The number of
19 awards will be determined by the actual number of diplomas awarded
20 on graduation day.

21 **5.0. CRITERIA OF ELIGIBILITY.** To qualify for a Merit
22 Award, the student:

23 (a) must be a graduate from a public or private high
24 school that is licensed to do business on Guam;

1 (b) shall be one(s) having the highest academic scholastic
2 standing of their respective graduating classes based on four (4)
3 completed consecutive years of attendance in high school,
4 generally open to all students on Guam, *except* the Department of
5 Defense Schools;

6 (c) (1) a United States citizen; *or*

7 (2) a permanent resident alien; *and*

8 (d) must be a resident of Guam for a continuous period of
9 *not less than* five (5) years immediately preceding June 15th of the
10 year the award is to be awarded.

11 *If any student is ineligible for an award solely because the student*
12 *does not meet the requirements of §§5(c) and (d), or if any eligible*
13 *student declines an award when first offered such award, the award*
14 *shall be granted to the next eligible student in academic standing in the*
15 *class, who chooses to accept the award.*

16 6.0. NOMINATION PROCEDURE. Each eligible high school
17 shall submit a list of nominees on **Form A**, as attached, for the
18 awards in descending order of rank, based on the academic standing
19 and who meet the eligibility requirements as stated in §§5(c) and (d), to
20 the Board of Regents. In the event any nominee declines to accept the
21 award, the *next* graduate in academic standing in the class shall be
22 offered the award; or in the case of a tie, the student that was eliminated
23 by the tiebreaker, will be offered the award. A signed statement of
24 acceptance or rejection of the nominees shall be submitted with the list

1 of nominees. *If* an eligible student declines to accept an award when
2 first offered, such student cannot accept such an award after it has been
3 granted to another student.

4 **7.0. SELECTION PROCEDURE.**

5 (a) The Board of Regents shall direct the Financial
6 Aid Director or designee to certify academic standing of the
7 nominees on Form A submitted by the schools.

8 (b) The Board of Regents shall, at a regular or
9 special meeting, approve the selection of the recipients.

10 (c) Within five (5) working days of the Board's
11 action, notice of award shall be sent certified mail to each
12 recipient. The selected recipient of a Merit Award must
13 notify the Board of Regents within thirty (30) days of
14 postmarked or stamped date of notice of the award whether
15 the recipient will accept the award. *If* the selected recipient
16 fails to do so, the award is thereby forfeited and the award
17 shall be offered to the next alternate. *If* a selected recipient
18 declines to accept a Merit Award after it has been offered,
19 such recipient shall no longer be entitled to receive such
20 award from the Board of Regents.

21 (d) All selected recipients shall attend a mandatory
22 orientation to complete the award process. Failure to attend
23 said orientation may be cause to deny the Merit Award. All
24 documents required by the Financial Aid Office to complete

1 the award process will be received and completed by the
2 recipient during the orientation process.

3 **8.0. ATTENDANCE.** Awardees are to attend the
4 University of Guam. *If* the Awardee's academic major program is
5 unavailable at the University of Guam, the Awardee may attend any
6 four-year U.S. accredited college or university in the United States, as
7 recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation ('COPA')
8 where such declared major is available.

9 **9.0. PROMISSORY NOTE.** All Merit Award recipients
10 shall execute a Promissory Note with two (2) responsible co-signers,
11 who are residents of Guam and are financially able to repay the award
12 in the event the student fails to comply with service obligations one
13 hundred eighty (180) days from required employment date, at which
14 time the Board may extend cash repayment for a period *not to exceed* ten
15 (10) years at an annual percentage rate of *not less than* ten percent (10%).
16 No funds under this Program shall be disbursed while the student is
17 attending the student's approved institution until the note is submitted
18 to the Financial Aid Office, Student Financial Assistance Program and
19 the student is found to be in compliance with the requirements under
20 this Program.

21 **10.0. AWARD BENEFITS.** Awardees are entitled to the
22 following benefits:

23 (a) Tuition and fees each academic year to be paid by the
24 Student Financial Assistance fund for a period of *not more than*

1 four (4) years in an undergraduate program at the University of
2 Guam, or at an authorized off-Island institution. *If* an awardee is
3 authorized to attend an off-Island institution, the tuition and fee
4 benefits shall be based on the University of Guam tuition and fee
5 rates.

6 (b) An additional two (2) years of tuition and fees will be
7 granted for the top two (2) awardees from a graduating class who
8 attended and successfully completes undergraduate studies at the
9 University of Guam and have completed admission requirements
10 for graduate school at the University of Guam for the purpose of
11 pursuing a Master's Degree.

12 (c) A monthly stipend based on the following:

13 (1) Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) based on fifty-
14 nine (59) or fewer semesters/quarter hours completed.

15 (2) Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) based on sixty
16 (60) or more semester hours to graduation.

17 (3) Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00) for graduate
18 students pursuant to §10(b).

19 (4) One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for one (1)
20 month only for each inter-session cycle attended in the
21 summer.

22 (5) No stipend will be granted for students
23 attending Fall inter-session.

24 (d) An allowance of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00)
25 per semester and One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) maximum for

1 summer will be granted for textbooks to be disbursed in
2 accordance with regulations adopted by the Board. Students
3 attending inter-session between the Fall and Spring semesters on a
4 full-time basis are eligible for the maximum of One Hundred
5 Dollars (\$100.00) for books.

6 (e) Awardees authorized to attend an off-Island
7 institution shall *not* exceed the amount of assistance granted for a
8 student attending school at the University of Guam, but are
9 entitled to the cost of airfare for one-way, economy airline ticket to
10 the school of attendance and one-way ticket to return to Guam
11 upon completion of studies.

12 **11.0. OBLIGATIONS OF RECIPIENTS.** The recipient of an
13 award must fulfill the following obligations:

14 (a) Comply with all Merit regulations as established by
15 the Board of Regents and duly adjudicated.

16 (b) Submit proof of detail charges of tuition and fees
17 within thirty (30) days after the start of each semester/quarter.

18 (c) Maintain a cumulative grade-point average of *not less*
19 *than* 2.5 at the end of each semester/quarter. Any student who
20 fails to comply with this regulation shall be placed on probation
21 and must meet the academic standard prescribed herein by the
22 end of the term immediately following the term in which the
23 student incurred probationary status.

24 (d) Submit an official transcript within thirty (30) days at
25 the end of each semester/quarter.

1 (e) Must enroll for and maintain full-time student status,
2 minimum twelve (12) credit hours per semester/quarter. Should
3 the college or university's policy *not* reflect this standard full-time
4 enrollment, the student must obtain verification certifying the full-
5 time status for that term.

6 (f) Obtain written approval (special request) by the Board
7 before:

8 (1) transferring to another institution; transfer(s)
9 may be approved by the Board *if* such transfer(s) would *not*
10 extend the length of time required to complete the program;

11 (2) changing major program; change(s) may be
12 approved by the Board *if* such change(s) would *not* extend
13 the length of time required to complete the program (change
14 of major is not allowed during the last academic year of
15 attendance);

16 (2.a) For off-Island recipients requesting a
17 change of major, the new major or its equivalent must
18 *not* be a major offered at the University of Guam.

19 (2.b) Off-island recipients who double major,
20 must have one (1) or both of the majors *not* offered at
21 the University of Guam, and must also graduate with
22 a major *not* offered at the University of Guam.

23 (3) Withdrawing from any institution, *unless* such
24 withdrawal was due to circumstances beyond the student's

1 control and the Board subsequently approves such
2 withdrawal in writing.

3 (g) Changes to award status, known as '*special requests*'
4 shall be submitted to the Board in writing from a recipient. Such
5 status change shall include, but will *not* be limited to the
6 following: change of major, change of professional or technical
7 program, change of institution, change of graduation date,
8 deferment of attendance, or deferment of service obligation.
9 Applicable to all recipients beginning Academic Year 1996-97.

10 (1) *Except* for deferment requests, special requests
11 shall be submitted to the Board *no later than* two (2) months
12 (sixty (60) calendar days) prior to the start of the academic
13 term for which the request is to take effect. Requests
14 received after the two (2) months (sixty (60) calendar days),
15 shall be acknowledged and returned without any action
16 indicating non-compliance with the deadline requirement.

17 (h) All Awardees must agree to work on Guam, for each
18 year assistance was provided (1:1).

19 (i) All Awardees must provide proof of full-time
20 employment within six (6) months after graduation by submitting
21 a Verification of Employment, certification or 1040 tax forms or W-
22 2 forms. For self-employment, a Business License, Gross Receipt
23 Tax and a notarized statement of earnings is required.
24 Employment verifications shall be submitted by the recipient
25 annually. *If* a recipient wishes to continue the recipient's

1 education as a full-time student at a graduate or professional
2 school, the recipient may defer their employment obligation on
3 Guam until such additional studies are complete; *provided*, written
4 approval has been granted from the Board. Failure to return to
5 Guam and to begin employment on Guam within six (6) months
6 of graduation, such obligation shall be immediately due and
7 payable in monthly monetary payments.

8 (j) By accepting the award, the recipient agrees that the
9 University of Guam may obtain any or all information from the
10 respective institution as needed to comply with Board regulations.

11 **12.0. CANCELLATION/FORFEITURE OF AWARD.** Any of
12 the following shall result in the cancellation/forfeiture of an award.
13 Forfeiture results in the monetary repayment obligation for any and all
14 funds received.

15 (a) Failure to enroll in the Fall semester/quarter of the
16 academic year immediately following the granting of the Award,
17 *unless* deferment of enrollment in that semester/quarter is
18 approved in advance by the Board of Regents. An Awardee
19 granted such deferment will forfeit the award for failure to enroll
20 in the next semester/quarter immediately following the approved
21 deferment.

22 (b) Failure to maintain a cumulative grade-point average
23 of 2.5 or its equivalent (acceptable by the Board), *except* a recipient
24 may be allowed one academic term to regain this average without
25 cancellation of award.

1 (c) Failure to maintain full-time status.

2 (d) Suspension or dismissal for academic deficiency,
3 disciplinary reason(s) or conviction of a felony.

4 (e) Change of institution and major without prior
5 approval from the Board.

6 (f) Change of Guam residency status, *unless* such is
7 necessary to obtain lower resident tuition and fee rates.

8 (g) In the event that pursuant to §§12(b) or (c), the
9 recipient regained entitlement of the recipient's award, such
10 recipient shall *not* be required to repay the amount awarded for
11 that academic term in which the academic deficiency or failure to
12 maintain full-time status occurred until after graduation, or other
13 termination of studies for any other reason.

14 (h) Failure to comply with other Board Regulations.

15 **13.0. SERVICE CREDIT.** For the purpose of repayment, the
16 recipient shall receive:

17 (a) **Service Credit.** The recipient shall receive service
18 credit for each year of employment on Guam. *If* the recipient (a)
19 returns to Guam and (b) begins employment on Guam within six
20 (6) months *after* graduation without interruption, the recipient is
21 considered to have met the obligation to the Board and will
22 receive credit beginning on the date of employment. A year of
23 service credit is twelve (12) months.

1 **(b) Postponement.** *If the recipient wishes not to begin*
2 *employment as required by §13(a) herein within six (6) months*
3 *after graduation to continue studies at a graduate or professional*
4 *school on a regular full-time, on-campus basis, at an accredited*
5 *institution of higher education, as recognized by the Council on*
6 *Postsecondary Accreditation ('COPA'), an appeal may be*
7 *submitted in writing to the Board for approval.*

8 **(c) Unapproved Postponement.** Should such
9 approval be granted, in accordance with §13.0(b), the repayment
10 obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue
11 studies. *If prior approval from the Board is not obtained, the*
12 *recipient who does not return and begin employment on Guam*
13 *within six (6) months, must pay in cash based on the total amount*
14 *received per year and calculated on a daily rate for each day the*
15 *person is not employed on Guam. The daily rate will be calculated*
16 *by the University of Guam Collection Department as authorized*
17 *by the Board of Regents. Once this amount has been paid in full,*
18 *the recipient is entitled to use service credit for the remaining*
19 *amount of the debt for each year of employment on Guam.*

20 **(d) Interruption.** *If a person receiving service credit*
21 *wishes to temporarily terminate employment on Guam to*
22 *continue studies at a graduate or professional school on a regular*
23 *full-time on-campus basis, at a U.S. accredited institution of higher*
24 *education, as recognized by the Council of Postsecondary*

1 Accreditation ('COPA'), an appeal in writing must be submitted to
2 the Board of Regents for approval. Should such approval be
3 granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period
4 granted to continue studies. *If* prior approval of the Board is *not*
5 obtained, the recipient must pay in cash per day for each day the
6 person is *not* employed on Guam at the rate determined by the
7 University of Guam Collection Department. Once the amount is
8 paid in full, the recipient is entitled to use service credit on the
9 remaining debt.

10 (e) **Ineligibility for Service Credit.** Any recipient who
11 did *not* receive the degree sought with assistance from the Board
12 of Regents, and who did *not* obtain prior approval, shall be
13 ineligible for service credit. All monies disbursed during
14 attendance under the Merit Award will become due and payable
15 and shall be subject to an annual interest rate of ten percent (10%)
16 in monthly installment payments. Such payments must *not*
17 exceed ten (10) years pursuant to the law. The University of
18 Guam Collections Department will be charged with computing
19 the recipient's monthly installment payments in the event of
20 default. Furthermore, permanent transfer to an off-Island office or
21 transfer or branch of a Guam employer shall *not* count towards
22 service credit and shall result in default on the date of transfer,
23 and interest shall begin on such date of default.

1 **(f) Death or Total Disability.** In the event the recipient
2 should become totally disabled (physiological or psychological) or
3 upon death, while completing service credit, any obligation on the
4 note shall be terminated upon certification of two (2) physicians
5 licensed to practice in the United States.

6 **(g) Leave of Absence.** It is the responsibility of the
7 recipient to inform the University of Guam of their intended leave
8 of absence *if* such leave is longer than forty-five (45) days. The
9 recipient must remain employed pursuant to §13(a) herein to
10 receive service credit while on off-Island temporary leave status.

11 **(h) Annual Proof of Employment.** It is the
12 responsibility of the recipient to provide the Board of Regents
13 documentary evidence of such employment and, each year
14 thereafter, until such obligation is fulfilled.

15 **14.0. CONFLICT.** In the event any revised regulations herein
16 is found to be in conflict with a previous regulation under which the
17 student was awarded financial assistance, the regulation in effect at the
18 time of the award shall continue to apply to the student for the
19 remainder of the recipient's studies for which the award was made."

20 **"PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL AWARD RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

21 **(As amended by P.L. No. 25-86)**

22 **1.0. STUDENTS ENTITLED TO AWARDS.** There
23 are established professional and technical awards for graduate studies
24 in occupational priorities established by the Board.

1 **2.0. BACKGROUND AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY.**

2 The Board of Regents of the University of Guam is authorized under
3 Title 17 of the Guam Code Annotated to formulate rules and regulations
4 to equitably and efficiently administer the Student Financial Assistance
5 Programs as listed in Chapter 15 of Title 17 of the Guam Code
6 Annotated.

7 **3.0. DEFINITIONS.** As used in these rules and
8 regulations, the following terms will have the following meaning:

9 (a) *'Academic year'*: Fall and Spring Semesters for
10 semester calendar system and Fall, Winter and Spring Quarters for
11 a quarter calendar system.

12 (b) *'Academic program'*: the specific academic program of
13 study which will be undertaken to achieve the desired degree.

14 (c) *'Accreditation'*: as recognized by the Council on
15 Postsecondary Accreditation ('COPA').

16 (d) *'Board'*: the Board of Regents of the University of
17 Guam.

18 (e) *'Bona fide resident'*: resident of Guam for a
19 continuous period of *not less than* ten (10) years prior to
20 application.

21 (f) *'Cash Repayment'*: monetary cash repayment for the
22 period the deficiency was made and no service credit allowed.

23 (g) *'FAFSA'*: Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

1 (h) '*Fees*': general fees applied to all students plus
2 laboratory and course fees.

3 (i) '*Financial Need*': institutional cost minus expected
4 family contribution, determined through the FAFSA, minus all
5 other student financial resources or benefits equal unmet need
6 (COA-EFC-SFA=Unmet need).

7 (j) '*Full-time Status*': nine (9) or more credit hours per
8 semester/quarter, or quarter equivalent to nine (9) semester
9 hours, for graduate students.

10 (k) '*Professional/Technical Program*': any graduate
11 degree program in areas listed in the Career Priority.

12 (l) '*Promissory Note*': the document sign by student
13 promising to repay the award in accordance with the rules and
14 regulations specified under the program.

15 (m) '*SAR*': Student Aid Report resulting from the
16 processed FAFSA.

17 (n) '*Service Credit*': repayment of award obligation
18 through employment service, upon completion of studies.

19 **4.0. ELIGIBILITY.** To be eligible for a Professional/Technical
20 Award, the applicant:

21 (a) must be a *bona fide* resident of Guam for a continuous
22 period of *not less than* ten (10) years prior to application, and either
23 be:

24 (1) a citizen of the United States; or

1 (2) a permanent resident alien;

2 (b) must be a college graduate, or a full-time student in
3 good standing in a graduate program at a U.S. accredited
4 institution of higher education or professional school as
5 recognized by COPA;

6 (c) must have an overall grade-point average of at least
7 3.0 in the applicant's undergraduate studies, or 3.33 in the
8 applicant's master's program *if* that person is pursuing a doctorate
9 degree, or an irrevocable letter of acceptance from a U.S.
10 accredited institution or professional school at the time of
11 submission of application;

12 (d) must provide evidence of financial need through the
13 completion and processing of the 'Free Application for Federal
14 Student Aid' as reported in the Student Aid Report ('SAR'), or the
15 Institutional Student Information Report received from the U.S.
16 Department of Education Processing Center; *and*

17 (e) must have been unconditionally accepted for
18 admission into a professional/technical program at a U.S.
19 accredited institution of higher education or professional school as
20 recognized by COPA as a full-time student at the time of
21 submission of application.

22 **5.0. SELECTION OF AWARDEE.** The Board of Regents
23 shall direct the Financial Aid Office Student Financial Assistance
24 Program Staff to review and evaluate the applications of all student loan
25 applicants on the following:

1 (a) the applicant's scholastic record, aptitude, financial
2 need; *or*

3 (b) the Board may use work-or lifetime experience and
4 achievement criteria in place of the aptitude *if* because of such
5 experience, it can be reasonably determined that the applicant will
6 succeed in the course of study.

7 (c) Guam's need for professional personnel in the career
8 field selected by the applicant and based on the career priorities
9 determined by the Board.

10 (d) The applicant must have evidence of financial need
11 through submission of a SAR processed by the U.S. Department of
12 Education Processing Center.

13 **6.0. BENEFITS.** An award recipient is entitled to the
14 following benefits:

15 (a) Payment of tuition and other fees for a period
16 designated in the college bulletin to complete the program which
17 should *not* be more than four (4) scholastic years.

18 (b) An annual grant loan for *not more than* Ten Thousand
19 Dollars (\$10,000.00) for room and board, books and educational
20 supplies.

21 (c) Cost of airfare for one-way, economy airline ticket to
22 the school of attendance and one-way ticket to return to Guam
23 upon completion of studies.

1 (d) Total for items (a) and (b) shall *not* exceed Twenty
2 Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) per year for a period of *not more*
3 *than* four (4) scholastic years for studies at an off-Island institution.

4 (e) If the course of study is in medicine or dentistry, the
5 total for items (a) and (b) shall *not* exceed Twenty-five Thousand
6 Dollars (\$25,000.00) per year.

7 The total amount of an award is contingent on the availability of
8 funds.

9 **7.0. APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS.**

10 An applicant for an award must provide the following documents:

11 (a) A completed application must be received on or before
12 April 30th, to the Financial Aid Office, University of Guam. The
13 official application form is obtainable in January at the Financial
14 Aid Office.

15 (b) An official letter affirming that the applicant has been
16 unconditionally accepted for admission to a U.S. accredited higher
17 education institution or professional school as recognized by the
18 Council on Postsecondary Accreditation ('COPA') as a regular
19 full-time graduate student in a specific professional/technical
20 program, or that the applicant is enrolled in the Program and in
21 good standing. No Award will be granted for studies at an off-
22 Island institution in an academic/technical program that is
23 available at the University of Guam.

1 (c) A complete official college transcript of the applicant's
2 studies at all institutions attended.

3 (d) College/university catalog or bulletin applicable to
4 student's enrollment containing information regarding the
5 applicant's professional/technical program and institution's
6 published annual cost of attendance and the normal number of
7 years or semester for completion of program.

8 (e) The Student Aid Report ('SAR') or Institutional
9 Student Information Report, as evidence of need for financial
10 assistance as a result of the processed FAFSA by the U.S.
11 Department of Education Processing Center. The FAFSA
12 application is obtainable from the Financial Aid Office or apply
13 directly to *www.fafsa.ed.gov*.

14 (f) Must submit proof of U.S. citizenship (Birth
15 Certificate, Naturalized Certificate, or Passport) or proof of
16 permanent resident alien status (Permanent Resident Alien Card
17 and Passport).

18 (g) Must provide any two (2) of the following as proof of
19 ten (10) years residency on Guam:

20 (1) copies of filed income tax records for a period of
21 ten (10) years; *or*

22 (2) certified or validation of income tax filed from
23 Department of Revenue; *or*

1 (3) *if* a recipient of Public Assistance, must have
2 certified statement from agencies that assistance was
3 provided for a period of ten (10) years; *or*

4 (4) certified statement from the Guam Election
5 Commission on Voter registration for the past three (3)
6 general elections; *or*

7 (5) bank statement of mortgage on principal
8 residence over ten (10) year period.

9 **8.0. OBLIGATION OF AWARD RECIPIENTS.** The recipient
10 of an Award must fulfill the following obligations:

11 (a) Comply with all award regulations established by the
12 Board of Regents.

13 (b) Enroll for and maintain full-time student status.

14 (c) Maintain a grade-point average of *not less than* 3.0 each
15 semester/quarter; or be officially certified by the institution that
16 the recipient is in good academic standing. A student who fails to
17 comply with this regulation shall be placed on probation and must
18 meet the academic standard prescribed herein by the end of the
19 term immediately following the term in which the probationary
20 status incurred.

21 (d) Submit an official copy of transcript and a detailed
22 billing statement of tuition and fees *no later than* thirty (30) days at
23 the end of each semester/quarter.

24 (e) Obtain written approval by the Board before:

1 (1) Transferring to another institution; transfer(s)
2 may be approved by the Board if such transfer(s) would *not*
3 extend the length of time required to complete the program.

4 (2) Changing academic/technical program;
5 change(s) may be approved by the Board *if* such change(s)
6 would *not* extend the length of time required to complete the
7 program. Such change must be within the established career
8 priorities determined by the Board for the initial year the
9 Award was approved.

10 (3) Withdrawing from any institution, *unless* such
11 withdrawal was due to circumstances beyond the recipient's
12 control, and such withdrawal is subsequently approved in
13 writing by the Board.

14 (4) Be employed on Guam on the basis of two to one
15 (2:1) for each year that assistance was received by the
16 recipient under the Award. The recipient's employment on
17 Guam shall commence within six (6) months *after* the
18 completion of studies. *If* a recipient continues that person's
19 education as a full-time student at a graduate or professional
20 school, the recipient may defer that person's return to Guam
21 until such additional studies are completed; *provided*, that
22 written approval is obtained from the Board. A graduate
23 requiring specialized training, may postpone that person's
24 employment on Guam while undergoing specialized

1 training as long as the recipient is certified by the director of
2 the training program on an annual basis and upon written
3 approval from the Board.

4 Service credit may be postponed upon written approval from the
5 Board, for up to six (6) years while the recipient is serving in active
6 duty in a branch of the U.S. Armed Services; *provided*, however,
7 that the student applies for postponement within ninety (90) days
8 of entering the Armed Services and continues to maintain Guam
9 as that person's place of residence;

10 (f) By accepting the award, the recipient agrees that the
11 University of Guam may obtain any or all information from the
12 recipient's respective institution as needed to comply with Board
13 rules and regulations. Additionally, the recipient will be required
14 to attend:

15 (1) A pre-award interview prior to disbursement of
16 the award; *and*

17 (2) an exit interview upon completion of degree
18 with the staff from the Financial Aid Office.

19 **9.0. PROMISSORY NOTE.** The recipient shall execute a
20 non-interest bearing promissory note with two (2) responsible co-
21 signers, who are residents of Guam and are financially able to repay the
22 note in the event that the recipient fails to comply with service
23 obligation one hundred eighty (180) days from the required initial date
24 of employment. The note becomes interest bearing on any amounts
25 unpaid by service credit that are due and payable, which shall be subject

1 to interest on the annual rate of ten percent (10%). The total amount of
2 the note shall be determined upon completion of studies in which
3 assistance was provided by the award. No funds under this Program
4 shall be disbursed until the note has been complied with in accordance
5 to the prescribed rules and regulations of this Program. This Note shall
6 be executed by the Financial Aid Office, Student Financial Assistance
7 Program.

8 10.0. CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUATION OF AN AWARD.

9 The conditions for continuation of the Award shall include the
10 following:

11 (a) The recipient must have maintained that person's
12 status as a regular full-time student at the institution to which the
13 recipient was admitted and in the academic/technical program for
14 which the award was granted, *unless* a transfer to another
15 institution or a change of academic/professional/technical
16 program has been authorized in writing in accordance with the
17 Board's regulations §§8.0(e1) and/or (e2).

18 (b) The recipient must maintain satisfactory academic
19 standing in accordance with Regulations 8.0(c).

20 (c) Submit an official copy of transcript and a detailed
21 billing statement of tuition and fees *no later than* thirty (30) days at
22 the end of each semester/quarter.

23 (d) The recipient must provide a copy of their SAR and
24 award letter from their institution to determine continued
25 financial need. No Award shall be continued beyond the number

1 of years normally required to complete studies in the specific
2 academic/technical degree program for which the Award was
3 granted.

4 (e) The recipient must have complied with all other
5 regulations governing the Award.

6 **11.0. FORFEITURE OF AWARD.** Forfeiture of an award
7 shall result from any of the causes listed below, and any award forfeited
8 shall be immediately due and payable.

9 (a) Suspension or dismissal for academic deficiency,
10 disciplinary reasons, or conviction of a felony.

11 (b) Withdrawal from the institution in anticipation of any
12 action under (a), above or for any other reason(s) *not* authorized
13 by the Board.

14 (c) Failure to maintain status as a full-time student, *except*
15 a recipient may be allowed by the Board one-academic term to
16 regain full-time status without cancellation of the award, or a
17 recipient may be permitted to carry less than full-time load, *if* it
18 would *not* result in the student's failing to graduate within the
19 normal time for completing the program of studies. In the event
20 that an exception is granted pursuant to this Subsection, the
21 student shall be required to sign a cash repayment promissory
22 note to repay in cash the amount awarded for the academic term
23 in which the failure to maintain full-time status occurred and *not*

1 be eligible for service credit pursuant to §13.0 following
2 graduation or termination of studies for any reason.

3 (d) Violation of other Board regulations.

4 **12.0. SERVICE CREDIT.** For the purpose of repayment of the
5 Award, the recipient shall receive:

6 (a) **Service Credit.** The recipient shall receive service
7 credit on a two-to-one (2:1) ratio for each year that assistance was
8 provided or its equivalence of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00)
9 per year when employed on Guam. *If the recipient (a) returns to*
10 *Guam and (b) begins employment on Guam within six (6) months*
11 *after graduation without interruption, the recipient is considered*
12 *to have met the obligation to the Board and will receive credit*
13 *beginning on the date of employment.*

14 (b) **Postponement.** *If the recipient wishes not to begin*
15 *employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation to*
16 *continue studies on a full-time basis at an accredited institution of*
17 *higher education, the recipient may appeal in writing to the Board*
18 *for permission. Should such permission be granted, the*
19 *repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to*
20 *continue the recipient's studies. Without the prior approval of the*
21 *Board, the recipient who does not return to Guam within six (6)*
22 *months, must pay in cash Twenty-seven Dollars and Seventy-*
23 *seven Cents (\$27.77) per day (Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00)*
24 *per year) for each day between the date of graduation and the date*

1 of employment on Guam. Once this amount has been made, the
2 recipient is entitled to use service credit for the remaining amount
3 of the debt for each year of employment on Guam.

4 (c) **Interruption.** *If* a person receiving service credit
5 wishes to temporarily terminate employment on Guam to
6 continue that person's studies on a full-time basis at an accredited
7 institution of higher education as recognized by the Council on
8 Postsecondary Accreditation ('COPA'), that person may appeal in
9 writing to the Board for permission. Should such permission be
10 granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period
11 granted to continue that person's studies. Without the prior
12 approval of the Board, the recipient must pay in cash Twenty-
13 seven Dollars and Seventy-seven Cents (\$27.77) per day (Ten
14 Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) per year) for each day the person is
15 *not* employed on Guam. Upon payment of such amount, the
16 recipient is entitled to use service credit on the remaining debt.

17 (d) **Ineligibility for Service Credit.** Any recipient who
18 did *not* receive the degree that that person sought with assistance
19 from Board, without prior written approval, shall be ineligible for
20 service credit. All monies disbursed during attendance under the
21 Professional and Technical Award will become due and payable
22 under the note, and shall be subject to an annual interest rate of
23 ten percent (10%) in monthly installment payments. Such
24 payments shall *not* exceed ten (10) years pursuant to the law. The

1 University of Guam Collections Department will be charged with
2 computing the recipient's monthly installment payments in the
3 event of default.

4 (e) **Leave of Absence.** It is the responsibility of the
5 recipient to inform the University of Guam of their intended leave
6 of absence *if* such leave is longer than forty-five (45) days. The
7 recipient must remain employed on Guam to receive service credit
8 while on off-Island leave status.

9 (f) **Death or Total Disability.** In the event the recipient
10 should become totally disabled (physiological or psychological) or
11 upon death, while completing service credit, any obligation on the
12 note shall be terminated upon certification of two (2) physicians
13 licensed to practice in the United States.

14 (g) **Annual Proof of Employment.** It is the responsibility
15 of the recipient to provide the Board of Regents documentary
16 evidence of such employment and, each year thereafter, until such
17 obligation is fulfilled.

18 **13.0. CONFLICT.** In the event any revised regulation
19 herein is found to be in conflict with a previous regulation under which
20 a student was awarded financial assistance, the regulation in effect at
21 the time of the award shall continue to apply to the student for the
22 remainder of the recipient's studies for which the award was made."

1 **Section 2.** Section 15201 of Article 2, Chapter 15, Division 3 of Title 17
2 of the Guam Code Annotated, as amended by Public Law Number 25-85, is
3 hereby *amended* to read as follows:

4 **"Section 15201. Students Entitled to Loans.** The Board is
5 authorized to approve loans for graduate and undergraduate studies or
6 training to qualified applicants who are admitted to the University of
7 Guam, the Guam Community College pursuant to the provisions of
8 §15204 of this Article or to a United States accredited off-Island college
9 or university as full-time students on regular status or by Distance
10 Learning, that may include classes by means of the internet, through a
11 United States accredited college or university or one (1) recognized by
12 the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation ('COPA'). The loans
13 provided in this Article are subject to the following limitations:

14 (a) The applicant must be a *bona fide* resident of Guam and
15 a United States citizen, or a permanent resident alien:

16 (1) applicants who are high school students at the
17 time of application must have achieved an overall grade
18 point average of at least 2.0 or its equivalent in the
19 applicant's high school studies; *and*

20 (2) applicants who are current or returning college
21 students with prior college credits at the time of application
22 must have achieved an overall grade point average of at
23 least 2.5 or its equivalent in the applicant's undergraduate
24 studies.

1 (3)(a) If the applicant is pursuing an academic
2 graduate or post-graduate degree, the applicant must have
3 achieved a grade point average of *not less than* 2.5 in
4 undergraduate studies.

5 (3)(b) If the applicant is a graduating senior, final
6 approval of awards will be based on successful completion
7 of graduation requirements inclusive of a 2.5 grade point
8 average.

9 All awards for graduate studies shall be based on acceptance in to
10 a graduate program. No awards shall be made for off-Island
11 studies, *unless* such course of studies are listed on the University's
12 Career Priority listing. For loans made after January 1, 2000, the
13 applicant must be a five (5) year resident of Guam for the period
14 immediately preceding the starting date of the academic year the
15 student will use such assistance and meet all other requirements
16 herein.

17 (b) The applicant must agree to the provisions of §15203
18 of this Article.

19 (c) The applicant must be in financial need, which shall be
20 determined by regulations authorized by §15105 of Article 1 of
21 this Chapter. In addition, the applicant must complete '*A Free*
22 *Application for Federal Student Aid*' ('FAFSA') form as documentary
23 evidence of need.

1 (d) The applicant must present to the Board *prior to* the
2 granting of the loan satisfactory proof that the applicant has been
3 admitted to an accredited college or university as a full-time
4 student to pursue a program of study in the area for which the
5 loan was applied. No loan shall be continued beyond the number
6 of years normally required to complete studies in the specific
7 academic degree program for which the loan was granted, *except*
8 under exceptional circumstances as determined by the Board.

9 (e) The off-Island colleges and universities must be
10 United States accredited, or recognized by the Council on
11 Postsecondary Accreditation ('COPA'), and must be on the
12 University's Career Priority Listing and approved by the Board;
13 *provided*, however, that no loans shall be granted for studies at an
14 off-Island institution in an academic program that is available at
15 the University of Guam."

16 **Section 3.** Section 15A301 of Chapter 15 of Title 17 of the Guam Code
17 Annotated, as *added* by Public Law Number 25-86, is hereby *amended* to read
18 as follows:

19 **"Section 15A301. Students Entitled to Merit Awards.**

20 (a) There are established annual Merit Awards for high
21 school students in the graduating classes of a public and private
22 high school licensed to do business on Guam now or hereafter
23 established. The students entitled to these awards shall be the
24 students having the highest scholastic standing in the graduating

1 classes of each such public and non-public high school on Guam,
2 *except* for Department of Defense Schools. The awards shall be
3 determined as follows:

4 (1) One (1) for every fifty (50) graduates or fraction
5 thereof of a school's graduating class. *If* as a result of the
6 equal scholastic standing of two (2) or more graduates, there
7 is a tie for the awards granted pursuant to this Chapter, the
8 University of Guam shall provide a mechanism to break the
9 tie. Awardees are entitled to four (4) years of education at
10 the University of Guam. *However*, if the awardee is the top-
11 ranked student academically of that person's graduating
12 class, and such awardee's major is unavailable at the
13 University of Guam, the awardee may attend any accredited
14 college or university in the United States, or one (1)
15 recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation
16 ('COPA'), where such declared major is available. The
17 benefits are according to the amounts provided in §15A302
18 of this Article, *plus* the cost of airfare for one-way, economy
19 airline ticket to the school of attendance and one-way ticket
20 to return to Guam upon completion of studies.

21 (2) Of the students receiving awards in Subsection
22 (1), *supra*, who attend and graduate from the University of
23 Guam, the top two (2) awardees per graduating class shall
24 be entitled to an additional two (2) years of study for a

1 Master's Degree at the University of Guam *after* completion
2 of the bachelor's program awarded under the provisions of
3 Subsection (1). In the event that, as a result of graduating
4 class size, only one (1) student is entitled to an award under
5 Subsection (1), *supra*, then only one (1) student shall be
6 eligible for an award under this Subsection. The benefits are
7 according to the amounts provided in §15A302 of this
8 Article.

9 All awards shall be subject to the following limitations:

10 A recipient must be a:

11 (i) United States citizen, or a permanent resident
12 alien, who has completed four (4) academic years in a public
13 or private high school on Guam; *and*

14 (ii) a resident of Guam for a continuous period of
15 *not less than* five (5) years immediately preceding June 15th
16 of the year the award is to be awarded.

17 (b) *If* any student is ineligible for an award because of
18 failure to meet the requirements contained in Subsection (a) of this
19 Section; or *if* any eligible student chooses *not* to accept an award
20 when first offered such award, the award shall be granted to the
21 eligible student with the *next* highest scholastic rank, or in the case
22 of tie, the student that was eliminated by the tie-breaker. *If* an
23 eligible student declines to accept an award when first offered,

1 such student cannot accept such an award *after* it has been granted
2 to another student.

3 The recipient of a merit award must notify the Board within
4 thirty (30) days, that the award is accepted. *If* such recipient fails
5 to do so, the award is thereby forfeited and the same shall be
6 offered to the next alternate.

7 (c) Award recipients must agree that the recipient will
8 work on Guam for a period of one (1) year for each academic year
9 the award was received within six (6) months following the
10 completion or termination of the course of studies for which the
11 award was granted; *provided, that if* the recipient continues as a
12 full-time student at a graduate or professional school, such
13 recipient may defer work on Guam until such additional studies
14 are completed.

15 Awards granted on or subsequent to the effective date of
16 this Section shall be cancelled if a recipient:

17 (1) fails to maintain a cumulative grade point
18 average of 2.5 or its equivalent, *except* a recipient may be
19 allowed one (1) academic term to regain this average
20 without cancellation of the award, *or*

21 (2) fails to meet the academic and/or other
22 requirements governing full-time students at the University
23 of Guam, *except* a recipient shall be allowed one (1) academic

1 term in which to regain full-time student status before
2 cancellation of such recipient's award."

3 **Section 4.** Section 15A305 of Chapter 15 of Title 17 of the Guam Code
4 Annotated, as added by Public Law Number 25-86, is hereby *amended* to read
5 as follows:

6 **"Section 15A305. Applicability of This Article.**

7 This Article shall apply only to awards made to high school students
8 graduating during the School Year 2000 - 2001 and thereafter."

9 **Section 5. Authority to Extend Application Date.**

10 Notwithstanding any other provision of law or Administrative Rules and
11 Regulations, the Board of Regents of the University of Guam may and is
12 hereby authorized to extend the application date of financial assistance
13 applications beyond April 30, 2000 for Awards to be made during the
14 calendar year 2000.

15 **Section 6.** Section 15102 of Article 1, Chapter 15, Division 3 of Title 17
16 of the Guam Code Annotated is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

17 **"Section 15102. Administration.** The provisions of this
18 Chapter shall be administered by the Board of Regents of the University
19 of Guam, and all awards provided by this Chapter shall be granted by
20 the Board. The Board of Regents may delegate to the management of
21 the University, its authority to administer the provisions of this Chapter,
22 inclusive of authority granted under any Administrative Rules and
23 Regulations, *however*, any exceptions or waivers as allowed by such

**MERIT AWARD RULES AND REGULATIONS
(As Amended by Public Law 25-86)**

MERIT AWARD RULES AND REGULATIONS
(As amended by Public Law 25-86)

- 1.0 STUDENTS ENTITLED TO MERIT AWARDS.** There are established annual merit awards for high school students in the graduating classes of a fully accredited, or candidate for accreditation, as recognized by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges ('WASC') public and private high school on Guam. The students entitled to these awards shall be the students having the highest scholastic standing in the graduating classes of each such public and non-public high school on Guam except for Department of Defense Schools.
- 2.0 BACKGROUND AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY.** The Board of Regents of the University of Guam is authorized under Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, to formulate rules and regulations to equitably and efficiently administer the Student Financial Assistance Programs as listed in Title 17, Chapter 15, of the Guam Code Annotated.
- 3.0 DEFINITIONS.** As used in these rules and regulations, the following terms will have the following meaning:
- (a) **Academic Standing:** rank according to cumulative numeric grades, and is the same as scholastic standing.
 - (b) **Academic Year:** Fall and Spring Semesters for semester calendar system and Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters for a quarter calendar system.
 - (c) **Accredited:** as recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA)
 - (d) **Awardee:** the recipient of the Merit Award who was selected on the basis of his/her high academic standing from his/her high school graduating class.
 - (e) **Board:** the Board of Regents of the University of Guam.
 - (f) **Cash Repayment:** monetary cash repayment for the period the deficiency was made and no service credit allowed.
 - (g) **Cumulative Numeric Grades:** are computed on the basis of freshman (9th), sophomore (10th), junior (11th), and senior (12th) years in school on a scale of 0-100 points or higher for honor courses and calculated to the thousandth decimal place.
 - (h) **Fee:** general fees applied to all students plus laboratory and course fees.
 - (i) **Full-time Status:** minimum of 12 or more credit hours per semester/quarter during the regular semesters and 6 credit hours for Summer Sessions.
 - (j) **Generally Open:** those private, parochial and public high schools under the jurisdiction of the Government of Guam.
 - (k) **Inter-session:** the break period between Fall Semester and Spring Semesters.
 - (l) **Major Program:** the specific academic program of study which will be undertaken to achieve the desired degree.
 - (m) **Nominee:** a student selected by an eligible school who has met the academic criteria and eligibility criteria as established by the Merit Rules and Regulations of the University of Guam
 - (n) **Off-Island Recipient:** recipient attending a four-year U.S. accredited college or university in the United States because the declared major or its equivalent, is not available at the University of Guam.

- (o) **Promissory Note:** Document signed by the student and their guarantors promising to repay the loan in accordance with the rules and regulations specified under the program.
- (p) **Resident:** a resident of Guam for a continuous period of not less than five (5) years immediately preceding June 15th of the year the award is to be awarded.
- (q) **Service Credit:** repayment of award obligation through employment service, upon completion of studies.
- (r) **Stipend:** payment disbursed on a monthly installment.
- (s) **Total Disability:** any physiological or psychological condition that will prevent the recipient from obtaining or maintaining any form of gainful employment for a period of not less than three (3) years. Such condition condition will require the certification of two (2) physicians licensed to practice in the United States.

4.0 **NUMBER OF AWARDS.** Each graduating class of the public and private high schools on Guam, is entitled to One (1) for every fifty (50) graduates of a school's graduating class, rounded to the nearest fifty (50). (See Table 1) If there should be a tie of the equal scholastic standing of two or more graduates, the University of Guam will provide a mechanism to break the tie using the cumulative numeric grades first going to whatever decimal place is required to break the tie. If a tie still exists, then the SAT scores will be used to break the tie. Each student must meet the eligibility requirements established in Title 17, Chapter 15 GCA, Subsection 15301 (a.1). The number of awards will be determined by the actual number of diplomas awarded on graduation day.

- 5.0 **CRITERIA OF ELIGIBILITY.** To qualify for a Merit Award, the student
- (a) Must be a graduate from Guam's public or private high school that is fully accredited or candidate for accreditation as recognized by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (a.k.a. WASC).
 - (b) Shall be one having the highest academic scholastic standing of their respective graduating classes based on four (4) completed consecutive years of attendance in high school, generally open to all students on Guam, except the Department of Defense Schools ; and
 - (c) (1) a United States citizen; or,
(2) a permanent resident alien; and
 - (d) Must be a resident of Guam for a continuous period of not less than five (5) years immediately preceding June 15th of the year the award is to be awarded.
 - (e) If any student is ineligible for an award solely because he/she does not meet the requirements of sections 5(c) and (d), or if any eligible student declines an award when first offered such award, the award shall be granted to the next eligible student in academic standing in the class, who chooses to accept the award.

6.0 **NOMINATION PROCEDURE.** Each eligible high school shall submit a list of nominees on Form A, as attached, for the awards in descending order of rank, based on the academic standing and who meet the eligibility requirements as stated in sections 5(c) and (d), to the Board of Regents. In the event any nominee declines to

1 Administrative Rules and Regulations must be approved by the Board
2 of Regents and may *not* be delegated.”

accept the award, the next graduate in academic standing in the class shall be offered the award or in the case of a tie, the student that was eliminated by the tiebreaker, will be offered the award. A signed statement of acceptance or rejection of the nominees shall be submitted with the list of nominees. If an eligible student declines to accept an award when first offered, such student cannot accept such an award after it has been granted to another student.

7.0 SELECTION PROCEDURE.

- (a) The Board of Regents shall direct the Financial Aid Director or designee to certify academic standing of the nominees on Form A submitted by the schools.
- (b) The Board of Regents shall, at a regular or special meeting, approve the selection of the recipients.
- (c) Within five (5) working days of the Board's action, notice of award shall be sent certified mail to each recipient. The selected recipient of a Merit award must notify the Board of Regents within thirty days (30) days of postmarked or stamped date of notice of the award whether the recipient will accept the award. If the selected recipient fails to do so, the award is thereby forfeited and the award shall be offered to the next alternate. If a selected recipient declines to accept a Merit award after it has been offered, such recipient shall no longer be entitled to receive such award from the Board of Regents.
- (d) All selected recipients shall attend a mandatory orientation to complete the award process. Failure to attend said orientation may be cause to deny the Merit Award. All documents required by the Financial Aid Office to complete the award process will be received and completed by the recipient during the orientation process.

8.0 ATTENDANCE. Awardees are to attend the University of Guam. If the Awardee's academic major program is unavailable at the University of Guam, the Awardee may attend any four-year U.S. accredited college or university in the United States, as recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation (COPA) where such declared major is available.

- (a) Awardees attending an off-island institution pursuant to this section shall provide a letter of unconditional acceptance into the major program of studies.

9.0 PROMISSORY NOTE. All merit award recipients shall execute a Promissory Note with two(2) responsible co-signers, who are residents of Guam and are financially able to repay the award in the event the student fails to comply with service obligations(180 days) from required employment date, at which time the Board may extend cash repayment for a period not to exceed ten (10) years at an annual percentage rate of not less than ten percent (10%). No funds under this program shall be disbursed while the student is attending his/her approved institution until the note is submitted to the Financial Aid Office, Student Financial Assistance Program and he/she is found to be in compliance with the requirements under this program.

10.0 AWARD BENEFITS. Awardees are entitled to the following benefits:

- (a) Tuition and fees each academic year to be paid by the Student Financial Assistance fund for a period of not more than four (4) years in an undergraduate program at the University of Guam, or at an authorized off-island institution. If an Awardee is authorized to attend an off-island institution, the tuition and fee benefits shall be based on the University of Guam tuition and fee rates .
- (b) An additional two (2) years of tuition and fees will be granted for the top two Awardees from a graduating class who attended and successfully completes undergraduate studies at the University of Guam and have completed admission requirements for graduate school at the University of Guam for the purpose of pursuing a Master's Degree.
- (c) A monthly stipend based on the following:
 - (1) \$300 based on fifty-nine (59) or fewer semesters/quarter hours completed.
 - (2) \$500 based on sixty (60) or more semester hours to graduation.
 - (3) \$600 for graduate students pursuant to sections 10(b).
 - (4) \$100 for one month only for each inter-session cycle attended in the summer.
 - (5) No stipend will be granted for students attending Fall inter-session.
- (d) An allowance of \$250 per semester and \$100 maximum for summer will be granted for textbooks to be disbursed in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board. Students attending inter-session between the Fall and Spring semesters on a full-time basis are eligible for the maximum of \$100 for books.
- (e) Awardees authorized to attend an off-island institution shall not exceed the amount of assistance granted for a student attending school at the University of Guam.

11.0 OBLIGATIONS OF RECIPIENTS. The recipient of an award must fulfill the following obligations:

- (a) Comply with all Merit regulations as established by the Board of Regents;
- (b) Submit proof of detail charges of tuition and fees within thirty days after the start of each semester/quarter.
- (c) Maintain a cumulative grade-point average of not less than 2.5 at the end of each semester/quarter. Any student who fails to comply with this regulation shall be placed on probation and must meet the academic standard prescribed herein by the end of the term immediately following the term in which the student incurred probationary status;
- (d) Submit an official transcript within thirty (30)days at the end of each semester/quarter;
- (e) Must enroll for and maintain full-time student status, minimum 12 credits hours per semester/quarter. Should the college or university's policy not reflect this standard full-time enrollment, the student must obtain verification certifying the full-time status for that term.
- (f) Obtain written approval (special request) by the Board before:
 - (1) Transferring to another institution; one (1) transfer is allowed for the duration of the award;

- (2) Changing major program, one (1) change of major is allowed for the duration of the award (change of major is not allowed during the last academic year of attendance);
 - (2.a) For off-island recipients requesting a change of major, the new major or its equivalent must not be a major offered at the University of Guam.
 - (2.b) Off-island recipients who double major, must have one or both of the majors not offered at the University of Guam, and must also graduate with a major not offered at the University of Guam.
- (3) Withdrawing from any institution unless such withdrawal was due to circumstances beyond the student's control and the Board subsequently approves such withdrawal in writing.
- (g) Changes to award status known as "special requests" shall be submitted to the Board in writing from a recipient. Such status change shall include, but will not be limited to the following: change of major, change of professional or technical program, change of institution, change of graduation date, deferment of attendance, or deferment of service obligation. Applicable to all recipients beginning academic year 1996-97.
 - (1) Except for deferment requests, special requests shall be submitted to the Board no later than two (2) months (60 calendar days) prior to the start of the academic term for which the request is to take effect. Requests received after the two (2) months (60 calendar days), shall be acknowledged and returned without any action indicating non-compliance with the deadline requirement.
- (h) All Awardees must agree to work on Guam or in the Office of Guam's Delegate to Congress for each year assistance was provided (1:1).
- (i) All Awardees must provide proof of full-time employment within six months after graduation by submitting a Verification of Employment, certification or 1040 tax forms or W-2 forms. For self-employment, a Business License, Gross Receipt Tax, and a notarized statement of earnings is required. Employment verifications shall be submitted by the recipient annually. If a recipient wishes to continue his/her education as a full-time student at a graduate or professional school, they may defer their employment obligation on Guam until such additional studies are complete, provided written approval has been granted from the Board. Failure to return to Guam and to begin employment on Guam within six (6) months of graduation, such obligation shall be immediately due and payable in monthly monetary payments.
- (j) By accepting the award, the recipient agrees that the University of Guam may obtain any or all information from the respective institution as needed to comply with Board regulations.

12.0 CANCELLATION/FORFEITURE OF AWARD. Any of the following shall result in the cancellation/forfeiture of an award. Forfeiture results in the monetary repayment obligation for any and all funds received.

- (a) Failure to enroll in the Fall semester/quarter of the academic year immediately following the granting of the Award, unless deferment of enrollment in that

semester/quarter is approved in advance by the Board of Regents. An Awardee granted such deferment will forfeit the award for failure to enroll in the next semester/quarter immediately following the approved deferment.

- (b) Failure to maintain a cumulative grade-point average of 2.5 or its equivalent (acceptable by the Board) except a recipient may be allowed one academic term to regain this average without cancellation of award.
- (c) Failure to maintain full-time status.
- (d) Suspension or dismissal for academic deficiency, disciplinary reason(s) or conviction of a felony.
- (e) Change of institution and major without prior approval from the Board.
- (f) Change of Guam residency status.
- (g) In the event that pursuant to 12(b) or (c), the recipient regained entitlement of his or her award, such recipient shall not be required to repay the amount awarded for that academic term in which the academic deficiency or failure to maintain full-time status occurred until after graduation, or other termination of studies for any other reason.
- (h) Failure to comply with other Board Regulations.

13.0 SERVICE CREDIT. For the purpose of repayment, the recipient shall receive:

- (a) Service Credit. The recipient shall receive service credit for each year of employment on Guam or in the Office of Guam Delegate to Congress. If the recipient (a) returns to Guam and (b) begins employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation without interruption, the recipient is considered to have met the obligation to the Board and will receive credit beginning on the date of employment. A year of service credit is twelve (12) months.
- (b) Postponement. If the recipient wishes not to begin employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation to continue studies at a graduate or professional school on a regular full-time, on-campus basis, at an accredited institution of higher education, as recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation (COPA), an appeal may be submitted in writing to the Board for approval.
- (c) Unapproved Postponement. Should such approval be granted, in accordance with 13.0 (b), the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue studies. If prior approval from the Board is not obtained, the recipient who does not return and begin employment of Guam within six (6) months, must pay in cash based on the total amount received per year and calculated on a daily rate for each day the person is not employed on Guam. The daily rate will be calculated by the University of Guam Collection Department as authorized by the Board of Regents. Once this amount has been paid in full, the recipient is entitled to use service credit for the remaining amount of the debt for each year of employment on Guam.
- (d) Interruption. If a person receiving service credit wishes to temporarily terminate employment on Guam to continue studies at a graduate or professional school on a regular full-time on campus basis, at a U.S.

accredited institution of higher education as recognized by the Council of Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA), an appeal in writing must be submitted to the Board of Regents for approval. Should such approval be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue studies. If prior approval of the Board is not obtained, the recipient must pay in cash per day for each day the person is not employed on Guam at the rate determined by the University of Guam Collection Department. Once the amount is paid in full, the recipient is entitled to use service credit on the remaining debt.

- (e) **Ineligibility for Service Credit.** Any recipient who did not receive the degree sought with assistance from the Board of Regents, and who did not obtain prior approval, shall be ineligible for service credit. All monies disbursed during attendance under the Merit Award will become due and payable and shall be subject to an annual interest rate of ten percent (10%) in monthly installment payments. Such payments must not exceed ten (10) years pursuant to the law. The University of Guam Collections Department will be charge with computing the recipient's monthly installment payments in the event of default. Furthermore, permanent transfer to an off-island office or transfer or branch of a Guam employer shall not count towards service credit and shall result in default on the date of transfer and interest shall begin on such date of default.
- (f) **Death or Total Disability.** In the event the recipient should become totally disabled (physiological or psychological) or upon death, while completing service credit, any obligation on the note shall be terminated upon certification of two (2) physicians licensed to practice in the United States.
- (g) **Leave of Absence.** It is the responsibility of the recipient to inform the University of Guam of their intended leave of absence if such leave is longer than forty-five (45) days. The recipient must remain employed on Guam to receive service credit while on off-island temporary leave status.
- (h) **Annual Proof of Employment.** It is the responsibility of the recipient to provide the Board of Regents documentary evidence of such employment and, each year thereafter, until such obligation is fulfilled.

14.0 **CONFLICT.** In the event any revised regulations herein is found to be in conflict with a previous regulation under which the student was awarded financial assistance, the regulation in effect at the time of the award shall continue to apply to the student for the remainder of the recipient's studies for which the award was made.

Merit 3/30/00

FORM A

DATE: _____

TO: Board of Regents, University of Guam

Listed below, in the order of their *cumulative numeric grades, are members of the Class of _____, who qualify as nominees for the Merit Awards to the University of Guam, in accordance with the provision of Article 3A Section 15A301(a), Title 17, GCA, as amended. The number of nominees that are authorized for this school, based on the total number of graduates, is _____.

Total No. of Graduates _____.**

Signature of Principal

Name of High School

*Cumulative numeric grades are calculated based on freshman (9th), sophomore (10th), junior (11th) and senior (12th) years in school on a scale of 0-100 points or higher for honors courses, to the thousandth decimal place.

** Please note that the number of actual nominees for the academic year is subject to change based on the ACTUAL number of graduates.

Class Rank	NAME	Numeric Cum GPA	Social Security Number	Mailing Address Phone Number	Response

- Alternate Nominee
Rev. 3/2000

**Professional/Technical Award Rules and
Regulations
(As Amended by Public Law 25-86)**

PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL AWARD RULES AND REGULATIONS
(As amended by Public Law 25-86)

- 1.0 **STUDENTS ENTITLED TO AWARDS.** There are established professional and technical awards for graduate studies in occupational priorities established by the Board.
- 2.0 **BACKGROUND AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY.** The Board of Regents of the University of Guam is authorized under Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, to formulate rules and regulations to equitably and efficiently administer the Student Financial Assistance Programs as listed in Title 17, Chapter 15, of the Guam Code Annotated.
- 3.0 **DEFINITIONS.** As used in these rules and regulations, the following terms will have the following meaning:
- (a) **Academic Year:** Fall and Spring Semesters for semester calendar system and Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters for a quarter calendar system.
 - (b) **Academic Program:** the specific academic program of study which will be undertaken to achieve the desired degree.
 - (c) **Accreditation:** as recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA).
 - (d) **Board :** the Board of Regents of the University of Guam.
 - (e) **Bona fide Resident:** resident of Guam for a continuous period of not less than ten (10) years prior to application.
 - (f) **Cash Repayment:** monetary cash repayment for the period the deficiency was made and no service credit allowed.
 - (g) **FAFSA:** Free Application for Federal Student Aid.
 - (h) **Fees:** general fees applied to all students plus laboratory and course fees.
 - (i) **Financial Need:** institutional cost minus expected family contribution (determined through the FAFSA) minus all other student financial resources or benefits equal unmet need (COA-EFC-SFA=Unmet need).
 - (j) **Full-time Status:** 9 or more credit hours per semester/quarter for graduate students.
 - (k) **Professional/Technical Program:** any graduate degree program in areas listed in the Career Priority.
 - (l) **Promissory Note:** the document sign by student promising to repay the award in accordance with the rules and regulations specified under the program.
 - (m) **SAR:** Student Aid Report resulting from the processed FAFSA.
 - (n) **Service Credit:** repayment of award obligation through employment service, upon completion of studies.
- 4.0 **ELIGIBILITY.** To be eligible for a Professional/Technical Award, the applicant:
- (a) **Must be a bona fide resident of Guam for a continuous period of not less than ten (10) years prior to application, and either:**
 - (1) a citizen of the United States: or,
 - (2) a permanent resident alien.

- (b) Must be a college graduate, or a full-time student in good standing in a graduate program at a U.S. accredited institution of higher education or professional school as recognized by COPA.
- (c) Must have an overall grade-point average of at least 3.0 in his/her undergraduate studies or 3.33 in his/her master's program if he or she is pursuing a doctorate degree, or an irrevocable letter of acceptance from a four-year U.S. accredited institution or professional school at the time of submission of application.
- (d) Must provide evidence of financial need through the completion and processing of the "Free Application for Federal Student Aid" as reported in the Student Aid Report (SAR) or the Institutional Student Information Report received from the U.S. Department of Education Processing Center.
- (e) Must have been unconditionally accepted for admission into a professional/technical program at a U.S. accredited institution of higher education or professional school as recognized by COPA as a full-time student at the time of submission of application.

5.0 **SELECTION OF AWARDEE.** The Board of Regents shall direct the Financial Aid Office Student Financial Assistance Program Staff to review and evaluate the applications of all student loan applicants on the following:

- (a) The applicant's scholastic record, aptitude, financial need; or
- (b) The Board may use work-or lifetime experience and achievement criteria in place of the aptitude if because of such experience, it can be reasonably determined that the applicant will succeed in the course of study.
- (c) The territory's need for professional personnel in the career field selected by the applicant and based on the career priorities determined by the Board.
- (d) The likelihood of the applicant remaining in or returning to Guam to fill the territory's professional needs.
- (e) The applicant must have evidence of financial need through submission of a SAR processed by the U.S. Department of Education Processing Center.

6.0 **BENEFITS.** An award recipient is entitled to the following benefits:

- (a) Payment of tuition and other fees for a period designated in the college bulletin to complete the program which should not be more than four (4) scholastic years.
- (b) An annual grant loan for not more than \$10,000 for room and board, books, and educational supplies.

- (c) Cost of air fare for one-way, economy airline tickets to the school of attendance and one-way ticket to return to Guam upon completion of studies.
- (d) Total for items (a) and (b) shall not exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) per year for a period of not more than four (4) scholastic years for studies at an off-island institution.
- (e) If the course of study is in medicine or dentistry, the total for items (a) and (b) shall not exceed Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) per year.

The total amount of an award is contingent on the availability of funds..

7.0 APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS. An applicant for an award must provide the following documents:

- (a) A completed application must be received on or before April 30, to the Financial Aid Office, University of Guam. The official application form is obtainable in January at the Financial Aid Office.
- (b) An official letter affirming that the applicant has been unconditionally accepted for admission to a four-year U.S. accredited higher education institution or professional school as recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation (COPA) as a regular full-time graduate student in a specific professional/technical program; or that the applicant is enrolled in the program and in good standing. No Award will be granted for studies at an off-island institution in an academic/technical program that is available at the University of Guam.
- (c) A complete official college transcript of the applicant's studies at all institutions attended.
- (d) College/university catalog or bulletin applicable to student's enrollment containing information regarding the applicant's professional/technical program and institution's published annual cost of attendance and the normal number of years or semester for completion of program.
- (e) The Student Aid Report (SAR) or Institutional Student Information Report as evidence of need for financial assistance as a result of the processed FAFSA by the U.S. Department of Education Processing Center. The FAFSA application is obtainable from the Financial Aid Office or apply directly to www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- (f) Must submit proof of U.S. citizenship (Birth Certificate, Naturalized Certificate, or Pass Port) or proof of permanent resident alien status (Permanent Resident Alien Card and Pass Port).
- (g) Must provide proof of ten (10) years residency on Guam ;

- (1) Copies of filed income tax records for a period of ten (10) years; or,
- (2) Certified or Validation of income tax filed from Department of Revenue; or
- (3) If a recipient of Public Assistance, must have certified statement from agencies that assistance was provided for a period of ten years; or
- (4) Certified statement from Election Commission on Voter registration for the past three general elections; or
- (5) Bank Statement of Mortgage on principal residence over ten year period; or
- (6) Combination of one thru five (1-5)

8.0 OBLIGATION OF AWARD RECIPIENTS. The recipient of an Award must fulfill the following obligations:

- (a) Comply with all award regulations established by the Board of Regents;
- (b) Enroll for and maintain full-time student status.
- (c) Maintain a grade-point average of not less than 3.0 each semester/quarter, or be officially certified by the institution that the recipient is in good academic standing. A student who fails to comply with this regulation shall be placed on probation and must meet the academic standard prescribed herein by the end of the term immediately following the term in which the probationary status incurred.
- (d) Submit an official copy of transcript and a detail billing statement of tuition and fees no later than 30 days at the end of each semester/quarter.
- (e) Obtain written approval by the Board before:
 - (1) Transferring to another institution; one (1) transfer is allowed for the duration of the award;
 - (2) Changing academic/technical program; one (1) change of program major is allowed for the duration of the award. Such change must be within the established career priorities determined by the Board for the initial year the Award was approved.
 - (3) Withdrawing from any institution unless such withdrawal was due to circumstances beyond his/her control and such withdrawal is subsequently approved in writing by the Board.
 - (4) Be employed on Guam or in the office of Guam's Delegate to Congress on the basis of two:one (2:1) for each year that assistance was received by the recipient under the Award. The recipient's employment on Guam shall commence within six (6) months after the completion of studies. If a recipient continues his/her education as a full-time student at a graduate or professional school, he/she may defer his/her return to Guam until such additional studies are completed, provided that written approval is obtained from the Board. A graduate requiring specialized training, may postpone his/her employment on Guam while undergoing specialized training as long as the recipient is certified by the director of the training program on an annual basis and upon written approval from the Board.

Service credit may be postponed upon written approval from the

Board, for up to six (6) years while the recipient is serving in active duty in a branch of the U.S. Armed Services provided, however, that the student applies for postponement within ninety (90) days of entering the Armed Services and continues to maintain Guam as place of residence.

- (f) By accepting the award, the recipient agrees that the University of Guam may obtain any or all information from his/her respective institution as needed to comply with Board rules and regulations. Additionally the recipient will be required to attend:
- (1) A Pre-Award Interview prior to disbursement of the award;
 - (2) An Exit Interview upon completion of degree with the staff from the Financial Aid Office.

9.0 **PROMISSORY NOTE.** The recipient shall execute a non-interest bearing Promissory Note with two (2) responsible co-signers, who are residents of Guam and are financially able to repay the Note in the event that the recipient fails to comply with service obligation (180 days) from the required initial date of employment. The Note becomes interest bearing on any amounts unpaid by service credit that are due and payable which shall be subject to interest on the annual rate of ten percent (10%). The total amount of the note shall be determined upon completion of studies in which assistance was provided by the award. No funds under this program shall be disbursed until the note has been complied with in accordance to the prescribed rules and regulations of this program. This Note shall be executed by Financial Aid Office, Student Financial Assistance Program.

10.0 **CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUATION OF AN AWARD.** The conditions for continuation of the Award shall include the following:

- (a) The recipient must have maintained his/her status as a regular full-time student at the institution to which he/she was admitted and in the academic/technical program for which the award was granted, unless a transfer to another institution or a change of academic/professional/technical program has been authorized in writing in accordance with the Board's regulations 8.0 (e1) and/ or(e2) .
- (b) The recipient must maintain satisfactory academic standing in accordance with Regulations 8.0 (c).
- (c) Submit an official copy of transcript and a detail billing statement of tuition and fees no later than 30 days at the end of each semester/quarter.
- (d) The recipient must provide a copy of their SAR and award letter from their institution to determine continued financial need.
- (e) No Award shall be continued beyond the number of years normally required to complete studies in the specific academic/technical degree program for which the Award was granted.

- (f) The recipient must have complied with all other regulations governing the Award.

11.0 FORFEITURE OF AWARD. Forfeiture of an award shall result from any of the causes listed below, and any award forfeited shall be immediately due and payable.

- (a) Suspension or dismissal for academic deficiency, disciplinary reasons, or conviction of a felony.
- (b) Withdrawal from the institution in anticipation of any action under (a), above or for any other reason(s) not authorized by the Board.
- (c) Failure to maintain status as a full-time student, except a recipient may be allowed by the Board one-academic term to regain full-time status without cancellation of the award, or a recipient may be permitted to carry less than full-time load, if it would not result in his failing to graduate within the normal time for completing the program of studies. In the event that an exception is granted pursuant to this subsection, the student shall be required to sign a cash repayment promissory note to repay in cash the amount awarded for the academic term in which the failure to maintain full-time status occurred and not be eligible for service credit pursuant to Section 13.0 following graduation or termination of studies for any reason.
- (d) Violation of other Board regulations.

12.0 SERVICE CREDIT. For the purpose of repayment of the Award, the recipient shall receive:

- (a) **Service Credit.** The recipient shall receive service credit on a two-to-one (2:1) ratio for each year that assistance was provided or its equivalence of \$10,000 per year when employed on Guam or in the office of Guam's Delegate to Congress. If the recipient (a) returns to Guam and (b) begins employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation without interruption, the recipient is considered to have met the obligation to the Board and will receive credit beginning on the date of employment.
- (b) **Postponement.** If the recipient wishes not to begin employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation to continue studies on a full-time basis at an accredited institution of higher education, he/she may appeal in writing to the Board for permission. Should such permission be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue his/her studies. Without the prior approval of the Board, the recipient who does not return to Guam within six (6) months, must pay in cash \$27.77 per day (\$10,000 per year) for each day between the date of graduation and the date of employment on Guam. Once this amount has been made, the recipient is entitled to use service credit for the remaining amount of the debt for each year of employment on Guam.

- (c) **Interruption.** If a person receiving service credit wishes to temporarily terminate employment on Guam to continue his/her studies on a full-time basis at an accredited institution of higher education as recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA), he/she may appeal in writing to the Board for permission. Should such permission be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue his/her studies. Without the prior approval of the Board, the recipient must pay in cash \$27.77 per day (\$10,000 per year) for each day the person is not employed on Guam. Upon payment of such amount, the recipient is entitled to use service credit on the remaining debt.
- (d) **Ineligibility for Service Credit.** Any recipient who did not receive the degree that he/she sought with assistance from Board, without prior written approval, shall be ineligible for service credit. All monies disbursed during attendance under the Professional and Technical Award will become due and payable under the note and shall be subject to an annual interest rate of ten percent (10%) in monthly installment payments. Such payments shall not exceed ten (10) years pursuant to the law. The University of Guam Collections Department will be charge with computing the recipient's monthly installment payments in the event of default.
- (e) **Leave of Absence.** It is the responsibility of the recipient to inform the University of Guam of their intended leave of absence if such leave is longer than forty-five (45) days. The recipient must remain employed on Guam to receive service credit while on off-island leave status.
- (f) **Death or Total Disability.** In the event the recipient should become totally disabled (physiological or psychological) or upon death, while completing service credit, any obligation on the note shall be terminated upon certification of two (2) physicians licensed to practice in the United States.
- (g) **Annual Proof of Employment.** It is the responsibility of the recipient to provide the Board of Regents documentary evidence of such employment and, each year thereafter, until such obligation is fulfilled.

13.0 **CONFLICT.** In the event any revised regulation herein is found to be in conflict with a previous regulation under which as student was awarded financial assistance, the regulation in effect at the time of the award shall continue to apply to the student for the remainder of the recipient's studies for which the award was made.

ProTech 03/30/00

**Student Loan Program Rules and Regulations
(As Amended by Public Law 25-85)**

STUDENT LOAN RULES AND REGULATIONS
(As amended by Public Law 25-85)

- 1.0 **STUDENTS ENTITLED TO LOANS.** Loans are provided for graduate or undergraduate studies or training in occupational priorities established by the Board, to qualified applicants who are admitted to the University of Guam, the Guam Community College or to a United States accredited off-Island college or university as a full-time student on a regular status or by Distance Learning, that may include classes by means of the internet, through a United States accredited college or university or one (1) recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation ('COPA').
- 2.0 **BACKGROUND AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY.** The Board of Regents of the University of Guam is authorized under Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, to formulate rules and regulations to equitably and efficiently administer the Student Financial Assistance Programs as listed in Title 17, Chapter 15, of the Guam Code Annotated.
- 3.0 **DEFINITIONS.** As used in these rules and regulations, the following terms will have the following meaning:
- (a) **Academic Year:** Fall and Spring Semesters for semester calendar system and Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters for a quarter calendar system.
 - (b) **Accredited:** as recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA)
 - (c) **Board:** the Board of Regents of the University of Guam.
 - (d) **Bona fide Resident:** a United States citizen or a permanent resident alien having resided on Guam for five (5) years immediately preceding the starting date of the academic year the assistance will be used.
 - (e) **Cash Repayment:** monetary cash repayment for the period the deficiency was made and no service credit allowed.
 - (f) **Distance Learning:** the delivery of instruction to students who cannot engage in traditional on-campus study and delivered through the various means of television, audio, or computer transmission (Internet), satellite transmission, computer conferencing, video cassettes or discs; or correspondence.
 - (g) **FAFSA:** Free Application for Federal Student Aid.
 - (h) **Fee:** general fees applied to all students plus laboratory and course fees.
 - (i) **Financial Need:** institutional cost minus expected family contribution (determined through the FAFSA) minus all other student financial resources or benefits equal unmet need (COA-EFC-SFA=Unmet need).
 - (j) **Full-time Status:** minimum of 12 or more credit hours per semester/quarter for undergraduate studies for students attending off-island institutions; or minimum of 9 for student attending an off-island institution for graduate studies
 - (k) **Major Program:** the specific academic program of study which will be undertaken to achieve the desired degree.

- (l) **Off-Island Recipient:** recipient attending a four-year U.S. accredited college or university in the United States because their declared major or its equivalent is not available at the University of Guam.
- (m) **Promissory Note:** Document signed by the student and their guarantors promising to repay the loan in accordance with the rules and regulations specified under the program.
- (n) **Professional Program:** the specialized programs in Medical (M.D.), Dental (D.D.S.), or other Doctorate Degrees in areas critical to Guam's professional needs (Ph.D., E.D.D., PsyD., D.B.A...etc.) degree programs.
- (o) **SAR:** Student Aid Report resulting from the processed FAFSA.
- (p) **Service Credit:** repayment of loan obligation through employment service, upon completion of studies in which funding was provided.

4.0 ELIGIBILITY. To be eligible for a Student Loan, the applicant

- (a) Must be a bona fide resident of Guam for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the assistance of the award and either:
 - 1. a citizen of the United States; or,
 - 2. a permanent resident alien.
- (b) Must be a high school or college graduate, or a college student enrolled in good standing at a U.S. accredited institution of higher education.
- (c) Must have an overall grade-point average of not less than:
 - (1) 2.0 or its equivalent in the applicant's high school studies; or upon satisfactory completion of not less than sixty (60) credit hours at a U.S. recognized and accredited college and/or university with a cumulative grade point average of not less than 2.0; or
 - (2) 2.0 cumulative grade point average in undergraduate degree if applicant is pursuing an academic graduate degree; or
 - (3) In lieu of (c)(2), an irrevocable letter of acceptance from a professional school in an area of particular need on Guam as determined by the Board of Regents' Career Priority listing in effect.
- (d) Must have evidence of financial need through the completion and processing of the "Free Application for Federal Student Aid" as reported in the Student Aid Report (SAR) or the Institutional Student Information Report received from the U. S. Department of Education Processing Center.
- (e) Must have been unconditionally accepted for admission into a major program at GCC or UOG or any other U.S. accredited institution of higher education or professional school as approved by the Board as a full-time student on a regular status or distance learning.
- (f) Must agree to the provisions of 15203 of Article 2 of Chapter 15 on the Repayment of Loan.

5.0 MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF LOAN. Loans are limited to the following amounts for the

cost of tuition and fees, room and board, books and educational supplies:

- (a) Not to exceed Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000) per year for a period of not more than four (4) scholastic years for studies at the University of Guam; and not more than two (2) years for students attending the Guam Community College.
- (b) Not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) per year for a period of not more than four (4) scholastic years for studies at an off-island institution to include Distance Learning.

The total amount of a loan is contingent on the availability of funds.

6.0 APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS. An applicant for a loan must provide the following documents:

- (a) A completed application must be received on or before April 30, by the Financial Aid Office. The official application form is obtainable in January at the Financial Aid Office.
- (b) An official letter affirming that the applicant has been unconditionally accepted for admission to a U.S. accredited institution of higher education or recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation (COPA) as a regular full-time student in a specific major program. No loans shall be granted for studies at an off-island institution in an major program that is available at the University of Guam or Guam Community College. However, the Board may grant loans under special circumstances involving legally blind and/or deaf applicants where facilities or services are unavailable at the University of Guam.
- (c) A complete official high school and/or college transcript.
- (d) College/university catalog or bulletin (preferred latest edition/year of entrance) containing information regarding the applicant's major program and institution's published annual cost of attendance.
- (e) The Student Aid Report (SAR) or Institutional Student Information Report as evidence of need for financial assistance as a result of the processed FAFSA by the U.S. Department of Education Processing Center. The FAFSA application is obtainable from the Financial Aid Office, High School Counselor or apply directly to www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- (f) Document attesting U.S. citizenship must provide
 - (1) Birth Certificate; or
 - (2) Naturalization Certificate; or
 - (3) Pass PortPermanent resident alien status must provide
 - (1) Permanent Resident Alien Card and Pass Port.
- (g) Proof of five (5) years residency on Guam student must provide;
 - (1) Copies of personal or parent's filed income tax forms for a period of five years; or,
 - (2) Certified statement from Department of Revenue; or

- (3) If a recipient of Public Assistance applicant or parent, must have certified statement from agencies providing assistance that assistance was provided for a period of five years; or
- (4) If an applicant is 18 years or younger, must provide a copy of an official transcript from Department of Education Middle Schools or Guam Private Elementary /Middle Schools; or
- (5) Voter registration for the last three recent elections certified by Guam Election Commission;
- (6) Must be listed on all documents submitted by parents or guardian.
- (7) Any combination of one thru six (1-6) above.

7.0 **SELECTION OF LOAN RECIPIENTS.** The Board of Regents shall direct the Financial Aid Office Student Financial Assistance Program Staff to review and evaluate the applications of all student loan applicants on the following:

- (a) The applicant's scholastic record and financial need.
- (b) The territory's need for professional personnel as in the career priorities determined by the Board.
- (c) The likelihood of the applicant remaining in or returning to Guam to fill the territory's professional needs.

8.0 **OBLIGATION OF LOAN RECIPIENTS.** The recipient of a loan must fulfill the following obligations:

- (a) Comply with all Student Loan regulations as established by the Board of Regents;
- (b) Must enroll for and maintain full-time student status, *minimum* 12 credit hours per semester/quarter undergraduate level or 9 credits hours per semester/quarter graduate level.
- (c) Maintain a grade-point average of not less than 2.0 each semester/quarter if the recipient is an undergraduate student, or not less than 3.0 each semester/quarter if the recipient is a graduate student. Students in graduate and professional schools who are officially certified to be in good standing at the end of each term shall be deemed to have fulfilled this requirement. Any student who fails to comply with this regulation shall be placed on probation and must meet the academic standard prescribed herein by the end of the term immediately following the term in which probationary status incurred.
- (d) Submit an official copy of transcript within thirty (30) days at the end of each semester/quarter.
- (e) Obtain written approval by the Board before:
 - (1) Transferring to another institution; one (1) transfer is allowed for the duration of the loan;
 - (2) Changing major program, one (1) change of major is allowed for the duration of the loan (change of major is not allowed during the last academic year of attendance). Such change must be within the established career priorities determined by the Board for the

initial year the student loan was approved.

- (3) Withdrawing from any institution unless such withdrawal was due to circumstances beyond his/her control and such withdrawal is subsequently approved in writing by the Board.
- (f) Be employed on Guam or in the office of Guam's Delegate to Congress for a period of one (1) year for each Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000) received by the recipient under the loan. The recipient's employment on Guam shall commence within six (6) months after the completion of studies. If a recipient continues his/her education as a full-time student at a graduate or professional school, he/she may defer his/her return to Guam until such additional studies are completed, provided written approval is obtained from the Board. A graduate requiring specialized training, may postpone his/her employment on Guam while undergoing specialized training required for completion of professional certification as long as the recipient is certified by the director of the training program on an annual basis and upon written approval from the Board.

Service credit may be postponed upon written approval from the Board, for up to six (6) years while the recipient is serving in active duty in a branch of the U.S. Armed Services provided, however, that the student applies for postponement within ninety (90) days of entering the Armed Services and continues to maintain Guam as place of residence.
- (g) By accepting the award, the recipient agrees that the University of Guam may obtain any or all information from his/her respective institution as needed to comply with Board rules and regulations. Additionally the recipient will be required to attend:
 - (1) A Pre-Award Interview prior to disbursement of the loan.
 - (2) An Exit Interview upon completion of degree with staff from the Financial Aid Office.

9.0 **PROMISSORY NOTE.** Every student awarded a loan pursuant to Article 2, section 15203 of the GCA annotated, shall execute a promissory note agreeing to repay said loan over a period to be determined by the Board, but not in excess of ten (10) years from the contemplated date of the termination or the completion of the course of studies for which the loan was approved. Said promissory note shall be non-interest bearing, except as to unpaid delinquent amounts due and payable under the note, which shall be subject of interest at the annual rate of ten percent (10%).

10.0 **CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUATION OF LOAN.** The conditions for continuation of a loan shall include the following:

- (a) The recipient must have maintained his status as a regular full-time student at the institution to which he/she was admitted and in the major program for which the loan was granted, unless a transfer to another institution or change in program major has been authorized in writing in accordance with the Board's regulations 8(b), 8(c), and 8(e).

- (b) The recipient must provide a copy of his/her SAR and award letter from his/her institution to determined continued financial need.
- (c) The student must have complied with all other regulations governing Student Loans.
- (d) No loan shall be continued beyond the number of years normally required to complete studies as a full-time student in the specific academic degree program for which the loan was granted, except under exceptional circumstances as determined by the Board.

11.0 FORFEITURE OF LOAN. Forfeiture of a loan shall result from any of the causes listed below, and any loan found to be forfeited shall be immediately due and payable.

- (a) Failure to enroll in the Fall semester/quarter of the academic year immediately following the granting of the Award, unless deferment of enrollment in that semester/quarter is approved in advance by the Board of Regents. An Awardee granted such deferment will forfeit the award for failure to enroll in the next semester/quarter immediately following the approved deferment.
- (b) Failure to maintain a minimum semester grade point average of 2.0 for undergraduate studies or 3.0 for graduates studies at the end of each academic term, except a recipient may be allowed one academic term to regain this average without cancellation of the loan.
- (c) Failure to maintain status as a full-time student. Except where
 - (1) A recipient may be allowed by the Board one academic term to regain full-time status without cancellation of the award, if the probationary period the student fail to enroll the student shall be forfeited; or
 - (2) A recipient may be permitted to enroll less than full-time in his/her last term if it would not affect the normal graduation time it requires to complete the program of studies.
- (d) Suspension or dismissal for academic deficiency, disciplinary reasons, or conviction of a felony.
- (e) Withdrawal from the institution in anticipation of any action under (d), above, or for any other reason(s) not authorized by the Board.
- (f) Change of institution and/or major without prior written approval from the Board.
- (g) Change of Guam residency.
- (h) In the event that the Board has made an exception pursuant to 11(b) or 11(c), and the recipient regained entitlement of his or her award, such recipient will be required to sign a cash repayment promissory note with two local guarantors. Repayment shall become due and payable until after graduation or termination of studies for any other reason. No service credit shall be allowed pursuant to 12(a) for the period in which the academic deficiency occurred.
- (i) Failure to comply with other Board rules and regulations.

12.0 **SERVICE CREDIT.** For the purpose of repayment of the student loan, the recipient shall receive:

- (a) **Service Credit.** The recipient shall receive service credit at the rate of for each year \$500 each month or its equivalence of \$6000 per year when employed on Guam or in the office of Guam's Delegate to Congress. If the recipient (a) returns to Guam and (b) begins employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation without interruption, the recipient is considered to have met the obligation to the Board and will receive credit beginning on the date of employment.
- (b) **Postponement.** If the recipient wishes not to begin employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation to continue studies on a full-time basis at an accredited institution of higher education, he/she may appeal in writing to the Board for permission. Should permission be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue studies. If prior approval from the Board is not obtained, the recipient who does not return and begin employment of Guam within six (6) months, must pay in cash \$16.66 per day (\$6,000 per year) for each day the person is not employed on Guam. Once this amount has been paid in full, the recipient is entitled to use service credit for the remaining amount of the debt for each year of employment on Guam.
- (c) **Interruption.** If a person receiving service credit wishes to temporarily terminate employment on Guam to continue his studies on a full-time basis at an accredited institution of higher education as recognized by the Council of Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA), an appeal in writing must be submitted to the Board of Regents for approval. Should such approval be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue studies. If prior approval of the Board is not obtained, the recipient must pay in cash \$16.66 per day (\$6,000 per year) for each day the person is not employed on Guam. Once the amount is paid in full, the recipient is entitled to use service credit on the remaining debt.
- (d) **Ineligibility for Service Credit.** Any recipient who did not receive the degree sought with assistance from the Board of Regents, and who did not obtain prior approval, shall be ineligible for service credit. All monies disbursed during attendance under the Student Loan Program will become due and payable in monthly monetary payments as determined by the University of Guam Collections Department.
- (e) **Annual Proof of Employment.** It is the responsibility of the recipient to provide the Board of Regents documentary evidence of such employment and, each year thereafter, until such obligation is fulfilled.
- (f) **Death or Total Disability.** In the event the recipient should become totally

disabled (physiological or psychological) or upon death, while completing service credit, any obligation on the note shall be terminated upon certification of two (2) physicians licensed to practice in the United States.

- 13.0 CONFLICT. In the event any revised regulation herein is found to be in conflict with a previous regulation under which a student was awarded financial assistance, the regulation in effect at the time of the award shall continue to apply to the student for the remainder of the recipient's studies for which the award was made.

Student Loan 3/30/00

**CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
TRANSMISSION CHECKLIST TO I MAGA'LAHEN GUAHAN**

(Included in File w/ All Bills Transmitted)

BILL NO. 4/2 (COR)

FINAL PROOF-READING OF BLUEBACK COPY

Initialed by:

and Date:

- EXHIBITS ATTACHED *AE 2*
- CONFIRM NUMBER OF PAGES *58*
- CAPTION ON CERTIFICATION MATCHES BILL CAPTION
- ENGROSSED SIGN "*" REMOVED FROM BILL
- 15 SENATORS IN SPONSORSHIP OR CONFIRM OTHERWISE
- CERTIFICATION SIGNED BY SPEAKER & LEGIS. SECRETARY
- EMERGENCY DECLARATION, if any *no*

Confirmed By: _____

Dated: 5/22/00

- HAND CARRY BILL IN BLUEBACK (ORIGINAL & COPY)
TO THE GOVERNOR. (DANNY, ROBERT OR OTHERS)
- ACKNOWLEDGED COPY W/ ORIGINAL BLUEBACK
PLACED ON CLERK'S DESK. (Same copy given to Susan)
- FILED by: Danny, Robert or others

MINA'BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN
2000 (SECOND) Regular Session

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'LAHEN GUAHAN

This is to certify that Substitute Bill No. 412 (COR) "AN ACT TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM, THE MERIT AWARD PROGRAM AND THE PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL AWARDS PROGRAM WITH CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS AND CHANGES AS SPECIFIED HEREIN; TO AMEND §§15201, 15A301, 15A305 AND 15102 OF CHAPTER 15 OF TITLE 17 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO MAKING REFINEMENTS FOR CERTAIN STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND TO ALLOW FOR THE EXTENSION OF APPLICATIONS DEADLINES BEYOND APRIL 30, 2000 FOR THE CURRENT YEAR," was on the 11th day of May 2000, duly and regularly passed.

ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO
Speaker

Attested:

JOANNE M.S. BROWN
Senator and Legislative Secretary

.....
This Act was received by *I Maga'lahaen Guahan* this _____ day of _____, 2000,
at _____ o'clock _____M.

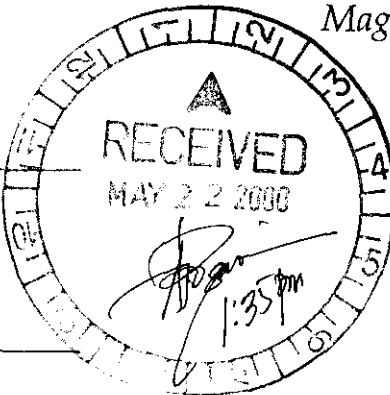
Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'lahaen's Office

APPROVED:

CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ
I Maga'lahaen Guahan

Date: _____

Public Law No. _____



Office of the Speaker
ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO
Date: 05-22-00
Time: 1055
Rec'd by: _____
Print Name: Antonio R. Unpingco



COPY

MINA' BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
TWENTY-FIFTH GUAM LEGISLATURE
155 Hesler Street, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

May 22, 2000

The Honorable Carl T.C. Gutierrez
I Maga'lahen Guåhan
Ufisinan I Maga'lahi
Hagåtña, Guam 96910



Dear Maga'lahi Gutierrez:

Transmitted herewith is Substitute Bill No. 412(COR), which was passed by *I Mina' Bente Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* on May 11, 2000.

Sincerely,

JOANNE M.S. BROWN
Senator and Legislative Secretary

Enclosure (1)

I MINA' BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN

2000 (SECOND) Regular Session

Date: 5/11/00 *U*

VOTING SHEET

S Bill No. 412 (COR)

Resolution No. _____

Question: _____

<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>NOT VOTING/ ABSTAINED</u>	<u>OUT DURING ROLL CALL</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
AGUON, Frank B., Jr.	✓				
BERMUDES, Eulogio C.	✓				
BLAZ, Anthony C.	✓				
BROWN, Joanne M.S.	✓				
CALVO, Eduardo B.	✓				
CAMACHO, Marcel G.	✓				
FORBES, Mark	✓				
KASPERBAUER, Lawrence F.	✓				
LAMORENA, Alberto C., V	✓				
LEON GUERRERO, Carlotta A.	✓				
MOYLAN, Kaleo Scott	✓				
PANGELINAN, Vicente C.	✓				
SALAS, John C.	✓				
SANCHEZ, Simon A., II					EA
UNPINGCO, Antonio R.	✓				

TOTAL

14 _____ _____ _____ 1

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

Clerk of the Legislature

* 3 Passes = No vote
EA = Excused Absence



MINA' BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
TWENTY-FIFTH GUAM LEGISLATURE
155 Hesler Street, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

May 8, 2000

(DATE)

Memorandum

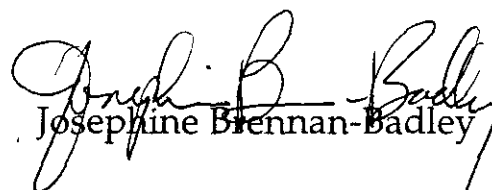
To: Senator Lawrence F. Kasperbauer

From: Clerk of the Legislature

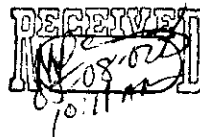
Subject: Report on Bill No. 412(COR)

Pursuant to §7.04 of Rule VII of the 25th Standing Rules, transmitted herewith is a copy of the Committee Report on Bill No. 412(COR), for which you are the prime sponsor.

Should you have any questions or need further information, please call the undersigned at 472-3464/5.


Josephine Brennan-Badley

Attachment





I MINA' I TE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
TWENTY-FIFTH GUAM LEGISLATURE
Senator Lawrence F. Kasperbauer, Ph.D.
Vice Speaker • Chairman, Committee on Education

215-A Chalan Santo Papa, Suite 106-F
Ada's Professional & Commercial Center
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Telephone (671) 475-KIDS
Fax (671) 475-2000
e-mail: lk4kids@ite.net
webpg: www.lk4kids.com

April 25, 2000

The Honorable Antonio R. Unpingco
Speaker, *I Mina Bente Singko Na Libeslaturan Guahan*
Hagatna, Guam

Via: Committee on Rules

Dear Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Education, to which was referred **Bill No. 412 (COR)** AN ACT TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM, THE MERIT AWARD PROGRAM AND THE PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL AWARDS PROGRAM herein reports back with the recommendation TO DO PASS as substituted by the Committee on Education.

Votes of the committee members are as follows:

6 To Pass

0 Not to Pass

0 To the Inactive File

0 Abstained

Sincerely,


LAWRENCE F. KASPERBAUER, Ph.D.

Attachments



April 25, 2000

MEMORANDUM

To: All Members
Committee on Education

From: Chairman

Subject: Voting Sheet

Transmitted herewith is the voting sheet and Committee Report on **Substitute Bill No. 412 (COR)** AN ACT TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM, THE MERIT AWARD PROGRAM AND THE PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL AWARDS PROGRAM, for your review and signature.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.


LAWRENCE F. KASPERBAUER, Ph.D.



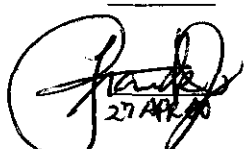
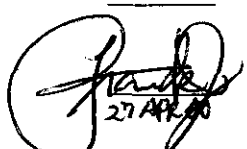
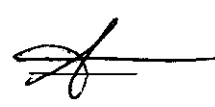

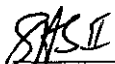
Attachments

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
 I Mina' Bente Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
 155 Hesler Street · Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Chairman: Vice Speaker Lawrence F. Kasperbauer	Vice-Chairperson: Senator Joanne M.S. Brown
Ex-Officio Member: Speaker Antonio R. Unpingco	

VOTING SHEET ON:

Substitute Bill No. 412 (COR) AN ACT TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM, THE MERIT AWARD PROGRAM AND THE PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL AWARDS PROGRAM.

<u>COMMITTEE MEMBERS</u>	<u>INITIAL</u>	<u>TO PASS</u>	<u>NOT TO PASS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE</u>
Vice Speaker Lawrence F. Kasperbauer <i>Chairman</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Joanne M.S. Brown <i>Vice-Chairperson</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Speaker Antonio R. Unpingco <i>Ex-Officio</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Frank Blas Aguon, Jr. <i>Member</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Eulogio C. Bermudes <i>Member</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Anthony C. Blaz <i>Member</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Edward B. Calvo <i>Member</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Mark Forbes <i>Member</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Kaleo Scott Moylan <i>Member</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Simon A. Sanchez, II <i>Member</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

MINA' BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
Committee on Education

Vice Speaker Lawrence F. Kasperbauer, Chairperson

Committee Report On

Bill No. 412 (COR): AN ACT TO APPROVE THE ADMINSTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM, THE MERIT AWARD PROGRAM AND THE PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL AWARDS PROGRAM WITH CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS AND CHANGES AS SPECIFIED HEREIN; AND TO AMEND §§ 15201, 15A301 AND 15A205 OF CHAPTER 15 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO MAKING REFINEMENTS FOR CERTAIN STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

I. OVERVIEW

The Committee on Education held a public hearing on Tuesday, April 25, 2000 at 2:30 p.m. at I Liheslaturan Public Hearing Room. Bill No. 412 (COR) would approve the Rules and Regulations for certain student financial assistance programs administered by the University of Guam which underwent statutory revision pursuant to Public Law 25-85 and 25-86. Specifically the proposed Rules and Regulations govern the Merit Program, the Professional/Technical Award Program and the Student Loan Program.

Committee Members Present:

Vice Speaker Lawrence F. Kasperbauer, Chairperson
Senator Frank Blas Aguon, Jr.

Other Senators Present:

Senator Carlotta A. Leon Guerrero
Senator Vicente C. Pangelinan

Providing Testimony on the Bill:

Dr. Richard Wittenbach-Santos, UOG Vice President for Student Affairs
Ms. Sallie L.T. McDonald, Director, Student Financial Aid Office, UOG
Mr. Fred Terrado, UOG Student Government Association
Mr. Mateo Aggabao, Guam Adventist Academy
Mr. Ben Gumataotao, concerned citizen
Ms. Bency M. Manglicmot, Trinity Christian School

Ms. Rosie Tainatongo, Director of Education, Guam Department of Education

II. Testimony

Dr. Wittenbach-Santos, in support of the Bill, gave a brief history of the efforts of his office and the Committee Chair and staff to update the provisions of the various statutory student financial aid programs. He outlined the problems that have resulted from the outdated and problematic statutes and the improvements that would be affected by recent statutory changes and the proposed rules and regulations. He also related UOG's interpretation of certain statutory language.

Ms. McDonald, in support of the Bill, related certain program improvements under the proposed rules and regulations and stressed that UOG's legal review of the Merit Awards statutes indicates that the recent statutory amendments are effective for students graduating from high school year.

Mr. Fred Terrado testified in support of the bill stating that the new provisions would foster increased competition among students attending private schools are at an unfair advantage because of the low enrollment levels at their schools. He stated further that students attending non-accredited schools should not be eligible for merit awards.

Mr. Mateo Aggabao referenced a letter from Mr. Murray Cooper, Guam Adventist Academy Principal (see attachment), earlier submitted to the committee which relates the Guam Adventist Academy position on Public Law 25-86, the statutes the effected changes to the Merit Award Program. He reiterated that it is unfair to change the provisions of the program mid-year such that it would affect students graduating during the current year. Regarding the issue of accreditation, he stated that GAA is in the process of becoming a candidate for WASC accreditation and that delaying implementation of the requirement that only students graduating from WASC accredited schools be eligible for Merit Awards would allow GAA and similar schools ample time to secure WASC standing. Another provision to which GAA takes exception is the apparent elimination of schools with graduating classes with less than 25 students from participation in the Merit Award Program.

Ms. Maglicmot testified that although Trinity Christian School is accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International they, also, are seeking WASC. The process, however, takes time. She expressed concerns by the GAA representative.

Ms. Rosie R. Tainatongo submitted neutral testimony commending the University of Guam for updating the rules and regulations for its scholarship programs.

III. Findings and Recommendation

The Committee on Education finds that as a result of the enactment of Public Laws 25-85 and 25-86 that changed certain financial aid programs offered by the University of Guam,

new Administrative Rules and Regulations must be promulgated and adjudicated. Bill No. 412 (COR) is the mechanism by which such Rules and Regulations will be approved. The Committee further notes that as a result of testimony received on the Bill changes to the Rules and Regulations must be made. Additionally, the Committee also finds that changes in Public Law must also be made to clarify the Legislatures Intent to cover all Guam Schools licensed to do business on Guam for Merit Awards, to clarify the implementation date for the Merit Awards, to clarify the number students from each school that will be eligible for Merit Awards and other clarify other miscellaneous provisions. Such changes are incorporated in a substitute Bill.

It is the recommendation of the Committee on Education that Substitute Bill No. 412 (COR) be reported out with the recommendation **TO DO PASS**.

MINA' BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2000 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 412 (COR)
As Substituted by the
Committee On Education

Introduced by:

L.F. Kasperbauer
F.B. Aguon
H. Moylan

AN ACT TO APPROVE THE ADMINSTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM, THE MERIT AWARD PROGRAM AND THE PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL AWARDS PROGRAM WITH CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS AND CHANGES AS SPECIFIED HEREIN; TO AMEND §§ 15102, 15201, 15A301 AND 15A205 OF CHAPTER 15 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO MAKING REFINEMENTS FOR CERTAIN STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND TO ALLOW FOR THE EXTENTION OF APPLICATIONS DEADLINES BEYOND APRIL 30, 2000 FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.

1 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:**

2

3 **Section 1.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, rule, regulation, and
4 Executive Order; the Administrative Rules and Regulations of the Student
5 Financial Assistance programs authorized by Articles 2 and 3A and 4A of Chapter
6 15, Title 17, Guam Code Annotated as amended by Public Law 25-85 and 3A and
7 4A of Chapter 15, Title 17, Guam Code Annotated as added by Public Law 25-86
8 as filed with I Liheslaturan Guåhan on April 7, 2000, as required by the provisions
9 of Chapter 9, 5GCA (*Administrative Adjudication Law*) and appended hereto as

1 Exhibit "A", Exhibit "B" and Exhibit "C" are hereby approved as amended as
2 follows:

3

4

STUDENT LOAN RULES AND REGULATIONS

5

(As amended by Public Law 25-85)

6

7 **1.0 STUDENTS ENTITLED TO LOANS.** Loans are provided for graduate or
8 undergraduate studies or training in occupational priorities established by
9 the Board, to qualified applicants who are admitted to the University of
10 Guam, the Guam Community College or to a United States accredited off-
11 Island college or university as a full-time student on a regular status or by
12 Distance Learning, that may include classes by means of the internet,
13 through a United States accredited college or university or one (1)
14 recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation ('COPA').

15

16 **2.0 BACKGROUND AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY.** The Board of
17 Regents of the University of Guam is authorized under Title 17, Guam Code
18 Annotated, to formulate rules and regulations to equitably and efficiently
19 administer the Student Financial Assistance Programs as listed in Title 17,
20 Chapter 15, of the Guam Code Annotated.

21

22 **3.0 DEFINITIONS.** As used in these rules and regulations, the following terms
23 will have the following meaning:

- 1 (a) Academic Year: Fall and Spring Semesters for semester calendar
2 system and Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters for a quarter calendar
3 system.
- 4 (b) Accredited: as recognized by the Council on Postsecondary
5 Accreditation (COPA)
- 6 (c) Board: the Board of Regents of the University of Guam.
- 7 (d) Bona fide Resident: a United States citizen or a permanent resident
8 alien having resided on Guam for five (5) years immediately
9 preceding the starting date of the academic year the assistance will be
10 used.
- 11 (e) Cash Repayment: monetary cash repayment for the period the
12 deficiency was made and no service credit allowed.
- 13 (f) Distance Learning: the delivery of instruction to students who
14 cannot engage in traditional on-campus study and delivered through
15 the various means of television, audio, or computer transmission
16 (Internet), satellite transmission, computer conferencing, video
17 cassettes or discs; or correspondence.
- 18 (g) FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid.
- 19 (h) Fee: general fees applied to all students plus laboratory and course
20 fees.
- 21 (i) Financial Need: institutional cost minus expected family
22 contribution (determined through the FAFSA) minus all other student
23 financial resources or benefits equal unmet need (COA-EFC-
24 SFA=Unmet need).

- 1 (j) Full-time Status: minimum of 12 or more credit hours per
2 semester/quarter (quarter equivalent to 12 semester hours) for
3 undergraduate studies for students attending off-island institutions; or
4 minimum of 9 credit hours per semester/quarter (quarter equivalent to
5 9 semester hours) for student attending an off-island institution for
6 graduate studies.
- 7 (k) Major Program: the specific academic program of study which will
8 be undertaken to achieve the desired degree.
- 9 (l) Off-Island Recipient: recipient attending a ~~four-year~~ U.S. accredited
10 college or university in the United States because their declared major
11 or its equivalent is not available at the University of Guam.
- 12 (m) Promissory Note: Document signed by the student and their
13 guarantors promising to repay the loan in accordance with the rules
14 and regulations specified under the program.
- 15 (n) Professional Program: the specialized programs in Medical (M.D.),
16 Dental (D.D.S.), or other Doctorate Degrees in areas critical to
17 Guam's professional needs (Ph.D., E.D.D., PsyD., D.B.A...etc.)
18 degree programs.
- 19 (o) SAR: Student Aid Report resulting from the processed FAFSA.
- 20 (p) Service Credit: repayment of loan obligation through employment
21 service, upon completion of studies in which funding was provided.

22
23 **4.0 ELIGIBILITY.** To be eligible for a Student Loan, the applicant
24

- 1 (a) Must be a bona fide resident of Guam for at least five (5) years
2 immediately preceding award the of the assistance and either:
3 (1) a citizen of the United States: or,
4 (2) a permanent resident alien.
- 5 (b) Must be a high school or college graduate, or a college student
6 enrolled in good standing at a U.S. accredited institution of higher
7 education.
- 8 (c) Must have an overall grade-point average of not less than:
9 (1) 2.0 or its equivalent in the applicant’s high school studies; or
10 upon satisfactory completion of not less than sixty (60) credit
11 hours (or quarter equivalent) at a U.S. ~~recognized~~—and
12 accredited college and/or university with a cumulative grade
13 point average of not less than 2.0; or
14 (2) 2.0 cumulative grade point average in undergraduate degree if
15 applicant is pursuing an academic graduate degree; or
16 (3) In lieu of (c)(2), an irrevocable letter of acceptance from a
17 professional school in an area of particular need on Guam as
18 determined by the Board of Regents’ Career Priority listing in
19 effect.
- 20 (d) Must have evidence of financial need through the completion and
21 processing of the “Free Application for Federal Student Aid” as
22 reported in the Student Aid Report (SAR) or the Institutional Student
23 Information Report received from the U. S. Department of Education
24 Processing Center.

- 1 (e) Must have been unconditionally accepted for admission into a major
2 program at GCC or UOG or any other U.S. accredited institution of
3 higher education or professional school as approved by the Board as a
4 full-time student on a regular status or distance learning.
- 5 (f) Must agree to the provisions of 15203 of Article 2 of Chapter 15 on
6 the Repayment of Loan.
- 7

8 **5.0** MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF LOAN. Loans are limited to the following
9 amounts for the cost of tuition and fees, room and board, books and
10 educational supplies:

11

- 12 (a) Not to exceed Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000) per year for a period of
13 not more than four (4) scholastic years for studies at the University of
14 Guam; and not more than two (2) years for students attending the
15 Guam Community College.
- 16 (b) Not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) per year for a period
17 of not more than four (4) scholastic years for studies at an off-island
18 institution to include Distance Learning.
- 19

20 The total amount of a loan is contingent on the availability of funds.

21

22 **6.0** APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS. An applicant for
23 a loan must provide the following documents:

- 1 (a) A completed application must be received on or before April 30, by
2 the Financial Aid Office. The official application form is obtainable
3 in January at the Financial Aid Office.
- 4 (b) An official letter affirming that the applicant has been
5 unconditionally accepted for admission to a U.S. accredited
6 institution of higher education or recognized by the Council on Post
7 Secondary Accreditation (COPA) as a regular full-time student in a
8 specific major program. No loans shall be granted for studies at an
9 off-island institution in a major program that is available at the
10 University of Guam or Guam Community College. However, the
11 Board may grant loans under special circumstances involving legally
12 blind and/or deaf applicants where facilities or services are
13 unavailable at the University of Guam.
- 14 (c) A complete official high school and/or college transcript.
- 15 (d) College/university catalogue or bulletin (preferred latest edition/year
16 of entrance) containing information regarding the applicant's major
17 program and institution's published annual cost of attendance.
- 18 (e) The Student Aid Report (SAR) or Institutional Student Information
19 Report as evidence of need for financial assistance as a result of the
20 processed FAFSA by the U.S. Department of Education Processing
21 Center. The FAFSA application is obtainable from the Financial Aid
22 Office, High School Counselor or apply directly to
23 www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- 24 (f) Document attesting U.S. citizenship must provide
25 (1) Birth Certificate; or

1 (2) Naturalization Certificate; or

2 (3) Passport

3 Permanent resident alien status must provide

4 (1) Permanent Resident Alien Card and Passport.

5 (g) Proof of five (5) years residency on Guam student must provide any
6 two (2) of the following;

7 (1) Copies of personal or parent's filed income tax forms for a
8 period of five years; or,

9 (2) Certified statement from Department of Revenue; or

10 (3) If a recipient of Public Assistance applicant or parent, must
11 have certified statement from agencies providing assistance
12 that assistance was provided for a period of five years; or

13 (4) If an applicant is 18 years or younger, must provide a copy of
14 an official transcript from Department of Education Middle
15 Schools or Guam Private Elementary /Middle Schools; or

16 (5) Voter registration for the last three recent elections certified by
17 Guam Election Commission;

18 (6) Must be listed on all documents submitted by parents or
19 guardian.

20 ~~(7) Any combination of one thru six (1-6) above.~~

21
22 **7.0 SELECTION OF LOAN RECIPIENTS.** The Board of Regents shall direct
23 the Financial Aid Office Student Financial Assistance Program Staff to
24 review and evaluate the applications of all student loan applicants on the
25 following:

- 1 (a) The applicant's scholastic record and financial need.
- 2 (b) The territory's need for professional personnel as in the career
- 3 priorities determined by the Board.
- 4 ~~(c) The likelihood of the applicant remaining in or returning to Guam to~~
- 5 ~~fill the territory's professional needs.~~

6

7 **8.0 OBLIGATION OF LOAN RECIPIENTS.** The recipient of a loan must

8 fulfill the following obligations:

- 9 (a) Comply with all Student Loan regulations as established by the Board
- 10 of Regents;
- 11 (b) Must enroll for and maintain full-time student status, minimum 12
- 12 credit hours per semester/quarter (or quarter equivalent of 12
- 13 semester hours) undergraduate level or 9 credits hours per
- 14 semester/quarter (or quarter equivalent of 9 semester hours) graduate
- 15 level.
- 16 (c) Maintain a grade-point average of not less than 2.0 each
- 17 semester/quarter if the recipient is an undergraduate student, or not
- 18 less than 3.0 each semester/quarter if the recipient is a graduate
- 19 student. Students in graduate and professional schools who are
- 20 officially certified to be in good standing at the end of each term shall
- 21 be deemed to have fulfilled this requirement. Any student who fails
- 22 to comply with this regulation shall be placed on probation and must
- 23 meet the academic standard prescribed herein by the end of the term
- 24 immediately following the term in which probationary status
- 25 incurred.

- 1 (d) Submit an official copy of transcript within thirty (30) days at the end
2 of each semester/quarter.
- 3 (e) Obtain written approval by the Board before:
- 4 (1) Transferring to another institution; ~~one (1) transfer is allowed~~
5 ~~for the duration of the loan;~~ transfer(s) may be approved by the
6 Board if such transfers(s) would not extend the length of time
7 required to complete the program
- 8 (2) Changing major program, ~~one (1) change of major is allowed~~
9 ~~for the duration of the loan~~ change(s) may be approved by the
10 Board if such change(s) would not extend the length of time
11 required to complete the program (change of major is not
12 allowed during the last academic year of attendance). Such
13 change must be within the established career priorities
14 determined by the Board for the initial year the student loan
15 was approved.
- 16 (3) Withdrawing from any institution unless such withdrawal was
17 due to circumstances beyond his/her control and such
18 withdrawal is subsequently approved in writing by the Board.
- 19 (f) Be employed on Guam, the Governor's Washington D.C. Liaison
20 Office or in the office of Guam's Delegate to Congress for a period of
21 one (1) year for each Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000) received by the
22 recipient under the loan. The recipient's employment on Guam shall
23 commence within six (6) months after the completion of studies. If a
24 recipient continues his/her education as a full-time student at a
25 graduate or professional school, he/she may defer his/her return to

1 Guam until such additional studies are completed, provided written
2 approval is obtained from the Board. A graduate requiring
3 specialized training, may postpone his/her employment on Guam
4 while undergoing specialized training required for completion of
5 professional certification as long as the recipient is certified by the
6 director of the training program on an annual basis and upon written
7 approval from the Board.

8 Service credit may be postponed upon written approval from
9 the Board, for up to six (6) years while the recipient is serving in
10 active duty in a branch of the U.S. Armed Services provided,
11 however, that the student applies for postponement within ninety (90)
12 days of entering the Armed Services and continues to maintain Guam
13 as place of residence.

14 (g) By accepting the award, the recipient agrees that the University of
15 Guam may obtain any or all information from his/her respective
16 institution as needed to comply with Board rules and regulations.
17 Additionally the recipient will be required to attend:

- 18 (1) A Pre-Award Interview prior to disbursement of the loan.
- 19 (2) An Exit Interview upon completion of degree with staff from
20 the Financial Aid Office.

21
22 **9.0 PROMISSORY NOTE.** Every student awarded a loan pursuant to Article
23 2, section 15203 of the GCA annotated, shall execute a promissory note
24 agreeing to repay said loan over a period to be determined by the Board, but
25 not in excess of ten (10) years from the contemplated date of the termination

1 or the completion of the course of studies for which the loan was approved.
2 Said promissory note shall be non-interest bearing, except as to unpaid
3 delinquent amounts due and payable under the note, which shall be subject
4 of interest at the annual rate of ten percent (10%).
5

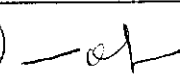
6 **10.0 CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUATION OF LOAN.** The conditions for
7 continuation of a loan shall include the following:

- 8 (a) The recipient must have maintained his status as a regular full-time
9 student at the institution to which he/she was admitted and in the
10 major program for which the loan was granted, unless a transfer to
11 another institution or change in program major has been authorized in
12 writing in accordance with the Board's regulations 8(b), 8(c), and
13 8(e).
- 14 (b) The recipient must provide a copy of his/her SAR and award letter
15 from his/her institution to determined continued financial need.
- 16 (c) The student must have complied with all other regulations governing
17 Student Loans.
- 18 (d) No loan shall be continued beyond the number of years normally
19 required to complete studies as a full-time student in the specific
20 academic degree program for which the loan was granted, except
21 under exceptional circumstances as determined by the Board.

22

23 **11.0 FORFEITURE OF LOAN.** Forfeiture of a loan shall result from any of the
24 causes listed below, and any loan found to be forfeited shall be immediately
25 due and payable.

- 1 (a) Failure to enroll in the Fall semester/quarter of the academic year
2 immediately following the granting of the Award, unless deferment
3 of enrollment in that semester/quarter is approved in advance by the
4 Board of Regents. An Awardee granted such deferment will forfeit
5 the award for failure to enroll in the next semester/quarter
6 immediately following the approved deferment.
- 7 (b) Failure to maintain a minimum semester grade point average of 2.0
8 for undergraduate studies or 3.0 for graduates studies at the end of
9 each academic term, except a recipient may be allowed one academic
10 term to regain this average without cancellation of the loan.
- 11 (c) Failure to maintain status as a full-time student. Except where
- 12 (1) A recipient may be allowed by the Board one academic term to
13 regain full- time status without cancellation of the award, if the
14 probationary period the student fail to enroll the student shall
15 be forfeited; or
- 16 (2) A recipient may be permitted to enroll less than full-time in
17 his/her last term if it would not affect the normal graduation
18 time it requires to complete the program of studies.
- 19 (d) Suspension or dismissal for academic deficiency, disciplinary
20 reasons, or conviction of a felony.
- 21 (e) Withdrawal from the institution in anticipation of any action under
22 (d), above, or for any other reason(s) not authorized by the Board.
- 23 (f) Change of institution and/or major without prior written approval
24 from the Board.

1 (g) Change of Guam residency status unless such is necessary to obtain
2 lower resident tuition and fees rates. 

3 (h) In the event that the Board has made an exception pursuant to 11(b)
4 or 11(c), and the recipient regained entitlement of his or her award,
5 such recipient will be required to sign a cash repayment promissory
6 note with two local guarantors. Repayment shall become due and
7 payable until after graduation or termination of studies for any other
8 reason. No service credit shall be allowed pursuant to 12(a) for the
9 period in which the academic deficiency occurred.

10 (i) Failure to comply with other Board rules and regulations.

11
12 **12.0 SERVICE CREDIT.** For the purpose of repayment of the student loan, the
13 recipient shall receive:

14 (a) Service Credit. The recipient shall receive service credit at the rate of
15 for each year \$500 each month or its equivalence of \$6000 per year
16 when employed on Guam, the Governor's Washington D.C. Liaison
17 Office or in the office of Guam's Delegate to Congress. If the
18 recipient (a) returns to Guam and (b) begins employment on Guam
19 within six (6) months after graduation without interruption, the
20 recipient is considered to have met the obligation to the Board and
21 will receive credit beginning on the date of employment.

22 (b) Postponement. If the recipient wishes not to begin employment on
23 Guam within six (6) months after graduation to continue studies on a
24 full-time basis at an accredited institution of higher education, he/she
25 may appeal in writing to the Board for permission. Should

1 permission be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for
2 the period granted to continue studies. If prior approval from the
3 Board is not obtained, the recipient who does not return and begin
4 employment of Guam within six (6) months must pay in cash \$16.66
5 per day (\$6,000 per year) for each day the person is not employed on
6 Guam. Once this amount has been paid in full, the recipient is
7 entitled to use service credit for the remaining amount of the debt for
8 each year of employment on Guam.

9 (c) Interruption. If a person receiving service credit wishes to
10 temporarily terminate employment on Guam to continue his studies
11 on a full-time basis at an accredited institution of higher education as
12 recognized by the Council of Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA),
13 an appeal in writing must be submitted to the Board of Regents for
14 approval. Should such approval be granted, the repayment obligation
15 shall be deferred for the period granted to continue studies. If prior
16 approval of the Board is not obtained, the recipient must pay in cash
17 \$16.66 per day (\$6,000 per year) for each day the person is not
18 employed on Guam. Once the amount is paid in full, the recipient is
19 entitled to use service credit on the remaining debt.

20 (d) Ineligibility for Service Credit. Any recipient who did not receive the
21 degree sought with assistance from the Board of Regents, and who
22 did not obtain prior approval, shall be ineligible for service credit.
23 All monies disbursed during attendance under the Student Loan
24 Program will become due and payable in monthly monetary payments
25 as determined by the University of Guam Collections Department.

1 (e) Annual Proof of Employment. It is the responsibility of the recipient
2 to provide the Board of Regents documentary evidence of such
3 employment and, each year thereafter, until such obligation is
4 fulfilled.

5 (f) Death or Total Disability. In the event the recipient should become
6 totally disabled (physiological or psychological) or upon death, while
7 completing service credit, any obligation on the note shall be
8 terminated upon certification of two (2) physicians licensed to
9 practice in the United States.

10
11 **13.0** CONFLICT. In the event any revised regulation herein is found to be in
12 conflict with a previous regulation under which a student was awarded
13 financial assistance, the regulation in effect at the time of the award shall
14 continue to apply to the student for the remainder of the recipient's studies
15 for which the award was made.

16 **MERIT AWARD RULES AND REGULATIONS**

17 **(As amended by Public Law 25-86)**

18
19
20 **1.0** STUDENTS ENTITLED TO MERIT AWARDS. There are established
21 annual merit awards for high school students in the graduating classes of a
22 ~~fully accredited, or candidate for accreditation, as recognized by the~~
23 ~~Western Association of Schools and Colleges ('WASC')~~ public and private
24 high school licensed to do business on Guam. The students entitled to these
25 awards shall be the students having the highest scholastic standing in the

1 graduating classes of each such public and non-public high school on Guam
2 except for Department of Defense Schools.

3
4 **2.0** **BACKGROUND AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY.** The Board of
5 Regents of the University of Guam is authorized under Title 17, Guam Code
6 Annotated, to formulate rules and regulations to equitably and efficiently
7 administer the Student Financial Assistance Programs as listed in Title 17,
8 Chapter 15, of the Guam Code Annotated.

9
10 **3.0** **DEFINITIONS.** As used in these rules and regulations, the following terms
11 will have the following meaning:

- 12 (a) Academic Standing: rank according to cumulative numeric grades,
13 and is the same as scholastic standing.
- 14 (b) Academic Year: Fall and Spring Semesters for semester calendar
15 system and Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters for a quarter calendar
16 system.
- 17 (c) Accredited: as recognized by the Council on Postsecondary
18 Accreditation (COPA
- 19 (d) Awardee: the recipient of the Merit Award who was selected on the
20 basis of his/her high academic standing from his/her high school
21 graduating class.
- 22 (e) Board: the Board of Regents of the University of Guam.
- 23 (f) Cash Repayment: monetary cash repayment for the period the
24 deficiency was made and no service credit allowed.

- 1 (g) Cumulative Numeric Grades: are computed on the basis of freshman
2 (9th), sophomore (10th), junior (11th), and senior (12th) years in school
3 on a scale of 0-100 points or higher for honor courses and calculated
4 to the thousandth decimal place.
- 5 (h) Fee: general fees applied to all students plus laboratory and course
6 fees.
- 7 Full-time Status: minimum of 12 or more credit hours per
8 semester/quarter (quarter equivalent to 12 semester hours) during the
9 regular semesters and 6 credit hours (quarter equivalent to 6 semester
10 hours) for Summer Sessions.
- 11 (j) Generally Open: those private, parochial and public high schools
12 under the jurisdiction of the Government of Guam.
- 13 (k) Inter-session: the break period between Fall Semester and Spring
14 Semesters.
- 15 (l) Major Program: the specific academic program of study which will
16 be undertaken to achieve the desired degree.
- 17 (m) Nominee: a student selected by an eligible school who has met the
18 academic criteria and eligibility criteria as established by the Merit
19 Rules and Regulations of the University of Guam
- 20 (n) Off-Island Recipient: recipient attending a four-year U.S. accredited
21 college or university in the United States because the declared major
22 or its equivalent, is not available at the University of Guam.
- 23 (o) Promissory Note: Document signed by the student and their
24 guarantors promising to repay the loan in accordance with the rules
25 and regulations specified under the program.

- 1 (p) Resident: a resident of Guam for a continuous period of not less than
2 five (5) years immediately preceding June 15th of the year the award
3 is to be awarded.
- 4 (q) Service Credit: repayment of award obligation through employment
5 service, upon completion of studies.
- 6 (r) Stipend: payment disbursed on a monthly installment.
- 7 (s) Total Disability: any physiological or psychological condition that
8 will prevent the recipient from obtaining or maintaining any form of
9 gainful employment for a period of not less than three (3) years.
10 Such condition will require the certification of two (2) physicians
11 licensed to practice in the United States.

12

13 **4.0** NUMBER OF AWARDS. Each graduating class of the public and private
14 high schools on Guam, is entitled to One (1) for every fifty (50) graduates
15 of a school's graduating class, rounded to the nearest fifty (50), however,
16 schools with less than fifty (50) graduating seniors that meet all other
17 requirements herein shall be entitled to one (1) award. If there should be a
18 tie of the equal scholastic standing of two or more graduates, the University
19 of Guam will provide a mechanism to break the tie using the cumulative
20 numeric grades first going to whatever decimal place is required to break
21 the tie. If a tie still exists, then the SAT scores will be used to break the tie.
22 Each student must meet the eligibility requirements established in Title 17,
23 Chapter 15 GCA, Subsection 15301 (a.1). The number of awards will be
24 determined by the actual number of diplomas awarded on graduation day.

25

- 1 5.0 CRITERIA OF ELIGIBILITY. To qualify for a Merit Award, the student
- 2 (a) Must be a graduate from ~~Guam's~~ a public or private high school that
- 3 is licensed to do business on Guam ~~fully accredited or candidate for~~
- 4 ~~accreditation as recognized by the Western Association of Schools~~
- 5 ~~and Colleges (a.k.a. WASC).~~
- 6 (b) Shall be one(s) having the highest academic scholastic standing of
- 7 their respective graduating classes based on four (4) completed
- 8 consecutive years of attendance in high school, generally open to all
- 9 students on Guam, except the Department of Defense Schools; and
- 10 (c) (1) a United States citizen; or,
- 11 (2) a permanent resident alien; and
- 12 (d) Must be a resident of Guam for a continuous period of not less than
- 13 five (5) years immediately preceding June 15th of the year the award
- 14 is to be awarded.
- 15 (e) If any student is ineligible for an award solely because he/she does
- 16 not meet the requirements of sections 5(c) and (d), or if any eligible
- 17 student declines an award when first offered such award, the award
- 18 shall be granted to the next eligible student in academic standing in
- 19 the class, who chooses to accept the award.
- 20

21 6.0 NOMINATION PROCEDURE. Each eligible high school shall submit a

22 list of nominees on Form A, as attached, for the awards in descending order

23 of rank, based on the academic standing and who meet the eligibility

24 requirements as stated in sections 5(c) and (d), to the Board of Regents. In

25 the event any nominee declines to accept the award, the next graduate in

1 academic standing in the class shall be offered the award or in the case of a
2 tie, the student that was eliminated by the tiebreaker, will be offered the
3 award.. A signed statement of acceptance or rejection of the nominees shall
4 be submitted with the list of nominees. If an eligible student declines to
5 accept an award when first offered, such student cannot accept such an
6 award after it has been granted to another student.

7
8 **7.0 SELECTION PROCEDURE.**

- 9 (a) The Board of Regents shall direct the Financial Aid Director or
10 designee to certify academic standing of the nominees on Form A
11 submitted by the schools.
- 12 (b) The Board of Regents shall, at a regular or special meeting, approve
13 the selection of the recipients.
- 14 (c) Within five (5) working days of the Board's action, notice of award
15 shall be sent certified mail to each recipient. The selected recipient of
16 a Merit award must notify the Board of Regents within thirty days
17 (30) days of postmarked or stamped date of notice of the award
18 whether the recipient will accept the award. If the selected recipient
19 fails to do so, the award is thereby forfeited and the award shall be
20 offered to the next alternate. If a selected recipient declines to accept
21 a Merit award after it has been offered, such recipient shall no longer
22 be entitled to receive such award from the Board of Regents.
- 23 (d) All selected recipients shall attend a mandatory orientation to
24 complete the award process. Failure to attend said orientation may be
25 cause to deny the Merit Award. All documents required by the

1 Financial Aid Office to complete the award process will be received
2 and completed by the recipient during the orientation process.
3

4 **8.0 ATTENDANCE.** Awardees are to attend the University of Guam. If the
5 Awardee's academic major program is unavailable at the University of
6 Guam, the Awardee may attend any four-year U.S. accredited college or
7 university in the United States, as recognized by the Council on Post
8 Secondary Accreditation (COPA) where such declared major is available.

9 ~~(a) Awardees attending an off-island institution pursuant to this section
10 shall provide a letter of unconditional acceptance into the major
11 program of studies.~~
12

13 **9.0 PROMISSORY NOTE.** All merit award recipients shall execute a
14 Promissory Note with two (2) responsible co-signers, who are residents of
15 Guam and are financially able to repay the award in the event the student
16 fails to comply with service obligations(180 days) from required
17 employment date, at which time the Board may extend cash repayment for a
18 period not to exceed ten (10) years at an annual percentage rate of not less
19 than ten percent (10%). No funds under this program shall be disbursed
20 while the student is attending his/her approved institution until the note is
21 submitted to the Financial Aid Office, Student Financial Assistance
22 Program and he/she is found to be in compliance with the requirements
23 under this program.
24

25 **10.0 AWARD BENEFITS.** Awardees are entitled to the following benefits:

- 1 (a) Tuition and fees each academic year to be paid by the Student
2 Financial Assistance fund for a period of not more than four (4) years
3 in an undergraduate program at the University of Guam, or at an
4 authorized off-island institution. If an Awardee is authorized to
5 attend an off-island institution, the tuition and fee benefits shall be
6 based on the University of Guam tuition and fee rates.
- 7 (b) An additional two (2) years of tuition and fees will be granted for the
8 top two Awardees from a graduating class who attended and
9 successfully completes undergraduate studies at the University of
10 Guam and have completed admission requirements for graduate
11 school at the University of Guam for the purpose of pursuing a
12 Master's Degree.
- 13 (c) A monthly stipend based on the following:
- 14 (1) \$300 based on fifty-nine (59) or fewer semesters/quarter hours
15 completed.
- 16 (2) \$500 based on sixty (60) or more semester hours to graduation.
- 17 (3) \$600 for graduate students pursuant to sections 10(b).
- 18 (4) \$100 for one month only for each inter-session cycle attended
19 in the summer.
- 20 (5) No stipend will be granted for students attending Fall inter-
21 session.
- 22 (d) An allowance of \$250 per semester and \$100 maximum for summer
23 will be granted for textbooks to be disbursed in accordance with
24 regulations adopted by the Board. Students attending inter-session

1 between the Fall and Spring semesters on a full-time basis are eligible
2 for the maximum of \$100 for books.

- 3 (e) Awardees authorized to attend an off-island institution shall not
4 exceed the amount of assistance granted for a student attending
5 school at the University of Guam but are entitled to the cost of airfare
6 for one-way, economy airline tickets to the school of attendance and
7 one-way ticket to return to Guam upon completion of studies.

8
9 **11.0 OBLIGATIONS OF RECIPIENTS.** The recipient of an award must fulfill
10 the following obligations:

- 11 (a) Comply with all Merit regulations as established by the Board of
12 Regents and duly adjudicated;
- 13 (b) Submit proof of detail charges of tuition and fees within thirty days
14 after the start of each semester/quarter.
- 15 (c) Maintain a cumulative grade-point average of not less than 2.5 at the
16 end of each semester/quarter. Any student who fails to comply with
17 this regulation shall be placed on probation and must meet the
18 academic standard prescribed herein by the end of the term
19 immediately following the term in which the student incurred
20 probationary status;
- 21 (d) Submit an official transcript within thirty (30)days at the end of each
22 semester/quarter;
- 23 (e) Must enroll for and maintain full-time student status, minimum 12
24 credits hours per semester/quarter. Should the college or university's

1 policy not reflect this standard full-time enrollment, the student most
2 obtain verification certifying the full-time status for that term.

3 (f) Obtain written approval (special request) by the Board before:

4 (1) Transferring to another institution; ~~one (1) transfer is allowed~~
5 ~~for the duration of the award~~ transfer(s) may be approved by
6 the Board if such transfers(s) would not extend the length of
7 time required to complete the program;

8 (2) Changing major program, ~~one (1) change of major is allowed~~
9 ~~for the duration of the award~~ ~~one (1) transfer is allowed for the~~
10 ~~duration of the award~~ changes(s) may be approved by the
11 Board if such changes(s) would not extend the length of time
12 required to complete the program (change of major is not
13 allowed during the last academic year of attendance);

14 (2.a) For off-island recipients requesting a change of major,
15 the new major or its equivalent must not be a major
16 offered at the University of Guam.

17 (2.b) Off-island recipients who double major, must have one
18 or both of the majors not offered at the University of
19 Guam, and must also graduate with a major not offered
20 at the University of Guam.

21 (3) Withdrawing from any institution unless such withdrawal was
22 due to circumstances beyond the student's control and the
23 Board subsequently approves such withdrawal in writing.

24 (g) Changes to award status known as "special requests" shall be
25 submitted to the Board in writing from a recipient. Such status

1 change shall include, but will not be limited to the following: change
2 of major, change of professional or technical program, change of
3 institution, change of graduation date, deferment of attendance, or
4 deferment of service obligation. Applicable to all recipients
5 beginning academic year 1996-97.

6 (1) Except for deferment requests, special requests shall be
7 submitted to the Board no later than two (2) months (60
8 calendar days) prior to the start of the academic term for which
9 the request is to take effect. Requests received after the two (2)
10 months (60 calendar days), shall be acknowledged and returned
11 without any action indicating non-compliance with the
12 deadline requirement.

13 (h) All Awardees must agree to work on Guam, the Governor's
14 Washington D.C. Liaison Office or in the Office of Guam's Delegate
15 to Congress for each year assistance was provided (1:1).

16 (i) All Awardees must provide proof of full-time employment within six
17 months after graduation by submitting a Verification of Employment,
18 certification or 1040 tax forms or W-2 forms. For self-employment, a
19 Business License, Gross Receipt Tax, and a notarized statement of
20 earnings is required. Employment verifications shall be submitted by
21 the recipient annually. If a recipient wishes to continue his/her
22 education as a full-time student at a graduate or professional school,
23 they may defer their employment obligation on Guam until such
24 additional studies are complete, provided written approval has been
25 granted from the Board. Failure to return to Guam and to begin

1 employment on Guam within six (6) months of graduation, such
2 obligation shall be immediately due and payable in monthly monetary
3 payments.

- 4 (j) By accepting the award, the recipient agrees that the University of
5 Guam may obtain any or all information from the respective
6 institution as needed to comply with Board regulations.

7
8 **12.0 CANCELLATION/FORFEITURE OF AWARD.** Any of the following
9 shall result in the cancellation/forfeiture of an award. Forfeiture results in
10 the monetary repayment obligation for any and all funds received.

- 11 (a) Failure to enroll in the Fall semester/quarter of the academic year
12 immediately following the granting of the Award, unless deferment
13 of enrollment in that semester/quarter is approved in advance by the
14 Board of Regents. An Awardee granted such deferment will forfeit
15 the award for failure to enroll in the next semester/quarter
16 immediately following the approved deferment.
- 17 (b) Failure to maintain a cumulative grade-point average of 2.5 or its
18 equivalent (acceptable by the Board) except a recipient may be
19 allowed one academic term to regain this average without
20 cancellation of award.
- 21 (c) Failure to maintain full-time status.
- 22 (d) Suspension or dismissal for academic deficiency, disciplinary
23 reason(s) or conviction of a felony.
- 24 (e) Change of institution and major without prior approval from the
25 Board.

1 (f) Change of Guam residency status unless such is necessary to obtain
2 lower resident tuition and fees rates.

3 (g) In the event that pursuant to 12(b) or (c), the recipient regained
4 entitlement of his or her award, such recipient shall not be required to
5 repay the amount awarded for that academic term in which the
6 academic deficiency or failure to maintain full-time status occurred
7 until after graduation, or other termination of studies for any other
8 reason.

9 (h) Failure to comply with other Board Regulations.

10
11 13.0 SERVICE CREDIT. For the purpose of repayment, the recipient shall
12 receive:

13 (a) Service Credit. The recipient shall receive service credit for each
14 year of employment on Guam, the Governor's Washington, D.C.
15 Liaison Office or in the Office of Guam Delegate to Congress. If the
16 recipient (a) returns to Guam and (b) begins employment on Guam
17 within six (6) months after graduation without interruption, the
18 recipient is considered to have met the obligation to the Board and
19 will receive credit beginning on the date of employment. A year of
20 service credit is twelve (12) months.

21 (b) Postponement. If the recipient wishes not to begin employment on
22 Guam as required by Rule 13 (a) herein within six (6) months after
23 graduation to continue studies at a graduate or professional school on
24 a regular full-time, on-campus basis, at an accredited institution of
25 higher education, as recognized by the Council on Post Secondary

1 Accreditation (COPA), an appeal may be submitted in writing to the
2 Board for approval.

3 (c) Unapproved Postponement. Should such approval be granted, in
4 accordance with 13.0 (b), the repayment obligation shall be deferred
5 for the period granted to continue studies. If prior approval from the
6 Board is not obtained, the recipient who does not return and begin
7 employment of Guam within six (6) months, must pay in cash based
8 on the total amount received per year and calculated on a daily rate
9 for each day the person is not employed on Guam. The daily rate will
10 be calculated by the University of Guam Collection Department as
11 authorized by the Board of Regents. Once this amount has been paid
12 in full, the recipient is entitled to use service credit for the remaining
13 amount of the debt for each year of employment on Guam.

14 (d) Interruption. If a person receiving service credit wishes to
15 temporarily terminate employment on Guam to continue studies at a
16 graduate or professional school on a regular full-time on campus
17 basis, at a U.S. accredited institution of higher education as
18 recognized by the Council of Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA),
19 an appeal in writing must be submitted to the Board of Regents for
20 approval. Should such approval be granted, the repayment obligation
21 shall be deferred for the period granted to continue studies. If prior
22 approval of the Board is not obtained, the recipient must pay in cash
23 per day for each day the person is not employed on Guam at the rate
24 determined by the University of Guam Collection Department. Once

1 the amount is paid in full, the recipient is entitled to use service credit
2 on the remaining debt.

3 (e) Ineligibility for Service Credit. Any recipient who did not receive the
4 degree sought with assistance from the Board of Regents, and who
5 did not obtain prior approval, shall be ineligible for service credit.
6 All monies disbursed during attendance under the Merit Award will
7 become due and payable and shall be subject to an annual interest rate
8 of ten percent (10%) in monthly installment payments. Such
9 payments must not exceed ten (10) years pursuant to the law. The
10 University of Guam Collections Department will be charge with
11 computing the recipient's monthly installment payments in the event
12 of default. Furthermore, permanent transfer to an off-island office or
13 transfer or branch of a Guam employer shall not count towards
14 service credit and shall result in default on the date of transfer and
15 interest shall begin on such date of default.

16 (f) Death or Total Disability. In the event the recipient should become
17 totally disabled (physiological or psychological) or upon death, while
18 completing service credit, any obligation on the note shall be
19 terminated upon certification of two (2) physicians licensed to
20 practice in the United States.

21 (g) Leave of Absence. It is the responsibility of the recipient to inform
22 the University of Guam of their intended leave of absence if such
23 leave is longer than forty-five (45) days. The recipient must remain
24 employed ~~on Guam~~ pursuant to Rule 13 (a) herein to receive service
25 credit while on off-island temporary leave status.

1 (h) Annual Proof of Employment. It is the responsibility of the recipient
2 to provide the Board of Regents documentary evidence of such
3 employment and, each year thereafter, until such obligation is
4 fulfilled.

5
6 **14.0 CONFLICT.** In the event any revised regulations herein is found to be in
7 conflict with a previous regulation under which the student was awarded
8 financial assistance, the regulation in effect at the time of the award shall
9 continue to apply to the student for the remainder of the recipient's studies
10 for which the award was made.

11
12 **PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL AWARD RULES AND REGULATIONS**

13 **(As amended by Public Law 25-86)**

14
15 **1.0 STUDENTS ENTITLED TO AWARDS.** There are established professional
16 and technical awards for graduate studies in occupational priorities
17 established by the Board.

18
19 **2.0 BACKGROUND AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY.** The Board of
20 Regents of the University of Guam is authorized under Title 17, Guam Code
21 Annotated, to formulate rules and regulations to equitably and efficiently
22 administer the Student Financial Assistance Programs as listed in Title 17,
23 Chapter 15, of the Guam Code Annotated.

24

1 **3.0** DEFINITIONS. As used in these rules and regulations, the following terms
2 will have the following meaning:

- 3 (a) Academic Year: Fall and Spring Semesters for semester calendar
4 system and Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters for a quarter calendar
5 system.
- 6 (b) Academic Program: the specific academic program of study which
7 will be undertaken to achieve the desired degree.
- 8 (c) Accreditation: as recognized by the Council on Postsecondary
9 Accreditation (COPA).
- 10 (d) Board : the Board of Regents of the University of Guam.
- 11 (e) Bona fide Resident: resident of Guam for a continuous period of not
12 less than ten (10) years prior to application.
- 13 (f) Cash Repayment: monetary cash repayment for the period the
14 deficiency was made and no service credit allowed.
- 15 (g) FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid.
- 16 (h) Fees: general fees applied to all students plus laboratory and course
17 fees.
- 18 (i) Financial Need: institutional cost minus expected family
19 contribution (determined through the FAFSA) minus all other student
20 financial resources or benefits equal unmet need (COA-EFC-
21 SFA=Unmet need).
- 22 (j) Full-time Status: 9 or more credit hours per semester/quarter (or
23 quarter equivalent to 9 semester hours) for graduate students.
- 24 (k) Professional/Technical Program: any graduate degree program in
25 areas listed in the Career Priority.

- 1 (l) Promissory Note: the document sign by student promising to repay
- 2 the award in accordance with the rules and regulations specified
- 3 under the program.
- 4 (m) SAR: Student Aid Report resulting from the processed FAFSA.
- 5 (n) Service Credit: repayment of award obligation through employment
- 6 service, upon completion of studies.

7

8 **4.0 ELIGIBILITY.** To be eligible for a Professional/Technical Award, the

9 applicant:

- 10
- 11 (a) Must be a bona fide resident of Guam for a continuous period of not
- 12 less than ten (10) years prior to application, and either:
 - 13 (1) a citizen of the United States: or,
 - 14 (2) a permanent resident alien.
- 15 (b) Must be a college graduate, or a full-time student in good standing in
- 16 a graduate program at a U.S. accredited institution of higher
- 17 education or professional school as recognized by COPA.
- 18 (c) Must have an overall grade-point average of at least 3.0 in his/her
- 19 undergraduate studies or 3.33 in his/her master's program if he or she
- 20 is pursuing a doctorate degree, or an irrevocable letter of acceptance
- 21 from a ~~four-year~~ U.S. accredited institution or professional school at
- 22 the time of submission of application.
- 23 (d) Must provide evidence of financial need through the completion and
- 24 processing of the "Free Application for Federal Student Aid" as
- 25 reported in the Student Aid Report (SAR) or the Institutional Student

1 Information Report received from the U.S. Department of Education
2 Processing Center.

- 3 (e) Must have been unconditionally accepted for admission into a
4 professional/technical program at a U.S. accredited institution of
5 higher education or professional school as recognized by COPA as a
6 full-time student at the time of submission of application.

7
8 **5.0 SELECTION OF AWARDEE.** The Board of Regents shall direct the
9 Financial Aid Office Student Financial Assistance Program Staff to review
10 and evaluate the applications of all student loan applicants on the following:

- 11 (a) The applicant's scholastic record, aptitude, financial need; or
12 (b) The Board may use work-or lifetime experience and achievement
13 criteria in place of the aptitude if because of such experience, it can
14 be reasonably determined that the applicant will succeed in the course
15 of study.
16 (c) The territory's need for professional personnel in the career field
17 selected by the applicant and based on the career priorities
18 determined by the Board.
19 ~~(d) The likelihood of the applicant remaining in or returning to Guam to~~
20 ~~fill the territory's professional needs.~~
21 (e)(d) The applicant must have evidence of financial need through
22 submission of a SAR processed by the U.S. Department of Education
23 Processing Center.

24
25 **6.0 BENEFITS.** An award recipient is entitled to the following benefits:

- 1 (a) Payment of tuition and other fees for a period designated in the
2 college bulletin to complete the program which should not be more
3 than four (4) scholastic years.
- 4 (b) An annual grant loan for not more than \$10,000 for room and board,
5 books, and educational supplies.
- 6 (c) Cost of airfare for one-way, economy airline tickets to the school of
7 attendance and one-way ticket to return to Guam upon completion of
8 studies.
- 9 (d) Total for items (a) and (b) shall not exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars
10 (\$20,000) per year for a period of not more than four (4) scholastic
11 years for studies at an off-island institution.
- 12 (e) If the course of study is in medicine or dentistry, the total for items
13 (a) and (b) shall not exceed Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000)
14 per year.

15
16 The total amount of an award is contingent on the availability of funds.
17

18 **7.0 APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS.** An applicant for
19 an award must provide the following documents:

- 20 (a) A completed application must be received on or before April 30th, to
21 the Financial Aid Office, University of Guam. The official
22 application form is obtainable in January at the Financial Aid Office.
- 23 (b) An official letter affirming that the applicant has been
24 unconditionally accepted for admission to a ~~four-year~~ U.S. accredited
25 higher education institution or professional school as recognized by

1 the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation (COPA) as a regular
2 full-time graduate student in a specific professional/technical
3 program; or that the applicant is enrolled in the program and in good
4 standing. No Award will be granted for studies at an off-island
5 institution in an academic/technical program that is available at the
6 University of Guam.

7 (c) A complete official college transcript of the applicant's studies at all
8 institutions attended.

9 (d) College/university catalog or bulletin applicable to student's
10 enrollment containing information regarding the applicant's
11 professional/technical program and institution's published annual
12 cost of attendance and the normal number of years or semester for
13 completion of program.

14 (e) The Student Aid Report (SAR) or Institutional Student Information
15 Report as evidence of need for financial assistance as a result of the
16 processed FAFSA by the U.S. Department of Education Processing
17 Center. The FAFSA application is obtainable from the Financial Aid
18 Office or apply directly to www.fafsa.ed.gov.

19 (f) Must submit proof of U.S. citizenship (Birth Certificate, Naturalized
20 Certificate, or Pass Port) or proof of permanent resident alien status
21 (Permanent Resident Alien Card and Pass Port).

22 (g) Must provide any two (2) of the following as proof of ten (10) years
23 residency on Guam:

24 (1) Copies of filed income tax records for a period of ten (10)
25 years; or,

- 1 (2) Certified or Validation of income tax filed from Department of
2 Revenue; or
- 3 (3) If a recipient of Public Assistance, must have certified
4 statement from agencies that assistance was provided for a
5 period of ten years; or
- 6 (4) Certified statement from Election Commission on Voter
7 registration for the past three general elections; or
- 8 (5) Bank Statement of Mortgage on principal residence over ten
9 year period; or
- 10 ~~(6) —Combination of one thru five (1-5)~~

11

12 **8.0 OBLIGATION OF AWARD RECIPIENTS.** The recipient of an Award
13 must fulfill the following obligations:

- 14 (a) Comply with all award regulations established by the Board of
15 Regents;
- 16 (b) Enroll for and maintain full-time student status.
- 17 (c) Maintain a grade-point average of not less than 3.0 each
18 semester/quarter; or be officially certified by the institution that the
19 recipient is in good academic standing. A student who fails to
20 comply with this regulation shall be placed on probation and must
21 meet the academic standard prescribed herein by the end of the term
22 immediately following the term in which the probationary status
23 incurred.

- 1 (d) Submit an official copy of transcript and a detail billing statement of
2 tuition and fees no later than 30 days at the end of each
3 semester/quarter.
- 4 (e) Obtain written approval by the Board before:
- 5 (1) Transferring to another institution; ~~one (1) transfer is allowed~~
6 ~~for the duration of the award~~ transfer(s) may be approved by
7 the Board if such transfers(s) would not extend the length of
8 time required to complete the program;
- 9 (2) Changing academic/technical program; ~~one (1) change of~~
10 ~~program major is allowed for the duration of the award~~
11 changes(s) may be approved by the Board if such changes(s)
12 would not extend the length of time required to complete the
13 program. Such change must be within the established career
14 priorities determined by the Board for the initial year the
15 Award was approved.
- 16 (3) Withdrawing from any institution unless such withdrawal was
17 due to circumstances beyond his/her control and such
18 withdrawal is subsequently approved in writing by the Board.
- 19 (4) Be employed on Guam, the Governor's Washington D.C.
20 Liaison Office or in the office of Guam's Delegate to Congress
21 on the basis of two to one (2:1) for each year that assistance
22 was received by the recipient under the Award. The recipient
23 's employment on Guam shall commence within six (6) months
24 after the completion of studies. If a recipient continues his/her
25 education as a full-time student at a graduate or professional

1 school, he/she may defer his/her return to Guam until such
2 additional studies are completed, provided that written
3 approval is obtained from the Board. A graduate requiring
4 specialized training, may postpone his/her employment on
5 Guam while undergoing specialized training as long as the
6 recipient is certified by the director of the training program on
7 an annual basis and upon written approval from the Board.

8 Service credit may be postponed upon written approval
9 from the Board, for up to six (6) years while the recipient is
10 serving in active duty in a branch of the U.S. Armed Services
11 provided, however, that the student applies for postponement
12 within ninety (90) days of entering the Armed Services and
13 continues to maintain Guam as place of residence.

14 (f) By accepting the award, the recipient agrees that the University of
15 Guam may obtain any or all information from his/her respective
16 institution as needed to comply with Board rules and regulations.

17 Additionally the recipient will be required to attend:

- 18 (1) A Pre-Award Interview prior to disbursement of the award;
19 (2) An Exit Interview upon completion of degree with the staff
20 from the Financial Aid Office.

21
22 **9.0 PROMISSORY NOTE.** The recipient shall execute a non-interest bearing
23 Promissory Note with two (2) responsible co-signers, who are residents of
24 Guam and are financially able to repay the Note in the event that the
25 recipient fails to comply with service obligation (180 days) from the

1 required initial date of employment. The Note becomes interest bearing on
2 any amounts unpaid by service credit that are due and payable which shall
3 be subject to interest on the annual rate of ten percent (10%). The total
4 amount of the note shall be determined upon completion of studies in which
5 assistance was provided by the award. No funds under this program shall
6 be disbursed until the note has been complied with in accordance to the
7 prescribed rules and regulations of this program. This Note shall be
8 executed by the Financial Aid Office, Student Financial Assistance
9 Program.

10
11 **10.0** CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUATION OF AN AWARD. The conditions
12 for continuation of the Award shall include the following:

- 13 (a) The recipient must have maintained his/her status as a regular full-
14 time student at the institution to which he/she was admitted and in the
15 academic/technical program for which the award was granted, unless
16 a transfer to another institution or a change of
17 academic/professional/technical program has been authorized in
18 writing in accordance with the Board's regulations 8.0 (e1) and/ or
19 (e2)
- 20 (b) The recipient must maintain satisfactory academic standing in
21 accordance with Regulations 8.0 (c).
- 22 (c) Submit an official copy of transcript and a detail billing statement of
23 tuition and fees no later than 30 days at the end of each
24 semester/quarter.

1 (d) The recipient must provide a copy of their SAR and award letter from
2 their institution to determine continued financial need. No Award
3 shall be continued beyond the number of years normally required to
4 complete studies in the specific academic/technical degree program
5 for which the Award was granted.

6 (e) The recipient must have complied with all other regulations
7 governing the Award.
8

9 **11.0 FORFEITURE OF AWARD.** Forfeiture of an award shall result from any
10 of the causes listed below, and any award forfeited shall be immediately due
11 and payable.

12 (a) Suspension or dismissal for academic deficiency, disciplinary
13 reasons, or conviction of a felony.

14 (b) Withdrawal from the institution in anticipation of any action under
15 (a), above or for any other reason(s) not authorized by the Board.

16 (c) Failure to maintain status as a full-time student, except a recipient
17 may be allowed by the Board one-academic term to regain full-time
18 status without cancellation of the award, or a recipient may be
19 permitted to carry less than full-time load, if it would not result in his
20 failing to graduate within the normal time for completing the program
21 of studies. In the event that an exception is granted pursuant to this
22 subsection, the student shall be required to sign a cash repayment
23 promissory note to repay in cash the amount awarded for the
24 academic term in which the failure to maintain full-time status

1 occurred and not be eligible for service credit pursuant to Section
2 13.0 following graduation or termination of studies for any reason.

3 (d) Violation of other Board regulations.
4

5 **12.0 SERVICE CREDIT.** For the purpose of repayment of the Award, the
6 recipient shall receive:

7 (a) Service Credit. The recipient shall receive service credit on a two-to-
8 one (2:1) ratio for each year that assistance was provided or its
9 equivalence of \$10,000 per year when employed on Guam, the
10 Governor's Washington D.C. Liaison Office or in the office of
11 Guam's Delegate to Congress. If the recipient (a) returns to Guam
12 and (b) begins employment on Guam within six (6) months after
13 graduation without interruption, the recipient is considered to have
14 met the obligation to the Board and will receive credit beginning on
15 the date of employment.

16 (b) Postponement. If the recipient wishes not to begin employment on
17 Guam within six (6) months after graduation to continue studies on a
18 full-time basis at an accredited institution of higher education, he/she
19 may appeal in writing to the Board for permission. Should such
20 permission be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for
21 the period granted to continue his/her studies. Without the prior
22 approval of the Board, the recipient who does not return to Guam
23 within six (6) months, must pay in cash \$27.77 per day (\$10,000 per
24 year) for each day between the date of graduation and the date of
25 employment on Guam. Once this amount has been made, the

1 recipient is entitled to use service credit for the remaining amount of
2 the debt for each year of employment on Guam.

3 (c) Interruption. If a person receiving service credit wishes to
4 temporarily terminate employment on Guam to continue his/her
5 studies on a full-time basis at an accredited institution of higher
6 education as recognized by the Council on Postsecondary
7 Accreditation (COPA), he/she may appeal in writing to the Board for
8 permission. Should such permission be granted, the repayment
9 obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue his/her
10 studies. Without the prior approval of the Board, the recipient must
11 pay in cash \$27.77 per day (\$10,000 per year) for each day the person
12 is not employed on Guam. Upon payment of such amount, the
13 recipient is entitled to use service credit on the remaining debt.

14 (d) Ineligibility for Service Credit. Any recipient who did not receive the
15 degree that he/she sought with assistance from Board, without prior
16 written approval, shall be ineligible for service credit. All monies
17 disbursed during attendance under the Professional and Technical
18 Award will become due and payable under the note and shall be subject to
19 an annual interest rate of ten percent (10%) in monthly installment
20 payments. Such payments shall not exceed ten (10) years pursuant to
21 the law. The University of Guam Collections Department will be
22 charge with computing the recipient's monthly installment payments
23 in the event of default.

24 (e) Leave of Absence. It is the responsibility of the recipient to inform
25 the University of Guam of their intended leave of absence if such

1 leave is longer than forty-five (45) days. The recipient must remain
2 employed on Guam to receive service credit while on off-island leave
3 status.

4 (f) Death or Total Disability. In the event the recipient should become
5 totally disabled (physiological or psychological) or upon death, while
6 completing service credit, any obligation on the note shall be
7 terminated upon certification of two (2) physicians licensed to
8 practice in the United States.

9 (g) Annual Proof of Employment. It is the responsibility of the recipient
10 to provide the Board of Regents documentary evidence of such
11 employment and, each year thereafter, until such obligation is
12 fulfilled.

13
14 **13.0 CONFLICT.** In the event any revised regulation herein is found to be in
15 conflict with a previous regulation under which as student was awarded
16 financial assistance, the regulation in effect at the time of the award shall
17 continue to apply to the student for the remainder of the recipient's studies
18 for which the award was made.

19
20 **Section 2.** Section 15201 of Chapter 15, Title 17 Guam Code Annotated as
21 amended by Public Law 25-85 is hereby amended to read:

22 **"Section 15201. Students Entitled to Loans.** The Board is authorized to
23 approve loans for graduate and undergraduate studies or training to qualified
24 applicants who are admitted to the University of Guam, the Guam Community
25 College pursuant to the provisions of §15204 of this Article or to a United States
26 accredited off-Island college or university as full-time students on regular status or

1 by Distance Learning, that may include classes by means of the internet, through a
2 United States accredited college or university or one (1) recognized by the Council
3 on Post Secondary Accreditation ('COPA'). The loans provided in this Article are
4 subject to the following limitations:

5 (a) The applicant must be a *bona fide* resident of Guam and a United
6 States citizen, or a permanent resident alien, ~~and~~ (1) Applicants who are high
7 school students at the time of application must have achieved an overall grade
8 point average of at least 2.0 or its equivalent in the applicant's high school studies,
9 (2) Applicants who are current or returning college students with prior college
10 credits the time of application must have achieved an overall grade point average
11 of at least 2.5 or its equivalent ~~or~~ in the applicant's undergraduate studies. ~~if (3)(a)~~
12 If the applicant is pursuing an academic graduate or post-graduate degree or an
13 irrevocable letter of acceptance from a professional school in an area of a
14 particular need on Guam as determined by the Board of Regents ('Board'). the
15 applicant, must have achieved a grade point average of not less than 2.5 in
16 undergraduate studies. (b) If the applicant is a graduating senior, final approval of
17 awards will be based on successful completion of graduation requirements
18 inclusive of a 2.5 grade point average.

19 All awards for graduate studies shall be based on acceptance in to a
20 graduate program. No awards shall be made for off-island studies unless such
21 course of studies in listed on the University's Career Priority listing. For loans
22 made after January 1, 2000, the applicant must be a five (5) year resident of Guam
23 for the period immediately preceding the starting date of the academic year the
24 student will use such assistance and meet all other requirements herein.

25 (b) The applicant must agree to the provisions of §15203 of this Article.

1 (c) The applicant must be in financial need, which shall be determined by
2 regulations authorized by §15105 of Article 1 of this Chapter. In addition, the
3 applicant must complete '*A Free Application for Federal Student Aid*' ('FAFSA')
4 form as documentary evidence of need.

5 (d) The applicant must present to the Board prior to the granting of the
6 loan satisfactory proof that the applicant has been admitted to an accredited
7 college or university as a full-time student to pursue a program of study in the area
8 for which the loan was applied. No loan shall be continued beyond the number of
9 years normally required to complete studies in the specific academic degree
10 program for which the loan was granted, *except* under exceptional circumstances
11 as determined by the Board.

12 (e) The off-Island colleges and universities must be United States
13 accredited, or recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation
14 ('COPA'), and must be on the University's Career Priority Listing and approved by
15 the Board; provided, however, that no loans shall be granted for studies at an off-
16 Island institution in an academic program that is available at the University of
17 Guam."

18
19 **Section 3.** Section 15A301 of Chapter 15, Title 17 Guam Code Annotated as
20 added by Public Law 25-86 is hereby amended to read:

21 **"Section 15A301. Students Entitled to Merit Awards.**

22 (a) There are established annual merit awards for high school students in
23 the graduating classes of a ~~fully accredited, or candidate for accreditation, as~~
24 ~~recognized by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges ('WASC')~~ public
25 and private high school licensed to do business on Guam now or hereafter
26 established. The students entitled to these awards shall be the students having the

1 highest scholastic standing in the graduating classes of each such public and non-
2 public high school on Guam, *except* for Department of Defense Schools. The
3 awards shall be determined as follows:

4 "(1) One (1) for every fifty (50) graduates or fraction thereof of a school's
5 graduating class, ~~rounded to the nearest fifty (50)~~. *If* as a result of the equal
6 scholastic standing of two (2) or more graduates, there is a tie for the awards
7 granted pursuant to this Chapter, the University of Guam shall provide a
8 mechanism to break the tie. Awardees are entitled to four (4) years of education at
9 the University of Guam. *However, if* the awardee is the top-ranked student
10 academically of his or her graduating class, and such awardee's major is
11 unavailable at the University of Guam, the awardee may attend any accredited
12 college or university in the United States, or one (1) recognized by the Council on
13 Post Secondary Accreditation ('COPA'), where such declared major is available.
14 The benefits are according to the amounts provided in §15A302 of this Article
15 plus he cost of airfare for one-way, economy airline tickets to the school of
16 attendance and one-way ticket to return to Guam upon completion of studies..

17 (2) Of the students receiving awards in Subsection (1), *supra*, who attend
18 and graduate from the University of Guam, the top two (2) awardees per
19 graduating class shall be entitled to an additional two (2) years of study for a
20 Master's Degree at the University of Guam after completion of the bachelor's
21 program awarded under the provisions of Subsection (1). In the event that, as a
22 result of graduating class size, only one (1) student is entitled to an award under
23 Subsection (1), *supra*, then only one (1) student shall be eligible for an award
24 under this Subsection. The benefits are according to the amounts provided in
25 §15A302 of this Article.

26 All awards shall be subject to the following limitations:

1 A recipient must be a:

2 (i) United States citizen, or a permanent resident alien, who has
3 completed four (4) academic years in public or private high school on Guam; *and*

4 (ii) a resident of Guam for a continuous period of *not less than* five (5)
5 years immediately preceding June 15th of the year the award is to be awarded.

6 (b) *If* any student is ineligible for an award because of failure to meet the
7 requirements contained in Subsection (a) of this Section; or *if* any eligible student
8 chooses *not* to accept an award when first offered such award, the award shall be
9 granted to the eligible student with the next highest scholastic rank, or in the case
10 of tie, the student that was eliminated by the tie-breaker. *If* an eligible student
11 declines to accept an award when first offered, such student cannot accept such an
12 award after it has been granted to another student.

13 The recipient of a merit award must notify the Board within thirty (30) days,
14 that the award is accepted. If such recipient fails to do so, the award is thereby
15 forfeited and the same shall be offered to the next alternate.

16 (c) Award recipients must agree that the recipient will work on Guam for
17 a period of one (1) year for each academic year the award was received within six
18 (6) months following the completion or termination of the course of studies for
19 which the award was granted; provided, that *if* the recipient continues as a full-
20 time student at a graduate or professional school, such recipient may defer work
21 on Guam until such additional studies are completed.

22 Awards granted on or subsequent to the effective date of this Section shall
23 be cancelled if a recipient:

24 (1) fails to maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or its
25 equivalent, *except* a recipient may be allowed one (1) academic term to regain this
26 average without cancellation of the award, *or*

1 (2) fails to meet the academic and/or other requirements governing full-
2 time students at the University of Guam, *except* a recipient shall be allowed one
3 (1) academic term in which to regain full-time student status before cancellation of
4 such recipient's award."
5

6 **Section 4.** Section 15A305 of Chapter 15, Title 17 Guam Code Annotated
7 as added by Public Law 25-86 is hereby amended to read:

8 **"Section 15A305. Applicability of this Article.** This Article shall apply
9 only to awards made to high school students graduating during the Academic
10 School Year 2000 - 2001 and thereafter."
11

12 **Section 5. Authority to Extend Application Date.** Notwithstanding any
13 other provision of law or Administrative Rules and Regulations, the Board of
14 Regents of the University of Guam may and is hereby authorized to extend the
15 application date of financial assistance applications beyond April 30, 2000 for
16 Awards to be made during the calendar year 2000.
17

18 **Section 6.** Section 15102 of Chapter 15 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated
19 is hereby amended to read:

20
21 **"§15102. Administration.** The provisions of this Chapter shall be
22 administered by the Board of Regents of the University of Guam, and all awards
23 provided by this Chapter shall be granted by the Board. The Board of Regents
24 may delegate to the management of the University, its authority to administer the
25 provisions of this Chapter inclusive of authority granted under any Administrative
26 Rules and Regulations, however, any exceptions or waivers as allowed by such

- 1 Administrative Rules and Regulations must be approved by the Board of Regents
- 2 and may not be delegated.

MINA' BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2000 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 412 (cont)

Introduced by:

L.F. Kasperbauer
F.B. Aquino
K. Mayland

**AN ACT TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
AND REGULATIONS OF THE STUDENT LOAN
PROGRAM, THE MERIT AWARD PROGRAM AND
THE PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL AWARDS
PROGRAM.**

1 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:**

2

3 **Section 1.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, rule, regulation, and
4 Executive Order; the Administrative Rules and Regulations of the Student
5 Financial Assistance programs authorized by Articles 2 and 3A and 4A of Chapter
6 15, Title 17, Guam Code Annotated as amended by Public Law 25-85 and 3A and
7 4A of Chapter 15, Title 17, Guam Code Annotated as added by Public Law 25-86
8 as filed with I Liheslaturan Guåhan on April 7, 2000, as required by the provisions
9 of Chapter 9, 5GCA (*Administrative Adjudication Law*) and appended hereto as
10 Exhibit "A", Exhibit "B" and Exhibit "C" are hereby approved.

Mark of the Legislature

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT RECEIPT
Received by: FS
Time: 10:22
Date: 4-11-00

MERIT AWARD RULES AND REGULATIONS (As Amended by Public Law 25-86)

OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY	
RECEIVED REPORT	
Received by:	<i>[Signature]</i>
Time:	<i>2:22 pm</i>
Date:	<i>7 April 2000</i>

Office of the speaker
ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO
Date: *4-7-00*
Time: *12:45 pm*
Rec'd by: *[Signature]*
Print Name: *Laurie*
0525/00-0543

MERIT AWARD RULES AND REGULATIONS

(As amended by Public Law 25-86)

- 1.0 **STUDENTS ENTITLED TO MERIT AWARDS.** There are established annual merit awards for high school students in the graduating classes of a fully accredited, or candidate for accreditation, as recognized by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges ('WASC') public and private high school on Guam. The students entitled to these awards shall be the students having the highest scholastic standing in the graduating classes of each such public and non-public high school on Guam except for Department of Defense Schools.

- 2.0 **BACKGROUND AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY.** The Board of Regents of the University of Guam is authorized under Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, to formulate rules and regulations to equitably and efficiently administer the Student Financial Assistance Programs as listed in Title 17, Chapter 15, of the Guam Code Annotated.

- 3.0 **DEFINITIONS.** As used in these rules and regulations, the following terms will have the following meaning:
 - (a) **Academic Standing:** rank according to cumulative numeric grades, and is the same as scholastic standing.
 - (b) **Academic Year:** Fall and Spring Semesters for semester calendar system and Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters for a quarter calendar system.
 - (c) **Accredited:** as recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA)
 - (d) **Awardee:** the recipient of the Merit Award who was selected on the basis of his/her high academic standing from his/her high school graduating class.
 - (e) **Board:** the Board of Regents of the University of Guam.
 - (f) **Cash Repayment:** monetary cash repayment for the period the deficiency was made and no service credit allowed.
 - (g) **Cumulative Numeric Grades:** are computed on the basis of freshman (9th), sophomore (10th), junior (11th), and senior (12th) years in school on a scale of 0-100 points or higher for honor courses and calculated to the thousandth decimal place.
 - (h) **Fee:** general fees applied to all students plus laboratory and course fees.
 - (i) **Full-time Status:** minimum of 12 or more credit hours per semester/quarter during the regular semesters and 6 credit hours for Summer Sessions.
 - (j) **Generally Open:** those private, parochial and public high schools under the jurisdiction of the Government of Guam.
 - (k) **Inter-session:** the break period between Fall Semester and Spring Semesters.
 - (l) **Major Program:** the specific academic program of study which will be undertaken to achieve the desired degree.
 - (m) **Nominee:** a student selected by an eligible school who has met the academic criteria and eligibility criteria as established by the Merit Rules and Regulations of the University of Guam
 - (n) **Off-Island Recipient:** recipient attending a four-year U.S. accredited college or university in the United States because the declared major or its equivalent, is not available at the University of Guam.

- (o) Promissory Note: Document signed by the student and their guarantors promising to repay the loan in accordance with the rules and regulations specified under the program.
- (p) Resident: a resident of Guam for a continuous period of not less than five (5) years immediately preceding June 15th of the year the award is to be awarded.
- (q) Service Credit: repayment of award obligation through employment service, upon completion of studies.
- (r) Stipend: payment disbursed on a monthly installment.
- (s) Total Disability: any physiological or psychological condition that will prevent the recipient from obtaining or maintaining any form of gainful employment for a period of not less than three (3) years. Such condition condition will require the certification of two (2) physicians licensed to practice in the United States.

4.0 NUMBER OF AWARDS. Each graduating class of the public and private high schools on Guam, is entitled to One (1) for every fifty (50) graduates of a school's graduating class, rounded to the nearest fifty (50). (See Table 1) If there should be a tie of the equal scholastic standing of two or more graduates, the University of Guam will provide a mechanism to break the tie using the cumulative numeric grades first going to whatever decimal place is required to break the tie. If a tie still exists, then the SAT scores will be used to break the tie. Each student must meet the eligibility requirements established in Title 17, Chapter 15 GCA, Subsection 15301 (a.1). The number of awards will be determined by the actual number of diplomas awarded on graduation day.

- 5.0 CRITERIA OF ELIGIBILITY. To qualify for a Merit Award, the student
- (a) Must be a graduate from Guam's public or private high school that is fully accredited or candidate for accreditation as recognized by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (a.k.a. WASC).
 - (b) Shall be one having the highest academic scholastic standing of their respective graduating classes based on four (4) completed consecutive years of attendance in high school, generally open to all students on Guam, except the Department of Defense Schools ; and
 - (c) (1) a United States citizen; or,
(2) a permanent resident alien; and
 - (d) Must be a resident of Guam for a continuous period of not less than five (5) years immediately preceding June 15th of the year the award is to be awarded.
 - (e) If any student is ineligible for an award solely because he/she does not meet the requirements of sections 5(c) and (d), or if any eligible student declines an award when first offered such award, the award shall be granted to the next eligible student in academic standing in the class, who chooses to accept the award.

6.0 NOMINATION PROCEDURE. Each eligible high school shall submit a list of nominees on Form A, as attached, for the awards in descending order of rank, based on the academic standing and who meet the eligibility requirements as stated in sections 5(c) and (d), to the Board of Regents. In the event any nominee declines to

accept the award, the next graduate in academic standing in the class shall be offered the award or in the case of a tie, the student that was eliminated by the tiebreaker, will be offered the award. A signed statement of acceptance or rejection of the nominees shall be submitted with the list of nominees. If an eligible student declines to accept an award when first offered, such student cannot accept such an award after it has been granted to another student.

7.0 SELECTION PROCEDURE.

- (a) The Board of Regents shall direct the Financial Aid Director or designee to certify academic standing of the nominees on Form A submitted by the schools.
- (b) The Board of Regents shall, at a regular or special meeting, approve the selection of the recipients.
- (c) Within five (5) working days of the Board's action, notice of award shall be sent certified mail to each recipient. The selected recipient of a Merit award must notify the Board of Regents within thirty days (30) days of postmarked or stamped date of notice of the award whether the recipient will accept the award. If the selected recipient fails to do so, the award is thereby forfeited and the award shall be offered to the next alternate. If a selected recipient declines to accept a Merit award after it has been offered, such recipient shall no longer be entitled to receive such award from the Board of Regents.
- (d) All selected recipients shall attend a mandatory orientation to complete the award process. Failure to attend said orientation may be cause to deny the Merit Award. All documents required by the Financial Aid Office to complete the award process will be received and completed by the recipient during the orientation process.

8.0 ATTENDANCE. Awardees are to attend the University of Guam. If the Awardee's academic major program is unavailable at the University of Guam, the Awardee may attend any four-year U.S. accredited college or university in the United States, as recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation (COPA) where such declared major is available.

- (a) Awardees attending an off-island institution pursuant to this section shall provide a letter of unconditional acceptance into the major program of studies.

9.0 PROMISSORY NOTE. All merit award recipients shall execute a Promissory Note with two(2) responsible co-signers, who are residents of Guam and are financially able to repay the award in the event the student fails to comply with service obligations(180 days) from required employment date, at which time the Board may extend cash repayment for a period not to exceed ten (10) years at an annual percentage rate of not less than ten percent (10%) . No funds under this program shall be disbursed while the student is attending his/her approved institution until the note is submitted to the Financial Aid Office, Student Financial Assistance Program and he/she is found to be in compliance with the requirements under this program.

10.0 AWARD BENEFITS. Awardees are entitled to the following benefits:

- (a) Tuition and fees each academic year to be paid by the Student Financial Assistance fund for a period of not more than four (4) years in an undergraduate program at the University of Guam, or at an authorized off-island institution. If an Awardee is authorized to attend an off-island institution, the tuition and fee benefits shall be based on the University of Guam tuition and fee rates .
- (b) An additional two (2) years of tuition and fees will be granted for the top two Awardees from a graduating class who attended and successfully completes undergraduate studies at the University of Guam and have completed admission requirements for graduate school at the University of Guam for the purpose of pursuing a Master's Degree.
- (c) A monthly stipend based on the following:
 - (1) \$300 based on fifty-nine (59) or fewer semesters/quarter hours completed.
 - (2) \$500 based on sixty (60) or more semester hours to graduation.
 - (3) \$600 for graduate students pursuant to sections 10(b).
 - (4) \$100 for one month only for each inter-session cycle attended in the summer.
 - (5) No stipend will be granted for students attending Fall inter-session.
- (d) An allowance of \$250 per semester and \$100 maximum for summer will be granted for textbooks to be disbursed in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board. Students attending inter-session between the Fall and Spring semesters on a full-time basis are eligible for the maximum of \$100 for books.
- (e) Awardees authorized to attend an off-island institution shall not exceed the amount of assistance granted for a student attending school at the University of Guam.

11.0 OBLIGATIONS OF RECIPIENTS. The recipient of an award must fulfill the following obligations:

- (a) Comply with all Merit regulations as established by the Board of Regents;
- (b) Submit proof of detail charges of tuition and fees within thirty days after the start of each semester/quarter.
- (c) Maintain a cumulative grade-point average of not less than 2.5 at the end of each semester/quarter. Any student who fails to comply with this regulation shall be placed on probation and must meet the academic standard prescribed herein by the end of the term immediately following the term in which the student incurred probationary status;
- (d) Submit an official transcript within thirty (30)days at the end of each semester/quarter;
- (e) Must enroll for and maintain full-time student status, minimum 12 credits hours per semester/quarter. Should the college or university's policy not reflect this standard full-time enrollment, the student must obtain verification certifying the full-time status for that term.
- (f) Obtain written approval (special request) by the Board before:
 - (1) Transferring to another institution; one (1) transfer is allowed for the duration of the award;

- (2) Changing major program, one (1) change of major is allowed for the duration of the award (change of major is not allowed during the last academic year of attendance);
 - (2.a) For off-island recipients requesting a change of major, the new major or its equivalent must not be a major offered at the University of Guam.
 - (2.b) Off-island recipients who double major, must have one or both of the majors not offered at the University of Guam, and must also graduate with a major not offered at the University of Guam.
- (3) Withdrawing from any institution unless such withdrawal was due to circumstances beyond the student's control and the Board subsequently approves such withdrawal in writing.
- (g) Changes to award status known as "special requests" shall be submitted to the Board in writing from a recipient. Such status change shall include, but will not be limited to the following: change of major, change of professional or technical program, change of institution, change of graduation date, deferment of attendance, or deferment of service obligation. Applicable to all recipients beginning academic year 1996-97.
 - (1) Except for deferment requests, special requests shall be submitted to the Board no later than two (2) months (60) calendar days) prior to the start of the academic term for which the request is to take effect. Requests received after the two (2) months (60) calendar days), shall be acknowledged and returned without any action indicating non-compliance with the deadline requirement.
- (h) All Awardees must agree to work on Guam or in the Office of Guam's Delegate to Congress for each year assistance was provided (1:1).
- (i) All Awardees must provide proof of full-time employment within six months after graduation by submitting a Verification of Employment, certification or 1040 tax forms or W-2 forms. For self-employment, a Business License, Gross Receipt Tax, and a notarized statement of earnings is required. Employment verifications shall be submitted by the recipient annually. If a recipient wishes to continue his/her education as a full-time student at a graduate or professional school, they may defer their employment obligation on Guam until such additional studies are complete, provided written approval has been granted from the Board. Failure to return to Guam and to begin employment on Guam within six (6) months of graduation, such obligation shall be immediately due and payable in monthly monetary payments.
- (j) By accepting the award, the recipient agrees that the University of Guam may obtain any or all information from the respective institution as needed to comply with Board regulations.

12.0 CANCELLATION/FORFEITURE OF AWARD. Any of the following shall result in the cancellation/forfeiture of an award. Forfeiture results in the monetary repayment obligation for any and all funds received.

- (a) Failure to enroll in the Fall semester/quarter of the academic year immediately following the granting of the Award, unless deferment of enrollment in that

semester/quarter is approved in advance by the Board of Regents. An Awardee granted such deferment will forfeit the award for failure to enroll in the next semester/quarter immediately following the approved deferment.

- (b) Failure to maintain a cumulative grade-point average of 2.5 or its equivalent (acceptable by the Board) except a recipient may be allowed one academic term to regain this average without cancellation of award.
- (c) Failure to maintain full-time status.
- (d) Suspension or dismissal for academic deficiency, disciplinary reason(s) or conviction of a felony.
- (e) Change of institution and major without prior approval from the Board.
- (f) Change of Guam residency status.
- (g) In the event that pursuant to 12(b) or (c), the recipient regained entitlement of his or her award, such recipient shall not be required to repay the amount awarded for that academic term in which the academic deficiency or failure to maintain full-time status occurred until after graduation, or other termination of studies for any other reason.
- (h) Failure to comply with other Board Regulations.

13.0 SERVICE CREDIT. For the purpose of repayment, the recipient shall receive:

- (a) **Service Credit.** The recipient shall receive service credit for each year of employment on Guam or in the Office of Guam Delegate to Congress. If the recipient (a) returns to Guam and (b) begins employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation without interruption, the recipient is considered to have met the obligation to the Board and will receive credit beginning on the date of employment. A year of service credit is twelve (12) months.
- (b) **Postponement.** If the recipient wishes not to begin employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation to continue studies at a graduate or professional school on a regular full-time, on-campus basis, at an accredited institution of higher education, as recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation (COPA), an appeal may be submitted in writing to the Board for approval.
- (c) **Unapproved Postponement.** Should such approval be granted, in accordance with 13.0 (b), the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue studies. If prior approval from the Board is not obtained, the recipient who does not return and begin employment of Guam within six (6) months, must pay in cash based on the total amount received per year and calculated on a daily rate for each day the person is not employed on Guam. The daily rate will be calculated by the University of Guam Collection Department as authorized by the Board of Regents. Once this amount has been paid in full, the recipient is entitled to use service credit for the remaining amount of the debt for each year of employment on Guam.
- (d) **Interruption.** If a person receiving service credit wishes to temporarily terminate employment on Guam to continue studies at a graduate or professional school on a regular full-time on campus basis, at a U.S.

accredited institution of higher education as recognized by the Council of Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA), an appeal in writing must be submitted to the Board of Regents for approval. Should such approval be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue studies. If prior approval of the Board is not obtained, the recipient must pay in cash per day for each day the person is not employed on Guam at the rate determined by the University of Guam Collection Department. Once the amount is paid in full, the recipient is entitled to use service credit on the remaining debt.

- (e) **Ineligibility for Service Credit.** Any recipient who did not receive the degree sought with assistance from the Board of Regents, and who did not obtain prior approval, shall be ineligible for service credit. All monies disbursed during attendance under the Merit Award will become due and payable and shall be subject to an annual interest rate of ten percent (10%) in monthly installment payments. Such payments must not exceed ten (10) years pursuant to the law. The University of Guam Collections Department will be charge with computing the recipient's monthly installment payments in the event of default. Furthermore, permanent transfer to an off-island office or transfer or branch of a Guam employer shall not count towards service credit and shall result in default on the date of transfer and interest shall begin on such date of default.
- (f) **Death or Total Disability.** In the event the recipient should become totally disabled (physiological or psychological) or upon death, while completing service credit, any obligation on the note shall be terminated upon certification of two (2) physicians licensed to practice in the United States.
- (g) **Leave of Absence.** It is the responsibility of the recipient to inform the University of Guam of their intended leave of absence if such leave is longer than forty-five (45) days. The recipient must remain employed on Guam to receive service credit while on off-island temporary leave status.
- (h) **Annual Proof of Employment.** It is the responsibility of the recipient to provide the Board of Regents documentary evidence of such employment and, each year thereafter, until such obligation is fulfilled.

14.0 **CONFLICT.** In the event any revised regulations herein is found to be in conflict with a previous regulation under which the student was awarded financial assistance, the regulation in effect at the time of the award shall continue to apply to the student for the remainder of the recipient's studies for which the award was made.

Merit 3/30/00

MERIT AWARD PROGRAM

Per Public Law 25-86, One (1) award for every fifty (50) graduates of a school's graduating class, rounded to the nearest fifty (50).

NUMBER OF GRADUATES	NUMBER OF AWARDS
25-74	1
75-124	2
125-174	3
175-224	4
225-274	5
275-324	6
325-374	7
375-424	8
425-474	9
475-524	10

FORM A

DATE: _____

TO: Board of Regents, University of Guam

Listed below, in the order of their *cumulative numeric grades, are members of the Class of _____, who qualify as nominees for the Merit Awards to the University of Guam, in accordance with the provision of Article 3A Section 15A301(a), Title 17, GCA, as amended. The number of nominees that are authorized for this school, based on the total number of graduates, is _____.

Total No. of Graduates _____.**

Signature of Principal

Name of High School

*Cumulative numeric grades are calculated based on freshman (9th), sophomore (10th), junior (11th) and senior (12th) years in school on a scale of 0-100 points or higher for honors courses, to the thousandth decimal place.

** Please note that the number of actual nominees for the academic year is subject to change based on the ACTUAL number of graduates.

Class Rank	NAME	Numeric Cum GPA	Social Security Number	Mailing Address Phone Number	Response

- Alternate Nominee
Rev. 3/2000

**Professional/Technical Award Rules and
Regulations
(As Amended by Public Law 25-86)**

OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY
RECEIVED REPORT
Date: 7 April 2000
Time: 2:22 pm

Office of the speaker
ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO
Date: 4-7-00
Time: 12:45 pm
Rec'd by: CLR
Print Name: Laurie
0525/00 - 0543

PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL AWARD RULES AND REGULATIONS
(As amended by Public Law 25-86)

- 1.0 STUDENTS ENTITLED TO AWARDS. There are established professional and technical awards for graduate studies in occupational priorities established by the Board.
- 2.0 BACKGROUND AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY. The Board of Regents of the University of Guam is authorized under Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, to formulate rules and regulations to equitably and efficiently administer the Student Financial Assistance Programs as listed in Title 17, Chapter 15, of the Guam Code Annotated.
- 3.0 DEFINITIONS. As used in these rules and regulations, the following terms will have the following meaning:
 - (a) Academic Year: Fall and Spring Semesters for semester calendar system and Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters for a quarter calendar system.
 - (b) Academic Program: the specific academic program of study which will be undertaken to achieve the desired degree.
 - (c) Accreditation: as recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA).
 - (d) Board: the Board of Regents of the University of Guam.
 - (e) Bona fide Resident: resident of Guam for a continuous period of not less than ten (10) years prior to application.
 - (f) Cash Repayment: monetary cash repayment for the period the deficiency was made and no service credit allowed.
 - (g) FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid.
 - (h) Fees: general fees applied to all students plus laboratory and course fees.
 - (i) Financial Need: institutional cost minus expected family contribution (determined through the FAFSA) minus all other student financial resources or benefits equal unmet need (COA-EFC-SFA=Unmet need).
 - (j) Full-time Status: 9 or more credit hours per semester/quarter for graduate students.
 - (k) Professional/Technical Program: any graduate degree program in areas listed in the Career Priority.
 - (l) Promissory Note: the document sign by student promising to repay the award in accordance with the rules and regulations specified under the program.
 - (m) SAR: Student Aid Report resulting from the processed FAFSA.
 - (n) Service Credit: repayment of award obligation through employment service, upon completion of studies.
- 4.0 ELIGIBILITY. To be eligible for a Professional/Technical Award, the applicant:
 - (a) Must be a bona fide resident of Guam for a continuous period of not less than ten (10) years prior to application, and either:
 - (1) a citizen of the United States: or,
 - (2) a permanent resident alien.

- (b) Must be a college graduate, or a full-time student in good standing in a graduate program at a U.S. accredited institution of higher education or professional school as recognized by COPA.
- (c) Must have an overall grade-point average of at least 3.0 in his/her undergraduate studies or 3.33 in his/her master's program if he or she is pursuing a doctorate degree, or an irrevocable letter of acceptance from a four-year U.S. accredited institution or professional school at the time of submission of application.
- (d) Must provide evidence of financial need through the completion and processing of the "Free Application for Federal Student Aid" as reported in the Student Aid Report (SAR) or the Institutional Student Information Report received from the U.S. Department of Education Processing Center.
- (e) Must have been unconditionally accepted for admission into a professional/technical program at a U.S. accredited institution of higher education or professional school as recognized by COPA as a full-time student at the time of submission of application.

5.0 **SELECTION OF AWARDEE.** The Board of Regents shall direct the Financial Aid Office Student Financial Assistance Program Staff to review and evaluate the applications of all student loan applicants on the following:

- (a) The applicant's scholastic record, aptitude, financial need; or
- (b) The Board may use work-or lifetime experience and achievement criteria in place of the aptitude if because of such experience, it can be reasonably determined that the applicant will succeed in the course of study.
- (c) The territory's need for professional personnel in the career field selected by the applicant and based on the career priorities determined by the Board.
- (d) The likelihood of the applicant remaining in or returning to Guam to fill the territory's professional needs.
- (e) The applicant must have evidence of financial need through submission of a SAR processed by the U.S. Department of Education Processing Center.

6.0 **BENEFITS.** An award recipient is entitled to the following benefits:

- (a) Payment of tuition and other fees for a period designated in the college bulletin to complete the program which should not be more than four (4) scholastic years.
- (b) An annual grant loan for not more than \$10,000 for room and board, books, and educational supplies.

- (c) Cost of air fare for one-way, economy airline tickets to the school of attendance and one-way ticket to return to Guam upon completion of studies.
- (d) Total for items (a) and (b) shall not exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) per year for a period of not more than four (4) scholastic years for studies at an off-island institution.
- (e) If the course of study is in medicine or dentistry, the total for items (a) and (b) shall not exceed Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) per year.

The total amount of an award is contingent on the availability of funds..

7.0 APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS. An applicant for an award must provide the following documents:

- (a) A completed application must be received on or before April 30, to the Financial Aid Office, University of Guam. The official application form is obtainable in January at the Financial Aid Office.
- (b) An official letter affirming that the applicant has been unconditionally accepted for admission to a four-year U.S. accredited higher education institution or professional school as recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation (COPA) as a regular full-time graduate student in a specific professional/technical program; or that the applicant is enrolled in the program and in good standing. No Award will be granted for studies at an off-island institution in an academic/technical program that is available at the University of Guam.
- (c) A complete official college transcript of the applicant's studies at all institutions attended.
- (d) College/university catalog or bulletin applicable to student's enrollment containing information regarding the applicant's professional/technical program and institution's published annual cost of attendance and the normal number of years or semester for completion of program.
- (e) The Student Aid Report (SAR) or Institutional Student Information Report as evidence of need for financial assistance as a result of the processed FAFSA by the U.S. Department of Education Processing Center. The FAFSA application is obtainable from the Financial Aid Office or apply directly to www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- (f) Must submit proof of U.S. citizenship (Birth Certificate, Naturalized Certificate, or Pass Port) or proof of permanent resident alien status (Permanent Resident Alien Card and Pass Port).
- (g) Must provide proof of ten (10) years residency on Guam ;

- (1) Copies of filed income tax records for a period of ten (10) years; or,
- (2) Certified or Validation of income tax filed from Department of Revenue; or
- (3) If a recipient of Public Assistance, must have certified statement from agencies that assistance was provided for a period of ten years; or
- (4) Certified statement from Election Commission on Voter registration for the past three general elections; or
- (5) Bank Statement of Mortgage on principal residence over ten year period; or
- (6) Combination of one thru five (1-5)

8.0 OBLIGATION OF AWARD RECIPIENTS. The recipient of an Award must fulfill the following obligations:

- (a) Comply with all award regulations established by the Board of Regents;
- (b) Enroll for and maintain full-time student status.
- (c) Maintain a grade-point average of not less than 3.0 each semester/quarter; or be officially certified by the institution that the recipient is in good academic standing. A student who fails to comply with this regulation shall be placed on probation and must meet the academic standard prescribed herein by the end of the term immediately following the term in which the probationary status incurred.
- (d) Submit an official copy of transcript and a detail billing statement of tuition and fees no later than 30 days at the end of each semester/quarter.
- (e) Obtain written approval by the Board before:
 - (1) Transferring to another institution; one (1) transfer is allowed for the duration of the award;
 - (2) Changing academic/technical program; one (1) change of program major is allowed for the duration of the award. Such change must be within the established career priorities determined by the Board for the initial year the Award was approved.
 - (3) Withdrawing from any institution unless such withdrawal was due to circumstances beyond his/her control and such withdrawal is subsequently approved in writing by the Board.
 - (4) Be employed on Guam or in the office of Guam's Delegate to Congress on the basis of two:one (2:1) for each year that assistance was received by the recipient under the Award. The recipient's employment on Guam shall commence within six (6) months after the completion of studies. If a recipient continues his/her education as a full-time student at a graduate or professional school, he/she may defer his/her return to Guam until such additional studies are completed, provided that written approval is obtained from the Board. A graduate requiring specialized training, may postpone his/her employment on Guam while undergoing specialized training as long as the recipient is certified by the director of the training program on an annual basis and upon written approval from the Board.

Service credit may be postponed upon written approval from the

Board, for up to six (6) years while the recipient is serving in active duty in a branch of the U.S. Armed Services provided, however, that the student applies for postponement within ninety (90) days of entering the Armed Services and continues to maintain Guam as place of residence.

- (f) By accepting the award, the recipient agrees that the University of Guam may obtain any or all information from his/her respective institution as needed to comply with Board rules and regulations. Additionally the recipient will be required to attend:
- (1) A Pre-Award Interview prior to disbursement of the award;
 - (2) An Exit Interview upon completion of degree with the staff from the Financial Aid Office.

9.0 **PROMISSORY NOTE.** The recipient shall execute a non-interest bearing Promissory Note with two (2) responsible co-signers, who are residents of Guam and are financially able to repay the Note in the event that the recipient fails to comply with service obligation (180 days) from the required initial date of employment. The Note becomes interest bearing on any amounts unpaid by service credit that are due and payable which shall be subject to interest on the annual rate of ten percent (10%). The total amount of the note shall be determined upon completion of studies in which assistance was provided by the award. No funds under this program shall be disbursed until the note has been complied with in accordance to the prescribed rules and regulations of this program. This Note shall be executed by Financial Aid Office, Student Financial Assistance Program.

10.0 **CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUATION OF AN AWARD.** The conditions for continuation of the Award shall include the following:

- (a) The recipient must have maintained his/her status as a regular full-time student at the institution to which he/she was admitted and in the academic/technical program for which the award was granted, unless a transfer to another institution or a change of academic/professional/technical program has been authorized in writing in accordance with the Board's regulations 8.0 (e1) and/ or(e2) .
- (b) The recipient must maintain satisfactory academic standing in accordance with Regulations 8.0 (c).
- (c) Submit an official copy of transcript and a detail billing statement of tuition and fees no later than 30 days at the end of each semester/quarter.
- (d) The recipient must provide a copy of their SAR and award letter from their institution to determine continued financial need.
- (e) No Award shall be continued beyond the number of years normally required to complete studies in the specific academic/technical degree program for which the Award was granted.

- (f) The recipient must have complied with all other regulations governing the Award.

11.0 FORFEITURE OF AWARD. Forfeiture of an award shall result from any of the causes listed below, and any award forfeited shall be immediately due and payable.

- (a) Suspension or dismissal for academic deficiency, disciplinary reasons, or conviction of a felony.
- (b) Withdrawal from the institution in anticipation of any action under (a), above or for any other reason(s) not authorized by the Board.
- (c) Failure to maintain status as a full-time student, except a recipient may be allowed by the Board one-academic term to regain full-time status without cancellation of the award, or a recipient may be permitted to carry less than full-time load, if it would not result in his failing to graduate within the normal time for completing the program of studies. In the event that an exception is granted pursuant to this subsection, the student shall be required to sign a cash repayment promissory note to repay in cash the amount awarded for the academic term in which the failure to maintain full-time status occurred and not be eligible for service credit pursuant to Section 13.0 following graduation or termination of studies for any reason.
- (d) Violation of other Board regulations.

12.0 SERVICE CREDIT. For the purpose of repayment of the Award, the recipient shall receive:

- (a) Service Credit. The recipient shall receive service credit on a two-to-one (2:1) ratio for each year that assistance was provided or its equivalence of \$10,000 per year when employed on Guam or in the office of Guam's Delegate to Congress. If the recipient (a) returns to Guam and (b) begins employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation without interruption, the recipient is considered to have met the obligation to the Board and will receive credit beginning on the date of employment.
- (b) Postponement. If the recipient wishes not to begin employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation to continue studies on a full-time basis at an accredited institution of higher education, he/she may appeal in writing to the Board for permission. Should such permission be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue his/her studies. Without the prior approval of the Board, the recipient who does not return to Guam within six (6) months, must pay in cash \$27.77 per day (\$10,000 per year) for each day between the date of graduation and the date of employment on Guam. Once this amount has been made, the recipient is entitled to use service credit for the remaining amount of the debt for each year of employment on Guam.

- (c) **Interruption.** If a person receiving service credit wishes to temporarily terminate employment on Guam to continue his/her studies on a full-time basis at an accredited institution of higher education as recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA), he/she may appeal in writing to the Board for permission. Should such permission be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue his/her studies. Without the prior approval of the Board, the recipient must pay in cash \$27.77 per day (\$10,000 per year) for each day the person is not employed on Guam. Upon payment of such amount, the recipient is entitled to use service credit on the remaining debt.
 - (d) **Ineligibility for Service Credit.** Any recipient who did not receive the degree that he/she sought with assistance from Board, without prior written approval, shall be ineligible for service credit. All monies disbursed during attendance under the Professional and Technical Award will become due and payable under the note and shall be subject to an annual interest rate of ten percent (10%) in monthly installment payments. Such payments shall not exceed ten (10) years pursuant to the law. The University of Guam Collections Department will be charge with computing the recipient's monthly installment payments in the event of default.
 - (e) **Leave of Absence.** It is the responsibility of the recipient to inform the University of Guam of their intended leave of absence if such leave is longer than forty-five (45) days. The recipient must remain employed on Guam to receive service credit while on off-island leave status.
 - (f) **Death or Total Disability.** In the event the recipient should become totally disabled (physiological or psychological) or upon death, while completing service credit, any obligation on the note shall be terminated upon certification of two (2) physicians licensed to practice in the United States.
 - (g) **Annual Proof of Employment.** It is the responsibility of the recipient to provide the Board of Regents documentary evidence of such employment and, each year thereafter, until such obligation is fulfilled.
- 13.0 **CONFLICT.** In the event any revised regulation herein is found to be in conflict with a previous regulation under which as student was awarded financial assistance, the regulation in effect at the time of the award shall continue to apply to the student for the remainder of the recipient's studies for which the award was made.

Student Loan Program Rules and Regulations (As Amended by Public Law 25-85)

OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY
ACKNOWLEDGMENT RECEIPT

Received by: [Signature]
Time: 2:22 pm
Date: 7 April 2000

Office of the speaker
ANTONIO R. LINPINGCO
Date: 4-7-00
Time: 12:45 pm
Rec'd by: [Signature]
Print Name: Taurie
0525/00 - 0543

STUDENT LOAN RULES AND REGULATIONS
(As amended by Public Law 25-85)

- 1.0 **STUDENTS ENTITLED TO LOANS.** Loans are provided for graduate or undergraduate studies or training in occupational priorities established by the Board, to qualified applicants who are admitted to the University of Guam, the Guam Community College or to a United States accredited off-Island college or university as a full-time student on a regular status or by Distance Learning, that may include classes by means of the internet, through a United States accredited college or university or one (1) recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation ('COPA').
- 2.0 **BACKGROUND AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY.** The Board of Regents of the University of Guam is authorized under Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, to formulate rules and regulations to equitably and efficiently administer the Student Financial Assistance Programs as listed in Title 17, Chapter 15, of the Guam Code Annotated.
- 3.0 **DEFINITIONS.** As used in these rules and regulations, the following terms will have the following meaning:
- (a) **Academic Year:** Fall and Spring Semesters for semester calendar system and Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters for a quarter calendar system.
 - (b) **Accredited:** as recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA)
 - (c) **Board:** the Board of Regents of the University of Guam.
 - (d) **Bona fide Resident:** a United States citizen or a permanent resident alien having resided on Guam for five (5) years immediately preceding the starting date of the academic year the assistance will be used.
 - (e) **Cash Repayment:** monetary cash repayment for the period the deficiency was made and no service credit allowed.
 - (f) **Distance Learning:** the delivery of instruction to students who cannot engage in traditional on-campus study and delivered through the various means of television, audio, or computer transmission (Internet), satellite transmission, computer conferencing, video cassettes or discs; or correspondence.
 - (g) **FAFSA:** Free Application for Federal Student Aid.
 - (h) **Fee:** general fees applied to all students plus laboratory and course fees.
 - (i) **Financial Need:** institutional cost minus expected family contribution (determined through the FAFSA) minus all other student financial resources or benefits equal unmet need (COA-EFC-SFA=Unmet need).
 - (j) **Full-time Status:** minimum of 12 or more credit hours per semester/quarter for undergraduate studies for students attending off-island institutions; or minimum of 9 for student attending an off-island institution for graduate studies
 - (k) **Major Program:** the specific academic program of study which will be undertaken to achieve the desired degree.

- (l) **Off-Island Recipient:** recipient attending a four-year U.S. accredited college or university in the United States because their declared major or its equivalent is not available at the University of Guam.
- (m) **Promissory Note:** Document signed by the student and their guarantors promising to repay the loan in accordance with the rules and regulations specified under the program.
- (n) **Professional Program:** the specialized programs in Medical (M.D.), Dental (D.D.S.), or other Doctorate Degrees in areas critical to Guam's professional needs (Ph.D., E.D.D., PsyD., D.B.A...etc.) degree programs.
- (o) **SAR:** Student Aid Report resulting from the processed FAFSA.
- (p) **Service Credit:** repayment of loan obligation through employment service, upon completion of studies in which funding was provided.

4.0 ELIGIBILITY. To be eligible for a Student Loan, the applicant

- (a) Must be a bona fide resident of Guam for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the assistance of the award and either:
 - 1. a citizen of the United States; or,
 - 2. a permanent resident alien.
- (b) Must be a high school or college graduate, or a college student enrolled in good standing at a U.S. accredited institution of higher education.
- (c) Must have an overall grade-point average of not less than:
 - (1) 2.0 or its equivalent in the applicant's high school studies; or upon satisfactory completion of not less than sixty (60) credit hours at a U.S. recognized and accredited college and/or university with a cumulative grade point average of not less than 2.0; or
 - (2) 2.0 cumulative grade point average in undergraduate degree if applicant is pursuing an academic graduate degree; or
 - (3) In lieu of (c)(2), an irrevocable letter of acceptance from a professional school in an area of particular need on Guam as determined by the Board of Regents' Career Priority listing in effect.
- (d) Must have evidence of financial need through the completion and processing of the "Free Application for Federal Student Aid" as reported in the Student Aid Report (SAR) or the Institutional Student Information Report received from the U. S. Department of Education Processing Center.
- (e) Must have been unconditionally accepted for admission into a major program at GCC or UOG or any other U.S. accredited institution of higher education or professional school as approved by the Board as a full-time student on a regular status or distance learning.
- (f) Must agree to the provisions of 15203 of Article 2 of Chapter 15 on the Repayment of Loan.

5.0 MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF LOAN. Loans are limited to the following amounts for the

cost of tuition and fees, room and board, books and educational supplies:

- (a) Not to exceed Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000) per year for a period of not more than four (4) scholastic years for studies at the University of Guam; and not more than two (2) years for students attending the Guam Community College.
- (b) Not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) per year for a period of not more than four (4) scholastic years for studies at an off-island institution to include Distance Learning.

The total amount of a loan is contingent on the availability of funds.

6.0 APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS. An applicant for a loan must provide the following documents:

- (a) A completed application must be received on or before April 30, by the Financial Aid Office. The official application form is obtainable in January at the Financial Aid Office.
- (b) An official letter affirming that the applicant has been unconditionally accepted for admission to a U.S. accredited institution of higher education or recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation (COPA) as a regular full-time student in a specific major program. No loans shall be granted for studies at an off-island institution in an major program that is available at the University of Guam or Guam Community College. However, the Board may grant loans under special circumstances involving legally blind and/or deaf applicants where facilities or services are unavailable at the University of Guam.
- (c) A complete official high school and/or college transcript.
- (d) College/university catalog or bulletin (preferred latest edition/year of entrance) containing information regarding the applicant's major program and institution's published annual cost of attendance.
- (e) The Student Aid Report (SAR) or Institutional Student Information Report as evidence of need for financial assistance as a result of the processed FAFSA by the U.S. Department of Education Processing Center. The FAFSA application is obtainable from the Financial Aid Office, High School Counselor or apply directly to www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- (f) Document attesting U.S. citizenship must provide
 - (1) Birth Certificate; or
 - (2) Naturalization Certificate; or
 - (3) Pass PortPermanent resident alien status must provide
 - (1) Permanent Resident Alien Card and Pass Port.
- (g) Proof of five (5) years residency on Guam student must provide;
 - (1) Copies of personal or parent's filed income tax forms for a period of five years; or,
 - (2) Certified statement from Department of Revenue; or

- (3) If a recipient of Public Assistance applicant or parent, must have certified statement from agencies providing assistance that assistance was provided for a period of five years; or
- (4) If an applicant is 18 years or younger, must provide a copy of an official transcript from Department of Education Middle Schools or Guam Private Elementary /Middle Schools; or
- (5) Voter registration for the last three recent elections certified by Guam Election Commission;
- (6) Must be listed on all documents submitted by parents or guardian.
- (7) Any combination of one thru six (1-6) above.

7.0 **SELECTION OF LOAN RECIPIENTS.** The Board of Regents shall direct the Financial Aid Office Student Financial Assistance Program Staff to review and evaluate the applications of all student loan applicants on the following:

- (a) The applicant's scholastic record and financial need.
- (b) The territory's need for professional personnel as in the career priorities determined by the Board.
- (c) The likelihood of the applicant remaining in or returning to Guam to fill the territory's professional needs.

8.0 **OBLIGATION OF LOAN RECIPIENTS.** The recipient of a loan must fulfill the following obligations:

- (a) Comply with all Student Loan regulations as established by the Board of Regents;
- (b) Must enroll for and maintain full-time student status, minimum 12 credit hours per semester/quarter undergraduate level or 9 credits hours per semester/quarter graduate level.
- (c) Maintain a grade-point average of not less than 2.0 each semester/quarter if the recipient is an undergraduate student, or not less than 3.0 each semester/quarter if the recipient is a graduate student. Students in graduate and professional schools who are officially certified to be in good standing at the end of each term shall be deemed to have fulfilled this requirement. Any student who fails to comply with this regulation shall be placed on probation and must meet the academic standard prescribed herein by the end of the term immediately following the term in which probationary status incurred.
- (d) Submit an official copy of transcript within thirty (30) days at the end of each semester/quarter.
- (e) Obtain written approval by the Board before:
 - (1) Transferring to another institution; one (1) transfer is allowed for the duration of the loan;
 - (2) Changing major program, one (1) change of major is allowed for the duration of the loan (change of major is not allowed during the last academic year of attendance). Such change must be within the established career priorities determined by the Board for the

initial year the student loan was approved.

- (3) **Withdrawing from any institution unless such withdrawal was due to circumstances beyond his/her control and such withdrawal is subsequently approved in writing by the Board.**
- (f) **Be employed on Guam or in the office of Guam's Delegate to Congress for a period of one (1) year for each Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000) received by the recipient under the loan. The recipient's employment on Guam shall commence within six (6) months after the completion of studies. If a recipient continues his/her education as a full-time student at a graduate or professional school, he/she may defer his/her return to Guam until such additional studies are completed, provided written approval is obtained from the Board. A graduate requiring specialized training, may postpone his/her employment on Guam while undergoing specialized training required for completion of professional certification as long as the recipient is certified by the director of the training program on an annual basis and upon written approval from the Board.**

Service credit may be postponed upon written approval from the Board, for up to six (6) years while the recipient is serving in active duty in a branch of the U.S. Armed Services provided, however, that the student applies for postponement within ninety (90) days of entering the Armed Services and continues to maintain Guam as place of residence.
- (g) **By accepting the award, the recipient agrees that the University of Guam may obtain any or all information from his/her respective institution as needed to comply with Board rules and regulations. Additionally the recipient will be required to attend:**
 - (1) **A Pre-Award Interview prior to disbursement of the loan.**
 - (2) **An Exit Interview upon completion of degree with staff from the Financial Aid Office.**

9.0 PROMISSORY NOTE. Every student awarded a loan pursuant to Article 2, section 15203 of the GCA annotated, shall execute a promissory note agreeing to repay said loan over a period to be determined by the Board, but not in excess of ten (10) years from the contemplated date of the termination or the completion of the course of studies for which the loan was approved. Said promissory note shall be non-interest bearing, except as to unpaid delinquent amounts due and payable under the note, which shall be subject of interest at the annual rate of ten percent (10%).

10.0 CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUATION OF LOAN. The conditions for continuation of a loan shall include the following:

- (a) **The recipient must have maintained his status as a regular full-time student at the institution to which he/she was admitted and in the major program for which the loan was granted, unless a transfer to another institution or change in program major has been authorized in writing in accordance with the Board's regulations 8(b), 8(c), and 8(e).**

- (b) The recipient must provide a copy of his/her SAR and award letter from his/her institution to determined continued financial need.
 - (c) The student must have complied with all other regulations governing Student Loans.
 - (d) No loan shall be continued beyond the number of years normally required to complete studies as a full-time student in the specific academic degree program for which the loan was granted, except under exceptional circumstances as determined by the Board.
- 11.0 FORFEITURE OF LOAN. Forfeiture of a loan shall result from any of the causes listed below, and any loan found to be forfeited shall be immediately due and payable.
- (a) Failure to enroll in the Fall semester/quarter of the academic year immediately following the granting of the Award, unless deferment of enrollment in that semester/quarter is approved in advance by the Board of Regents. An Awardee granted such deferment will forfeit the award for failure to enroll in the next semester/quarter immediately following the approved deferment.
 - (b) Failure to maintain a minimum semester grade point average of 2.0 for undergraduate studies or 3.0 for graduates studies at the end of each academic term, except a recipient may be allowed one academic term to regain this average without cancellation of the loan.
 - (c) Failure to maintain status as a full-time student. Except where
 - (1) A recipient may be allowed by the Board one academic term to regain full-time status without cancellation of the award, if the probationary period the student fail to enroll the student shall be forfeited; or
 - (2) A recipient may be permitted to enroll less than full-time in his/her last term if it would not affect the normal graduation time it requires to complete the program of studies.
 - (d) Suspension or dismissal for academic deficiency, disciplinary reasons, or conviction of a felony.
 - (e) Withdrawal from the institution in anticipation of any action under (d), above, or for any other reason(s) not authorized by the Board.
 - (f) Change of institution and/or major without prior written approval from the Board.
 - (g) Change of Guam residency.
 - (h) In the event that the Board has made an exception pursuant to 11(b) or 11(c), and the recipient regained entitlement of his or her award, such recipient will be required to sign a cash repayment promissory note with two local guarantors. Repayment shall become due and payable until after graduation or termination of studies for any other reason. No service credit shall be allowed pursuant to 12(a) for the period in which the academic deficiency occurred.
 - (i) Failure to comply with other Board rules and regulations.

12.0 **SERVICE CREDIT.** For the purpose of repayment of the student loan, the recipient shall receive:

- (a) **Service Credit.** The recipient shall receive service credit at the rate of for each year \$500 each month or its equivalence of \$6000 per year when employed on Guam or in the office of Guam's Delegate to Congress. If the recipient (a) returns to Guam and (b) begins employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation without interruption, the recipient is considered to have met the obligation to the Board and will receive credit beginning on the date of employment.
- (b) **Postponement.** If the recipient wishes not to begin employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation to continue studies on a full-time basis at an accredited institution of higher education, he/she may appeal in writing to the Board for permission. Should permission be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue studies. If prior approval from the Board is not obtained, the recipient who does not return and begin employment of Guam within six (6) months, must pay in cash \$16.66 per day (\$6,000 per year) for each day the person is not employed on Guam. Once this amount has been paid in full, the recipient is entitled to use service credit for the remaining amount of the debt for each year of employment on Guam.
- (c) **Interruption.** If a person receiving service credit wishes to temporarily terminate employment on Guam to continue his studies on a full-time basis at an accredited institution of higher education as recognized by the Council of Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA), an appeal in writing must be submitted to the Board of Regents for approval. Should such approval be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue studies. If prior approval of the Board is not obtained, the recipient must pay in cash \$16.66 per day (\$6,000 per year) for each day the person is not employed on Guam. Once the amount is paid in full, the recipient is entitled to use service credit on the remaining debt.
- (d) **Ineligibility for Service Credit.** Any recipient who did not receive the degree sought with assistance from the Board of Regents, and who did not obtain prior approval, shall be ineligible for service credit. All monies disbursed during attendance under the Student Loan Program will become due and payable in monthly monetary payments as determined by the University of Guam Collections Department.
- (e) **Annual Proof of Employment.** It is the responsibility of the recipient to provide the Board of Regents documentary evidence of such employment and, each year thereafter, until such obligation is fulfilled.
- (f) **Death or Total Disability.** In the event the recipient should become totally

disabled (physiological or psychological) or upon death, while completing service credit, any obligation on the note shall be terminated upon certification of two (2) physicians licensed to practice in the United States.

- 13.0 **CONFLICT.** In the event any revised regulation herein is found to be in conflict with a previous regulation under which a student was awarded financial assistance, the regulation in effect at the time of the award shall continue to apply to the student for the remainder of the recipient's studies for which the award was made.

Student Loan 3/30/00



COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Mina' Bente Singko na Libeslaturan Guåhan

PUBLIC HEARING
Thursday, April 25, 2000 – 2:30 p.m.
I Libeslatura Public Hearing Room

AGENDA

- **Bill No. 412 (COR)** AN ACT TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM, THE MERIT AWARD PROGRAM AND THE PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL AWARDS PROGRAM. – Introduced by L.F. Kasperbauer
- **Bill No. 413 (COR)** AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE THE FUNDS NECESSARY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF LIBRARY BOOKS FOR NEW SCHOOLS, NEW TEXT BOOKS, TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF PRIOR APPROPRIATIONS FOR SALARIES OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS AND OUTSOURCING OF SERVICES AND TO APPROPRIATE THE FUNDS NECESSARY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION FOR PRIVATE SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS. –Introduced by L.F. Kasperbauer

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Mina' Bente Singko na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Bill No. 412 (COR) AN ACT TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM, THE MERIT AWARD PROGRAM AND THE PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL AWARDS PROGRAM. -Introduced by L.F. Kasperbauer

Thursday, April 25, 2000 - 2:30 p.m.
I Libeslatura Public Hearing Room

WITNESS SIGN-IN SHEET

Name: DR WITTENBACH-SANTOS	Agency or Interest Group (if applicable) UOG	Telephone No. 735-2292	Testimony		Comment	
Address: UOG VICE PRES,	STUDENT AFFAIRS	BR412	Oral	Written	For	Against
			X		X	

Name: SALLIE L.T. McDONALD	Agency or Interest Group (if applicable) UOG - FINANCIAL AID OFFICE	Telephone No. 735-2280/89	Testimony		Comment	
Address: UOG - STUDENT AFFAIRS FINANCIAL AID OFFICE	Dunct		Oral	Written	For	Against
			X		X	

Name: LOUANN PALACIOS	Agency or Interest Group (if applicable) UOG - SGA	Telephone No. 735-2221	Testimony		Comment	
Address: SGA TREASURER (Former Senator)			Oral	Written	For	Against
			X		X	

Name: FRED TERRADO	Agency or Interest Group (if applicable) UOG SGA	Telephone No. 735-2221	Testimony		Comment	
Address: SGA SENATOR			Oral	Written	For	Against
			X		X	

Name: MATED AGGABAO	Agency or Interest Group (if applicable)	Telephone No.	Testimony		Comment	
Address: GUAM ADVENTIST ACADEMY	GUAM ADVENTIST ACADEMY		Oral	Written	For	Against
			X			

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Mina' Bente Singko na Liheslaturan Guåhan

Bill No. 412 (COR) AN ACT TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM, THE MERIT AWARD PROGRAM AND THE PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL AWARDS PROGRAM. -Introduced by L.F. Kasperbauer

Thursday, April 25, 2000 - 2:30 p.m.
I Liheslatura Public Hearing Room

WITNESS SIGN-IN SHEET

Name: BOE GUARANTIAO	Agency or Interest Group (if applicable)	Telephone No.	Testimony		Comment	
Address: TA 13503 - A999H	SELF	4777935	Oral	Written	For	Against
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Name: BENNY M. MANGLICMOT	Agency or Interest Group (if applicable)	Telephone No.	Testimony		Comment	
Address: 256 CHALAN PALE RAYON RAYA TIGAO, GU 96929	TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL	653-1311 653-2744	Oral	Written	For	Against
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			(Partial) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Name:	Agency or Interest Group (if applicable)	Telephone No.	Testimony		Comment	
Address:			Oral	Written	For	Against

Name:	Agency or Interest Group (if applicable)	Telephone No.	Testimony		Comment	
Address:			Oral	Written	For	Against

Name:	Agency or Interest Group (if applicable)	Telephone No.	Testimony		Comment	
Address:			Oral	Written	For	Against



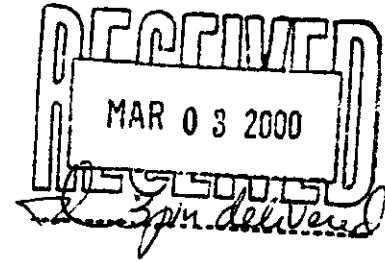
A Seventh-day
Adventist
Elementary
and Secondary
School

GUAM ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Senator Larry Kasperbauer
Territory of Guam

March 3, 2000

Honorable Senator Kasperbauer,



I would like to thank you for the opportunity to meet with you on Thursday, March 2, 2000 at your office to express the concerns of Guam Adventist Academy regarding **Public Law 25-86**. I must secondly tell you that Dr. Stahlnecker and I attended the public hearing at the University of Guam later that day, and in fact, I testified to the concerns to the panel there. The rest of this letter is the result of direction given by you and the panel at the University of Guam.

Senator Kasperbauer, I am appealing to you to introduce an amendment to **Public Law 25-86**, as well as seeking a point of clarification which I will discuss later. I am making this appeal based on the following reasons.

Let me begin by saying that I support the general intent of this law in the fact that it brings increased academic accountability and it reduces the government financial support to an acceptable level in this time of financial shortages.

Even though there were apparent public hearings and debate on this bill during the summer and fall of 1999, but the fact remains that the law was enacted on November 23, 1999. As I have indicated to you that changing the rules in the middle of the year which affects the current year and student is unfair. I claim this as unfair because when I appeared at the public hearing at UOG, the panel indicated **Section 15A305** lines 15-16 that this applies to those receiving the Merit Award and has it applied during the 2000-2001 school year, or in other words, high school seniors graduating this year from a non-WASC certificated school will be ineligible to receive the Merit Award that they have worked for very hard as they begin their post secondary work next year.

When I had discussed this with you earlier in the day, I understood from your comments that this would affect the high school seniors graduating in the 2000-2001 school year.

In any case, **Public Law 25-86** has officially become law during this school year and this changes the parameters from last year, and schools such as ours who are intending to obtain WASC accreditation or at least candidacy for accreditation during the 2000-2001 school year are left out of the Merit program, since WASC accreditation is the only COPA organization being recognized.

The general move of many schools on Guam to attempt to gain WASC accreditation has been occurring with greater frequency in the last few years as all schools realize the importance on accountability in their program. Other schools including ours, are wanting to



GUAM ADVENTIST ACADEMY

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begin the process, and **Public Law 25-86** will certainly encourage us to get into the process as quickly as possible.

Guam Adventist Academy has just completed a thorough three day accreditation visit by the Seventh-day Adventist Accrediting Association, which is a world-wide organization, working to provide quality education and academic unity throughout the Adventist Academies around the world. I would be most pleased to provide you with a copy of the report of the Seventh-day Adventist Accrediting which has granted Guam Adventist Academy four year of accreditation before the next accreditation visit. This current accreditation team was made up of seven individuals, including one GovGuam Department of Education school administrator, as well as the director and associate director of the South Asia-Pacific Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, another principal from an outer island Adventist school, and our Guam Micronesia Mission Education Department director and associate director and secretary of the mission.

For fifty years Adventist Education has been strong on Guam. Many of our graduates hold positions of leadership in both the private and public sector, and are making a difference here on Guam. In addition Guam Adventist Academy has placed one member on the Guam Academic Challenge Bowl team representing Guam at the national finals in two of the past three years. Quality education is taking place at Guam Adventist Academy and the proof is in our graduates.

Senator Kasperbauer, I would ask you to consider an amendment to **Public Law 25-86** to include a clause that would extend the same criteria for schools granting the scholarship from the 1998-1999 school year to include the 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 school years.

I would also suggest that schools falling under this amendment would have to providing documentation that school evaluation is happening and that the school is accredited by an officially recognized accrediting body.

That would allow other schools like Guam Adventist Academy, who already undergo evaluation/accreditation visits to have sufficient time to become candidates for WASC accreditation by the end of the 2000-2001 school year, so that the 2002 graduates will be eligible for Merit Scholarship awards under the original intent of **Public Law 25-86** as needing WASC accreditation.

The burden of proving the evaluation/accreditation process being undertaken would fall on the school institution, and this documentation could be shared and approved by the government.

A second issue that surfaced during the public hearing was **Section 15A301 (a) (1)**, indicates that one scholarship will be granted for every 50 graduates of a school graduating class, rounded to the nearest 50. Does that eliminate smaller schools like Guam Adventist Academy that have graduating classes that are more in the 10-20 student range? The way I,



GUAM ADVENTIST ACADEMY

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and even the panel at UOG, interpret this section, is that a graduating class must have 25 to 74 graduates to be able to receive one Merit Scholarship. I have a hard time believing that was the original intent.

Is this the intent that the builders of this law had in mind - to shut out the smaller schools, or was the intent that schools with anywhere from 1-74 students will receive one scholarship? I would appreciate clarification on this matter.

Senator Kasperbauer, I am appealing to you and the legislature's sense of fairness and reasonableness to reexamine this law, and agree to amend it to address the concerns that have been brought forward. I would welcome the opportunity to dialogue further and provide any assistance necessary to make an amendment happen quickly, in order for Guam Adventist Academy to be able to grant the Merit Scholarship again this academic year.(1999-2000)

It will be difficult for me to explain to any potential Merit Scholarship candidates in my school that they will not be eligible because the government changed the law during the middle of the school year. Senator, I trust you will do the right thing and design an appropriate and effective amendment to **Public Law 25-86** to address the concerns listed above.

Thank you for your time and effort to bring about effective change of this legislation.

Sincerely yours,

Murray Cooper
GAA Principal

CC: Governor Carl T. C. Gutierrez



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

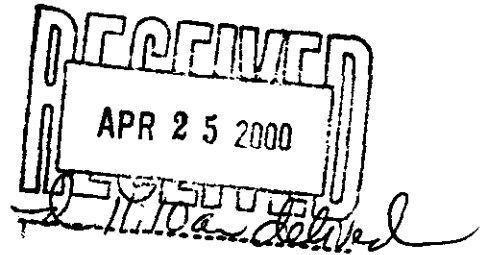
P.O. Box DE
Agana, Guam 96932
Tel: (671) 475-0457
Fax: (671) 472-5003




Rosie R. Tainatongo
Director of Education

April 24, 2000

Honorable Senator Lawrence Kasperbauer
Chairman, Committee on Education
25th Guam Legislature
215-A Chalan Santo Papa, Suite 106-F
Ada's Professional & Commercial Center
Hagatna, Guam 96910



Via: Gil Shinohara, Governor's Chief of Staff 

Dear Senator Kasperbauer:

Buenas yan Saludo! The Department of Education appreciates being invited to provide testimony on Bill No. 412 (COR), An Act to approve the administrative rules and regulations of the student loan program, the merit award program and the professional technical awards program.

The Department of Education supports Bill No. 412 (COR). The department recognizes the fact that the University of Guam worked long and hard in developing the administrative rules and regulations. Not only did it develop the rules and regulations but had updated the rules and regulations that had governed the student loan program, the merit award program, and professional technical awards program that had existed for decades.

The Department of Education congratulates the University of Guam for updating the administrative rules and regulations. We request therefore that the Guam Legislature approve the administrative rules and regulations in its entirety.

Senseramente,


ROSIE R. TAINATONGO
Director of Education

COMMONWEALTH NOW!



MINA' BENTE SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2000 (SECOND) Regular Session

APP 11

Bill No. 412 (COR)

Introduced by:

L.F. Kasperbauer *LK*

**AN ACT TO APPROVE THE ADMINSTRATIVE RULES
AND REGULATIONS OF THE STUDENT LOAN
PROGRAM, THE MERIT AWARD PROGRAM AND
THE PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL AWARDS
PROGRAM.**

1 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:**

2

3 **Section 1.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, rule, regulation, and
4 Executive Order; the Administrative Rules and Regulations of the Student
5 Financial Assistance programs authorized by Articles 2 and 3A and 4A of Chapter
6 15, Title 17, Guam Code Annotated as amended by Public Law 25-85 and 3A and
7 4A of Chapter 15, Title 17, Guam Code Annotated as added by Public Law 25-86
8 as filed with I Liheslaturan Guåhan on April 7, 2000, as required by the provisions
9 of Chapter 9, 5GCA (*Administrative Adjudication Law*) and appended hereto as
10 Exhibit "A", Exhibit "B" and Exhibit "C" are hereby approved.

**MERIT AWARD RULES AND REGULATIONS
(As Amended by Public Law 25-86)**

OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY
ACKNOWLEDGMENT RECEIPT

Received by: [Signature]
Time: 2:22 pm
Date: 7 April 2000

Office of the speaker
ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO
Date: 4-7-00
Time: 12:45 pm
Rec'd by: [Signature]
Print Name: Laurie
0525/00 - 0543

MERIT AWARD RULES AND REGULATIONS
(As amended by Public Law 25-86)

- 1.0 **STUDENTS ENTITLED TO MERIT AWARDS.** There are established annual merit awards for high school students in the graduating classes of a fully accredited, or candidate for accreditation, as recognized by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges ('WASC') public and private high school on Guam. The students entitled to these awards shall be the students having the highest scholastic standing in the graduating classes of each such public and non-public high school on Guam except for Department of Defense Schools.
- 2.0 **BACKGROUND AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY.** The Board of Regents of the University of Guam is authorized under Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, to formulate rules and regulations to equitably and efficiently administer the Student Financial Assistance Programs as listed in Title 17, Chapter 15, of the Guam Code Annotated.
- 3.0 **DEFINITIONS.** As used in these rules and regulations, the following terms will have the following meaning:
- (a) **Academic Standing:** rank according to cumulative numeric grades, and is the same as scholastic standing.
 - (b) **Academic Year:** Fall and Spring Semesters for semester calendar system and Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters for a quarter calendar system.
 - (c) **Accredited:** as recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA)
 - (d) **Awardee:** the recipient of the Merit Award who was selected on the basis of his/her high academic standing from his/her high school graduating class.
 - (e) **Board:** the Board of Regents of the University of Guam.
 - (f) **Cash Repayment:** monetary cash repayment for the period the deficiency was made and no service credit allowed.
 - (g) **Cumulative Numeric Grades:** are computed on the basis of freshman (9th), sophomore (10th), junior (11th), and senior (12th) years in school on a scale of 0-100 points or higher for honor courses and calculated to the thousandth decimal place.
 - (h) **Fee:** general fees applied to all students plus laboratory and course fees.
 - (i) **Full-time Status:** minimum of 12 or more credit hours per semester/quarter during the regular semesters and 6 credit hours for Summer Sessions.
 - (j) **Generally Open:** those private, parochial and public high schools under the jurisdiction of the Government of Guam.
 - (k) **Inter-session:** the break period between Fall Semester and Spring Semesters.
 - (l) **Major Program:** the specific academic program of study which will be undertaken to achieve the desired degree.
 - (m) **Nominee:** a student selected by an eligible school who has met the academic criteria and eligibility criteria as established by the Merit Rules and Regulations of the University of Guam
 - (n) **Off-Island Recipient:** recipient attending a four-year U.S. accredited college or university in the United States because the declared major or its equivalent, is not available at the University of Guam.

- (o) Promissory Note: Document signed by the student and their guarantors promising to repay the loan in accordance with the rules and regulations specified under the program.
- (p) Resident: a resident of Guam for a continuous period of not less than five (5) years immediately preceding June 15th of the year the award is to be awarded.
- (q) Service Credit: repayment of award obligation through employment service, upon completion of studies.
- (r) Stipend: payment disbursed on a monthly installment.
- (s) Total Disability: any physiological or psychological condition that will prevent the recipient from obtaining or maintaining any form of gainful employment for a period of not less than three (3) years. Such condition will require the certification of two (2) physicians licensed to practice in the United States.

4.0 NUMBER OF AWARDS. Each graduating class of the public and private high schools on Guam, is entitled to One (1) for every fifty (50) graduates of a school's graduating class, rounded to the nearest fifty (50). (See Table 1) If there should be a tie of the equal scholastic standing of two or more graduates, the University of Guam will provide a mechanism to break the tie using the cumulative numeric grades first going to whatever decimal place is required to break the tie. If a tie still exists, then the SAT scores will be used to break the tie. Each student must meet the eligibility requirements established in Title 17, Chapter 15 GCA, Subsection 15301 (a.1). The number of awards will be determined by the actual number of diplomas awarded on graduation day.

- 5.0 CRITERIA OF ELIGIBILITY. To qualify for a Merit Award, the student
- (a) Must be a graduate from Guam's public or private high school that is fully accredited or candidate for accreditation as recognized by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (a.k.a. WASC).
 - (b) Shall be one having the highest academic scholastic standing of their respective graduating classes based on four (4) completed consecutive years of attendance in high school, generally open to all students on Guam, except the Department of Defense Schools ; and
 - (c) (1) a United States citizen; or,
(2) a permanent resident alien; and
 - (d) Must be a resident of Guam for a continuous period of not less than five (5) years immediately preceding June 15th of the year the award is to be awarded.
 - (e) If any student is ineligible for an award solely because he/she does not meet the requirements of sections 5(c) and (d), or if any eligible student declines an award when first offered such award, the award shall be granted to the next eligible student in academic standing in the class, who chooses to accept the award.

6.0 NOMINATION PROCEDURE. Each eligible high school shall submit a list of nominees on Form A, as attached, for the awards in descending order of rank, based on the academic standing and who meet the eligibility requirements as stated in sections 5(c) and (d), to the Board of Regents. In the event any nominee declines to

accept the award, the next graduate in academic standing in the class shall be offered the award or in the case of a tie, the student that was eliminated by the tiebreaker, will be offered the award. A signed statement of acceptance or rejection of the nominees shall be submitted with the list of nominees. If an eligible student declines to accept an award when first offered, such student cannot accept such an award after it has been granted to another student.

7.0 SELECTION PROCEDURE.

- (a) The Board of Regents shall direct the Financial Aid Director or designee to certify academic standing of the nominees on Form A submitted by the schools.
- (b) The Board of Regents shall, at a regular or special meeting, approve the selection of the recipients.
- (c) Within five (5) working days of the Board's action, notice of award shall be sent certified mail to each recipient. The selected recipient of a Merit award must notify the Board of Regents within thirty days (30) days of postmarked or stamped date of notice of the award whether the recipient will accept the award. If the selected recipient fails to do so, the award is thereby forfeited and the award shall be offered to the next alternate. If a selected recipient declines to accept a Merit award after it has been offered, such recipient shall no longer be entitled to receive such award from the Board of Regents.
- (d) All selected recipients shall attend a mandatory orientation to complete the award process. Failure to attend said orientation may be cause to deny the Merit Award. All documents required by the Financial Aid Office to complete the award process will be received and completed by the recipient during the orientation process.

8.0 ATTENDANCE. Awardees are to attend the University of Guam. If the Awardee's academic major program is unavailable at the University of Guam, the Awardee may attend any four-year U.S. accredited college or university in the United States, as recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation (COPA) where such declared major is available.

- (a) Awardees attending an off-island institution pursuant to this section shall provide a letter of unconditional acceptance into the major program of studies.

9.0 PROMISSORY NOTE. All merit award recipients shall execute a Promissory Note with two(2) responsible co-signers, who are residents of Guam and are financially able to repay the award in the event the student fails to comply with service obligations(180 days) from required employment date, at which time the Board may extend cash repayment for a period not to exceed ten (10) years at an annual percentage rate of not less than ten percent (10%) . No funds under this program shall be disbursed while the student is attending his/her approved institution until the note is submitted to the Financial Aid Office, Student Financial Assistance Program and he/she is found to be in compliance with the requirements under this program.

10.0 AWARD BENEFITS. Awardees are entitled to the following benefits:

- (a) Tuition and fees each academic year to be paid by the Student Financial Assistance fund for a period of not more than four (4) years in an undergraduate program at the University of Guam, or at an authorized off-island institution. If an Awardee is authorized to attend an off-island institution, the tuition and fee benefits shall be based on the University of Guam tuition and fee rates .
- (b) An additional two (2) years of tuition and fees will be granted for the top two Awardees from a graduating class who attended and successfully completes undergraduate studies at the University of Guam and have completed admission requirements for graduate school at the University of Guam for the purpose of pursuing a Master's Degree.
- (c) A monthly stipend based on the following:
 - (1) \$300 based on fifty-nine (59) or fewer semesters/quarter hours completed.
 - (2) \$500 based on sixty (60) or more semester hours to graduation.
 - (3) \$600 for graduate students pursuant to sections 10(b).
 - (4) \$100 for one month only for each inter-session cycle attended in the summer.
 - (5) No stipend will be granted for students attending Fall inter-session.
- (d) An allowance of \$250 per semester and \$100 maximum for summer will be granted for textbooks to be disbursed in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board. Students attending inter-session between the Fall and Spring semesters on a full-time basis are eligible for the maximum of \$100 for books.
- (e) Awardees authorized to attend an off-island institution shall not exceed the amount of assistance granted for a student attending school at the University of Guam.

11.0 OBLIGATIONS OF RECIPIENTS. The recipient of an award must fulfill the following obligations:

- (a) Comply with all Merit regulations as established by the Board of Regents;
- (b) Submit proof of detail charges of tuition and fees within thirty days after the start of each semester/quarter.
- (c) Maintain a cumulative grade-point average of not less than 2.5 at the end of each semester/quarter. Any student who fails to comply with this regulation shall be placed on probation and must meet the academic standard prescribed herein by the end of the term immediately following the term in which the student incurred probationary status;
- (d) Submit an official transcript within thirty (30)days at the end of each semester/quarter;
- (e) Must enroll for and maintain full-time student status, minimum 12 credits hours per semester/quarter. Should the college or university's policy not reflect this standard full-time enrollment, the student must obtain verification certifying the full-time status for that term.
- (f) Obtain written approval (special request) by the Board before:
 - (1) Transferring to another institution; one (1) transfer is allowed for the duration of the award;

- (2) Changing major program, one (1) change of major is allowed for the duration of the award (change of major is not allowed during the last academic year of attendance);
 - (2.a) For off-island recipients requesting a change of major, the new major or its equivalent must not be a major offered at the University of Guam.
 - (2.b) Off-island recipients who double major, must have one or both of the majors not offered at the University of Guam, and must also graduate with a major not offered at the University of Guam.
- (3) Withdrawing from any institution unless such withdrawal was due to circumstances beyond the student's control and the Board subsequently approves such withdrawal in writing.
- (g) Changes to award status known as "special requests" shall be submitted to the Board in writing from a recipient. Such status change shall include, but will not be limited to the following: change of major, change of professional or technical program, change of institution, change of graduation date, deferment of attendance, or deferment of service obligation. Applicable to all recipients beginning academic year 1996-97.
 - (1) Except for deferment requests, special requests shall be submitted to the Board no later than two (2) months (60) calendar days) prior to the start of the academic term for which the request is to take effect. Requests received after the two (2) months (60 calendar days), shall be acknowledged and returned without any action indicating non-compliance with the deadline requirement.
- (h) All Awardees must agree to work on Guam or in the Office of Guam's Delegate to Congress for each year assistance was provided (1:1).
- (i) All Awardees must provide proof of full-time employment within six months after graduation by submitting a Verification of Employment, certification or 1040 tax forms or W-2 forms. For self-employment, a Business License, Gross Receipt Tax, and a notarized statement of earnings is required. Employment verifications shall be submitted by the recipient annually. If a recipient wishes to continue his/her education as a full-time student at a graduate or professional school, they may defer their employment obligation on Guam until such additional studies are complete, provided written approval has been granted from the Board. Failure to return to Guam and to begin employment on Guam within six (6) months of graduation, such obligation shall be immediately due and payable in monthly monetary payments.
- (j) By accepting the award, the recipient agrees that the University of Guam may obtain any or all information from the respective institution as needed to comply with Board regulations.

12.0 CANCELLATION/FORFEITURE OF AWARD. Any of the following shall result in the cancellation/forfeiture of an award. Forfeiture results in the monetary repayment obligation for any and all funds received.

- (a) Failure to enroll in the Fall semester/quarter of the academic year immediately following the granting of the Award, unless deferment of enrollment in that

semester/quarter is approved in advance by the Board of Regents. An Awardee granted such deferment will forfeit the award for failure to enroll in the next semester/quarter immediately following the approved deferment.

- (b) Failure to maintain a cumulative grade-point average of 2.5 or its equivalent (acceptable by the Board) except a recipient may be allowed one academic term to regain this average without cancellation of award.
- (c) Failure to maintain full-time status.
- (d) Suspension or dismissal for academic deficiency, disciplinary reason(s) or conviction of a felony.
- (e) Change of institution and major without prior approval from the Board.
- (f) Change of Guam residency status.
- (g) In the event that pursuant to 12(b) or (c), the recipient regained entitlement of his or her award, such recipient shall not be required to repay the amount awarded for that academic term in which the academic deficiency or failure to maintain full-time status occurred until after graduation, or other termination of studies for any other reason.
- (h) Failure to comply with other Board Regulations.

13.0 SERVICE CREDIT. For the purpose of repayment, the recipient shall receive:

- (a) Service Credit. The recipient shall receive service credit for each year of employment on Guam or in the Office of Guam Delegate to Congress. If the recipient (a) returns to Guam and (b) begins employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation without interruption, the recipient is considered to have met the obligation to the Board and will receive credit beginning on the date of employment. A year of service credit is twelve (12) months.
- (b) Postponement. If the recipient wishes not to begin employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation to continue studies at a graduate or professional school on a regular full-time, on-campus basis, at an accredited institution of higher education, as recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation (COPA), an appeal may be submitted in writing to the Board for approval.
- (c) Unapproved Postponement. Should such approval be granted, in accordance with 13.0 (b), the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue studies. If prior approval from the Board is not obtained, the recipient who does not return and begin employment of Guam within six (6) months, must pay in cash based on the total amount received per year and calculated on a daily rate for each day the person is not employed on Guam. The daily rate will be calculated by the University of Guam Collection Department as authorized by the Board of Regents. Once this amount has been paid in full, the recipient is entitled to use service credit for the remaining amount of the debt for each year of employment on Guam.
- (d) Interruption. If a person receiving service credit wishes to temporarily terminate employment on Guam to continue studies at a graduate or professional school on a regular full-time on campus basis, at a U.S.

accredited institution of higher education as recognized by the Council of Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA), an appeal in writing must be submitted to the Board of Regents for approval. Should such approval be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue studies. If prior approval of the Board is not obtained, the recipient must pay in cash per day for each day the person is not employed on Guam at the rate determined by the University of Guam Collection Department. Once the amount is paid in full, the recipient is entitled to use service credit on the remaining debt.

- (e) **Ineligibility for Service Credit.** Any recipient who did not receive the degree sought with assistance from the Board of Regents, and who did not obtain prior approval, shall be ineligible for service credit. All monies disbursed during attendance under the Merit Award will become due and payable and shall be subject to an annual interest rate of ten percent (10%) in monthly installment payments. Such payments must not exceed ten (10) years pursuant to the law. The University of Guam Collections Department will be charge with computing the recipient's monthly installment payments in the event of default. Furthermore, permanent transfer to an off-island office or transfer or branch of a Guam employer shall not count towards service credit and shall result in default on the date of transfer and interest shall begin on such date of default.
- (f) **Death or Total Disability.** In the event the recipient should become totally disabled (physiological or psychological) or upon death, while completing service credit, any obligation on the note shall be terminated upon certification of two (2) physicians licensed to practice in the United States.
- (g) **Leave of Absence.** It is the responsibility of the recipient to inform the University of Guam of their intended leave of absence if such leave is longer than forty-five (45) days. The recipient must remain employed on Guam to receive service credit while on off-island temporary leave status.
- (h) **Annual Proof of Employment.** It is the responsibility of the recipient to provide the Board of Regents documentary evidence of such employment and, each year thereafter, until such obligation is fulfilled.

14.0 **CONFLICT.** In the event any revised regulations herein is found to be in conflict with a previous regulation under which the student was awarded financial assistance, the regulation in effect at the time of the award shall continue to apply to the student for the remainder of the recipient's studies for which the award was made.

Merit 3/30/00

MERIT AWARD PROGRAM

Per Public Law 25-86, One (1) award for every fifty (50) graduates of a school's graduating class, rounded to the nearest fifty (50).

NUMBER OF GRADUATES	NUMBER OF AWARDS
25-74	1
75-124	2
125-174	3
175-224	4
225-274	5
275-324	6
325-374	7
375-424	8
425-474	9
475-524	10

FORM A

DATE: _____

TO: Board of Regents, University of Guam

Listed below, in the order of their *cumulative numeric grades, are members of the Class of _____, who qualify as nominees for the Merit Awards to the University of Guam, in accordance with the provision of Article 3A Section 15A301(a), Title 17, GCA, as amended. The number of nominees that are authorized for this school, based on the total number of graduates, is _____.

Total No. of Graduates _____.**

Signature of Principal

Name of High School

*Cumulative numeric grades are calculated based on freshman (9th), sophomore (10th), junior (11th) and senior (12th) years in school on a scale of 0-100 points or higher for honors courses, to the thousandth decimal place.
** Please note that the number of actual nominees for the academic year is subject to change based on the ACTUAL number of graduates.

Class Rank	NAME	Numeric Cum GPA	Social Security Number	Mailing Address Phone Number	Response

- Alternate Nominee
Rev. 3/2000

**Professional/Technical Award Rules and
Regulations
(As Amended by Public Law 25-86)**

OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT RECEIPT

Received by: [Signature]
Time: 2:22 pm
Date: 7 April 2000

Office of the speaker
ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO
Date: 4-7-00
Time: 12:45 pm
Rec'd by: [Signature]
Print Name: Laurie
0525/00 - 0543

PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL AWARD RULES AND REGULATIONS
(As amended by Public Law 25-86)

- 1.0 STUDENTS ENTITLED TO AWARDS. There are established professional and technical awards for graduate studies in occupational priorities established by the Board.
- 2.0 BACKGROUND AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY. The Board of Regents of the University of Guam is authorized under Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, to formulate rules and regulations to equitably and efficiently administer the Student Financial Assistance Programs as listed in Title 17, Chapter 15, of the Guam Code Annotated.
- 3.0 DEFINITIONS. As used in these rules and regulations, the following terms will have the following meaning:
 - (a) Academic Year: Fall and Spring Semesters for semester calendar system and Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters for a quarter calendar system.
 - (b) Academic Program: the specific academic program of study which will be undertaken to achieve the desired degree.
 - (c) Accreditation: as recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA).
 - (d) Board: the Board of Regents of the University of Guam.
 - (e) Bona fide Resident: resident of Guam for a continuous period of not less than ten (10) years prior to application.
 - (f) Cash Repayment: monetary cash repayment for the period the deficiency was made and no service credit allowed.
 - (g) FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid.
 - (h) Fees: general fees applied to all students plus laboratory and course fees.
 - (i) Financial Need: institutional cost minus expected family contribution (determined through the FAFSA) minus all other student financial resources or benefits equal unmet need (COA-EFC-SFA=Unmet need).
 - (j) Full-time Status: 9 or more credit hours per semester/quarter for graduate students.
 - (k) Professional/Technical Program: any graduate degree program in areas listed in the Career Priority.
 - (l) Promissory Note: the document sign by student promising to repay the award in accordance with the rules and regulations specified under the program.
 - (m) SAR: Student Aid Report resulting from the processed FAFSA.
 - (n) Service Credit: repayment of award obligation through employment service, upon completion of studies.
- 4.0 ELIGIBILITY. To be eligible for a Professional/Technical Award, the applicant:
 - (a) Must be a bona fide resident of Guam for a continuous period of not less than ten (10) years prior to application, and either:
 - (1) a citizen of the United States: or,
 - (2) a permanent resident alien.

- (b) Must be a college graduate, or a full-time student in good standing in a graduate program at a U.S. accredited institution of higher education or professional school as recognized by COPA.
- (c) Must have an overall grade-point average of at least 3.0 in his/her undergraduate studies or 3.33 in his/her master's program if he or she is pursuing a doctorate degree, or an irrevocable letter of acceptance from a four-year U.S. accredited institution or professional school at the time of submission of application.
- (d) Must provide evidence of financial need through the completion and processing of the "Free Application for Federal Student Aid" as reported in the Student Aid Report (SAR) or the Institutional Student Information Report received from the U.S. Department of Education Processing Center.
- (e) Must have been unconditionally accepted for admission into a professional/technical program at a U.S. accredited institution of higher education or professional school as recognized by COPA as a full-time student at the time of submission of application.

5.0 **SELECTION OF AWARDEE.** The Board of Regents shall direct the Financial Aid Office Student Financial Assistance Program Staff to review and evaluate the applications of all student loan applicants on the following:

- (a) The applicant's scholastic record, aptitude, financial need; or
- (b) The Board may use work-or lifetime experience and achievement criteria in place of the aptitude if because of such experience, it can be reasonably determined that the applicant will succeed in the course of study.
- (c) The territory's need for professional personnel in the career field selected by the applicant and based on the career priorities determined by the Board.
- (d) The likelihood of the applicant remaining in or returning to Guam to fill the territory's professional needs.
- (e) The applicant must have evidence of financial need through submission of a SAR processed by the U.S. Department of Education Processing Center.

6.0 **BENEFITS.** An award recipient is entitled to the following benefits:

- (a) Payment of tuition and other fees for a period designated in the college bulletin to complete the program which should not be more than four (4) scholastic years.
- (b) An annual grant loan for not more than \$10,000 for room and board, books, and educational supplies.

- (c) Cost of air fare for one-way, economy airline tickets to the school of attendance and one-way ticket to return to Guam upon completion of studies.
- (d) Total for items (a) and (b) shall not exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) per year for a period of not more than four (4) scholastic years for studies at an off-island institution.
- (e) If the course of study is in medicine or dentistry, the total for items (a) and (b) shall not exceed Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) per year.

The total amount of an award is contingent on the availability of funds..

7.0 APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS. An applicant for an award must provide the following documents:

- (a) A completed application must be received on or before April 30, to the Financial Aid Office, University of Guam. The official application form is obtainable in January at the Financial Aid Office.
- (b) An official letter affirming that the applicant has been unconditionally accepted for admission to a four-year U.S. accredited higher education institution or professional school as recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation (COPA) as a regular full-time graduate student in a specific professional/technical program; or that the applicant is enrolled in the program and in good standing. No Award will be granted for studies at an off-island institution in an academic/technical program that is available at the University of Guam.
- (c) A complete official college transcript of the applicant's studies at all institutions attended.
- (d) College/university catalog or bulletin applicable to student's enrollment containing information regarding the applicant's professional/technical program and institution's published annual cost of attendance and the normal number of years or semester for completion of program.
- (e) The Student Aid Report (SAR) or Institutional Student Information Report as evidence of need for financial assistance as a result of the processed FAFSA by the U.S. Department of Education Processing Center. The FAFSA application is obtainable from the Financial Aid Office or apply directly to www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- (f) Must submit proof of U.S. citizenship (Birth Certificate, Naturalized Certificate, or Pass Port) or proof of permanent resident alien status (Permanent Resident Alien Card and Pass Port).
- (g) Must provide proof of ten (10) years residency on Guam ;

- (1) Copies of filed income tax records for a period of ten (10) years; or,
- (2) Certified or Validation of income tax filed from Department of Revenue; or
- (3) If a recipient of Public Assistance, must have certified statement from agencies that assistance was provided for a period of ten years; or
- (4) Certified statement from Election Commission on Voter registration for the past three general elections; or
- (5) Bank Statement of Mortgage on principal residence over ten year period; or
- (6) Combination of one thru five (1-5)

8.0 OBLIGATION OF AWARD RECIPIENTS. The recipient of an Award must fulfill the following obligations:

- (a) Comply with all award regulations established by the Board of Regents;
- (b) Enroll for and maintain full-time student status.
- (c) Maintain a grade-point average of not less than 3.0 each semester/quarter; or be officially certified by the institution that the recipient is in good academic standing. A student who fails to comply with this regulation shall be placed on probation and must meet the academic standard prescribed herein by the end of the term immediately following the term in which the probationary status incurred.
- (d) Submit an official copy of transcript and a detail billing statement of tuition and fees no later than 30 days at the end of each semester/quarter.
- (e) Obtain written approval by the Board before:
 - (1) Transferring to another institution; one (1) transfer is allowed for the duration of the award;
 - (2) Changing academic/technical program; one (1) change of program major is allowed for the duration of the award. Such change must be within the established career priorities determined by the Board for the initial year the Award was approved.
 - (3) Withdrawing from any institution unless such withdrawal was due to circumstances beyond his/her control and such withdrawal is subsequently approved in writing by the Board.
 - (4) Be employed on Guam or in the office of Guam's Delegate to Congress on the basis of two:one (2:1) for each year that assistance was received by the recipient under the Award. The recipient's employment on Guam shall commence within six (6) months after the completion of studies. If a recipient continues his/her education as a full-time student at a graduate or professional school, he/she may defer his/her return to Guam until such additional studies are completed, provided that written approval is obtained from the Board. A graduate requiring specialized training, may postpone his/her employment on Guam while undergoing specialized training as long as the recipient is certified by the director of the training program on an annual basis and upon written approval from the Board.

Service credit may be postponed upon written approval from the

Board, for up to six (6) years while the recipient is serving in active duty in a branch of the U.S. Armed Services provided, however, that the student applies for postponement within ninety (90) days of entering the Armed Services and continues to maintain Guam as place of residence.

- (f) By accepting the award, the recipient agrees that the University of Guam may obtain any or all information from his/her respective institution as needed to comply with Board rules and regulations. Additionally the recipient will be required to attend:
- (1) A Pre-Award Interview prior to disbursement of the award;
 - (2) An Exit Interview upon completion of degree with the staff from the Financial Aid Office.

9.0 **PROMISSORY NOTE.** The recipient shall execute a non-interest bearing Promissory Note with two (2) responsible co-signers, who are residents of Guam and are financially able to repay the Note in the event that the recipient fails to comply with service obligation (180 days) from the required initial date of employment. The Note becomes interest bearing on any amounts unpaid by service credit that are due and payable which shall be subject to interest on the annual rate of ten percent (10%). The total amount of the note shall be determined upon completion of studies in which assistance was provided by the award. No funds under this program shall be disbursed until the note has been complied with in accordance to the prescribed rules and regulations of this program. This Note shall be executed by Financial Aid Office, Student Financial Assistance Program.

10.0 **CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUATION OF AN AWARD.** The conditions for continuation of the Award shall include the following:

- (a) The recipient must have maintained his/her status as a regular full-time student at the institution to which he/she was admitted and in the academic/technical program for which the award was granted, unless a transfer to another institution or a change of academic/professional/technical program has been authorized in writing in accordance with the Board's regulations 8.0 (e1) and/ or(e2) .
- (b) The recipient must maintain satisfactory academic standing in accordance with Regulations 8.0 (c).
- (c) Submit an official copy of transcript and a detail billing statement of tuition and fees no later than 30 days at the end of each semester/quarter.
- (d) The recipient must provide a copy of their SAR and award letter from their institution to determine continued financial need.
- (e) No Award shall be continued beyond the number of years normally required to complete studies in the specific academic/technical degree program for which the Award was granted.

- (f) The recipient must have complied with all other regulations governing the Award.

11.0 FORFEITURE OF AWARD. Forfeiture of an award shall result from any of the causes listed below, and any award forfeited shall be immediately due and payable.

- (a) Suspension or dismissal for academic deficiency, disciplinary reasons, or conviction of a felony.
- (b) Withdrawal from the institution in anticipation of any action under (a), above or for any other reason(s) not authorized by the Board.
- (c) Failure to maintain status as a full-time student, except a recipient may be allowed by the Board one-academic term to regain full-time status without cancellation of the award, or a recipient may be permitted to carry less than full-time load, if it would not result in his failing to graduate within the normal time for completing the program of studies. In the event that an exception is granted pursuant to this subsection, the student shall be required to sign a cash repayment promissory note to repay in cash the amount awarded for the academic term in which the failure to maintain full-time status occurred and not be eligible for service credit pursuant to Section 13.0 following graduation or termination of studies for any reason.
- (d) Violation of other Board regulations.

12.0 SERVICE CREDIT. For the purpose of repayment of the Award, the recipient shall receive:

- (a) Service Credit. The recipient shall receive service credit on a two-to-one (2:1) ratio for each year that assistance was provided or its equivalence of \$10,000 per year when employed on Guam or in the office of Guam's Delegate to Congress. If the recipient (a) returns to Guam and (b) begins employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation without interruption, the recipient is considered to have met the obligation to the Board and will receive credit beginning on the date of employment.
- (b) Postponement. If the recipient wishes not to begin employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation to continue studies on a full-time basis at an accredited institution of higher education, he/she may appeal in writing to the Board for permission. Should such permission be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue his/her studies. Without the prior approval of the Board, the recipient who does not return to Guam within six (6) months, must pay in cash \$27.77 per day (\$10,000 per year) for each day between the date of graduation and the date of employment on Guam. Once this amount has been made, the recipient is entitled to use service credit for the remaining amount of the debt for each year of employment on Guam.

- (c) **Interruption.** If a person receiving service credit wishes to temporarily terminate employment on Guam to continue his/her studies on a full-time basis at an accredited institution of higher education as recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA), he/she may appeal in writing to the Board for permission. Should such permission be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue his/her studies. Without the prior approval of the Board, the recipient must pay in cash \$27.77 per day (\$10,000 per year) for each day the person is not employed on Guam. Upon payment of such amount, the recipient is entitled to use service credit on the remaining debt.
- (d) **Ineligibility for Service Credit.** Any recipient who did not receive the degree that he/she sought with assistance from Board, without prior written approval, shall be ineligible for service credit. All monies disbursed during attendance under the Professional and Technical Award will become due and payable under the note and shall be subject to an annual interest rate of ten percent (10%) in monthly installment payments. Such payments shall not exceed ten (10) years pursuant to the law. The University of Guam Collections Department will be charge with computing the recipient's monthly installment payments in the event of default.
- (e) **Leave of Absence.** It is the responsibility of the recipient to inform the University of Guam of their intended leave of absence if such leave is longer than forty-five (45) days. The recipient must remain employed on Guam to receive service credit while on off-island leave status.
- (f) **Death or Total Disability.** In the event the recipient should become totally disabled (physiological or psychological) or upon death, while completing service credit, any obligation on the note shall be terminated upon certification of two (2) physicians licensed to practice in the United States.
- (g) **Annual Proof of Employment.** It is the responsibility of the recipient to provide the Board of Regents documentary evidence of such employment and, each year thereafter, until such obligation is fulfilled.

13.0 **CONFLICT.** In the event any revised regulation herein is found to be in conflict with a previous regulation under which as student was awarded financial assistance, the regulation in effect at the time of the award shall continue to apply to the student for the remainder of the recipient's studies for which the award was made.

ProTech 03/30/00

Student Loan Program Rules and Regulations (As Amended by Public Law 25-85)

OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY
ACKNOWLEDGMENT RECEIPT

Received by: [Signature]
Time 2:22 PM
Date 7 April 2000

Office of the speaker
ANTONIO R. LINPINGCO
Date: 7-7-00
Time: 12:45pm
Rec'd by: [Signature]
Print Name: Laurie
0525/00 - 0543

STUDENT LOAN RULES AND REGULATIONS
(As amended by Public Law 25-85)

- 1.0 STUDENTS ENTITLED TO LOANS. Loans are provided for graduate or undergraduate studies or training in occupational priorities established by the Board, to qualified applicants who are admitted to the University of Guam, the Guam Community College or to a United States accredited off-Island college or university as a full-time student on a regular status or by Distance Learning, that may include classes by means of the internet, through a United States accredited college or university or one (1) recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation ('COPA').
- 2.0 BACKGROUND AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY. The Board of Regents of the University of Guam is authorized under Title 17, Guam Code Annotated, to formulate rules and regulations to equitably and efficiently administer the Student Financial Assistance Programs as listed in Title 17, Chapter 15, of the Guam Code Annotated.
- 3.0 DEFINITIONS. As used in these rules and regulations, the following terms will have the following meaning:
- (a) Academic Year: Fall and Spring Semesters for semester calendar system and Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters for a quarter calendar system.
 - (b) Accredited: as recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA)
 - (c) Board: the Board of Regents of the University of Guam.
 - (d) Bona fide Resident: a United States citizen or a permanent resident alien having resided on Guam for five (5) years immediately preceding the starting date of the academic year the assistance will be used.
 - (e) Cash Repayment: monetary cash repayment for the period the deficiency was made and no service credit allowed.
 - (f) Distance Learning: the delivery of instruction to students who cannot engage in traditional on-campus study and delivered through the various means of television, audio, or computer transmission (Internet), satellite transmission, computer conferencing, video cassettes or discs; or correspondence.
 - (g) FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid.
 - (h) Fee: general fees applied to all students plus laboratory and course fees.
 - (i) Financial Need: institutional cost minus expected family contribution (determined through the FAFSA) minus all other student financial resources or benefits equal unmet need (COA-EFC-SFA=Unmet need).
 - (j) Full-time Status: minimum of 12 or more credit hours per semester/quarter for undergraduate studies for students attending off-island institutions; or minimum of 9 for student attending an off-island institution for graduate studies
 - (k) Major Program: the specific academic program of study which will be undertaken to achieve the desired degree.

- (l) **Off-Island Recipient:** recipient attending a four-year U.S. accredited college or university in the United States because their declared major or its equivalent is not available at the University of Guam.
- (m) **Promissory Note:** Document signed by the student and their guarantors promising to repay the loan in accordance with the rules and regulations specified under the program.
- (n) **Professional Program:** the specialized programs in Medical (M.D.), Dental (D.D.S.), or other Doctorate Degrees in areas critical to Guam's professional needs (Ph.D., E.D.D., PsyD., D.B.A...etc.) degree programs.
- (o) **SAR:** Student Aid Report resulting from the processed FAFSA.
- (p) **Service Credit:** repayment of loan obligation through employment service, upon completion of studies in which funding was provided.

4.0 ELIGIBILITY. To be eligible for a Student Loan, the applicant

- (a) Must be a bona fide resident of Guam for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the assistance of the award and either:
 - 1. a citizen of the United States; or,
 - 2. a permanent resident alien.
- (b) Must be a high school or college graduate, or a college student enrolled in good standing at a U.S. accredited institution of higher education.
- (c) Must have an overall grade-point average of not less than:
 - (1) 2.0 or its equivalent in the applicant's high school studies; or upon satisfactory completion of not less than sixty (60) credit hours at a U.S. recognized and accredited college and/or university with a cumulative grade point average of not less than 2.0; or
 - (2) 2.0 cumulative grade point average in undergraduate degree if applicant is pursuing an academic graduate degree; or
 - (3) In lieu of (c)(2), an irrevocable letter of acceptance from a professional school in an area of particular need on Guam as determined by the Board of Regents' Career Priority listing in effect.
- (d) Must have evidence of financial need through the completion and processing of the "Free Application for Federal Student Aid" as reported in the Student Aid Report (SAR) or the Institutional Student Information Report received from the U. S. Department of Education Processing Center.
- (e) Must have been unconditionally accepted for admission into a major program at GCC or UOG or any other U.S. accredited institution of higher education or professional school as approved by the Board as a full-time student on a regular status or distance learning.
- (f) Must agree to the provisions of 15203 of Article 2 of Chapter 15 on the Repayment of Loan.

5.0 MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF LOAN. Loans are limited to the following amounts for the

cost of tuition and fees, room and board, books and educational supplies:

- (a) Not to exceed Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000) per year for a period of not more than four (4) scholastic years for studies at the University of Guam; and not more than two (2) years for students attending the Guam Community College.
- (b) Not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) per year for a period of not more than four (4) scholastic years for studies at an off-island institution to include Distance Learning.

The total amount of a loan is contingent on the availability of funds.

6.0 APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS. An applicant for a loan must provide the following documents:

- (a) A completed application must be received on or before April 30, by the Financial Aid Office. The official application form is obtainable in January at the Financial Aid Office.
- (b) An official letter affirming that the applicant has been unconditionally accepted for admission to a U.S. accredited institution of higher education or recognized by the Council on Post Secondary Accreditation (COPA) as a regular full-time student in a specific major program. No loans shall be granted for studies at an off-island institution in a major program that is available at the University of Guam or Guam Community College. However, the Board may grant loans under special circumstances involving legally blind and/or deaf applicants where facilities or services are unavailable at the University of Guam.
- (c) A complete official high school and/or college transcript.
- (d) College/university catalog or bulletin (preferred latest edition/year of entrance) containing information regarding the applicant's major program and institution's published annual cost of attendance.
- (e) The Student Aid Report (SAR) or Institutional Student Information Report as evidence of need for financial assistance as a result of the processed FAFSA by the U.S. Department of Education Processing Center. The FAFSA application is obtainable from the Financial Aid Office, High School Counselor or apply directly to www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- (f) Document attesting U.S. citizenship must provide
 - (1) Birth Certificate; or
 - (2) Naturalization Certificate; or
 - (3) Pass PortPermanent resident alien status must provide
 - (1) Permanent Resident Alien Card and Pass Port.
- (g) Proof of five (5) years residency on Guam student must provide;
 - (1) Copies of personal or parent's filed income tax forms for a period of five years; or,
 - (2) Certified statement from Department of Revenue; or

- (3) If a recipient of Public Assistance applicant or parent, must have certified statement from agencies providing assistance that assistance was provided for a period of five years; or
- (4) If an applicant is 18 years or younger, must provide a copy of an official transcript from Department of Education Middle Schools or Guam Private Elementary /Middle Schools; or
- (5) Voter registration for the last three recent elections certified by Guam Election Commission;
- (6) Must be listed on all documents submitted by parents or guardian.
- (7) Any combination of one thru six (1-6) above.

7.0 SELECTION OF LOAN RECIPIENTS. The Board of Regents shall direct the Financial Aid Office Student Financial Assistance Program Staff to review and evaluate the applications of all student loan applicants on the following:

- (a) The applicant's scholastic record and financial need.
- (b) The territory's need for professional personnel as in the career priorities determined by the Board.
- (c) The likelihood of the applicant remaining in or returning to Guam to fill the territory's professional needs.

8.0 OBLIGATION OF LOAN RECIPIENTS. The recipient of a loan must fulfill the following obligations:

- (a) Comply with all Student Loan regulations as established by the Board of Regents;
- (b) Must enroll for and maintain full-time student status, minimum 12 credit hours per semester/quarter undergraduate level or 9 credits hours per semester/quarter graduate level.
- (c) Maintain a grade-point average of not less than 2.0 each semester/quarter if the recipient is an undergraduate student, or not less than 3.0 each semester/quarter if the recipient is a graduate student. Students in graduate and professional schools who are officially certified to be in good standing at the end of each term shall be deemed to have fulfilled this requirement. Any student who fails to comply with this regulation shall be placed on probation and must meet the academic standard prescribed herein by the end of the term immediately following the term in which probationary status incurred.
- (d) Submit an official copy of transcript within thirty (30) days at the end of each semester/quarter.
- (e) Obtain written approval by the Board before:
 - (1) Transferring to another institution; one (1) transfer is allowed for the duration of the loan;
 - (2) Changing major program, one (1) change of major is allowed for the duration of the loan (change of major is not allowed during the last academic year of attendance). Such change must be within the established career priorities determined by the Board for the

- initial year the student loan was approved.
- (3) Withdrawing from any institution unless such withdrawal was due to circumstances beyond his/her control and such withdrawal is subsequently approved in writing by the Board.
- (f) Be employed on Guam or in the office of Guam's Delegate to Congress for a period of one (1) year for each Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000) received by the recipient under the loan. The recipient's employment on Guam shall commence within six (6) months after the completion of studies. If a recipient continues his/her education as a full-time student at a graduate or professional school, he/she may defer his/her return to Guam until such additional studies are completed, provided written approval is obtained from the Board. A graduate requiring specialized training, may postpone his/her employment on Guam while undergoing specialized training required for completion of professional certification as long as the recipient is certified by the director of the training program on an annual basis and upon written approval from the Board.
- Service credit may be postponed upon written approval from the Board, for up to six (6) years while the recipient is serving in active duty in a branch of the U.S. Armed Services provided, however, that the student applies for postponement within ninety (90) days of entering the Armed Services and continues to maintain Guam as place of residence.
- (g) By accepting the award, the recipient agrees that the University of Guam may obtain any or all information from his/her respective institution as needed to comply with Board rules and regulations. Additionally the recipient will be required to attend:
- (1) A Pre-Award Interview prior to disbursement of the loan.
 - (2) An Exit Interview upon completion of degree with staff from the Financial Aid Office.

9.0 **PROMISSORY NOTE.** Every student awarded a loan pursuant to Article 2, section 15203 of the GCA annotated, shall execute a promissory note agreeing to repay said loan over a period to be determined by the Board, but not in excess of ten (10) years from the contemplated date of the termination or the completion of the course of studies for which the loan was approved. Said promissory note shall be non-interest bearing, except as to unpaid delinquent amounts due and payable under the note, which shall be subject of interest at the annual rate of ten percent (10%).

10.0 **CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUATION OF LOAN.** The conditions for continuation of a loan shall include the following:

- (a) The recipient must have maintained his status as a regular full-time student at the institution to which he/she was admitted and in the major program for which the loan was granted, unless a transfer to another institution or change in program major has been authorized in writing in accordance with the Board's regulations 8(b), 8(c), and 8(e).

- (b) The recipient must provide a copy of his/her SAR and award letter from his/her institution to determined continued financial need.
- (c) The student must have complied with all other regulations governing Student Loans.
- (d) No loan shall be continued beyond the number of years normally required to complete studies as a full-time student in the specific academic degree program for which the loan was granted, except under exceptional circumstances as determined by the Board.

11.0 FORFEITURE OF LOAN. Forfeiture of a loan shall result from any of the causes listed below, and any loan found to be forfeited shall be immediately due and payable.

- (a) Failure to enroll in the Fall semester/quarter of the academic year immediately following the granting of the Award, unless deferment of enrollment in that semester/quarter is approved in advance by the Board of Regents. An Awardee granted such deferment will forfeit the award for failure to enroll in the next semester/quarter immediately following the approved deferment.
- (b) Failure to maintain a minimum semester grade point average of 2.0 for undergraduate studies or 3.0 for graduates studies at the end of each academic term, except a recipient may be allowed one academic term to regain this average without cancellation of the loan.
- (c) Failure to maintain status as a full-time student. Except where
 - (1) A recipient may be allowed by the Board one academic term to regain full-time status without cancellation of the award, if the probationary period the student fail to enroll the student shall be forfeited; or
 - (2) A recipient may be permitted to enroll less than full-time in his/her last term if it would not affect the normal graduation time it requires to complete the program of studies.
- (d) Suspension or dismissal for academic deficiency, disciplinary reasons, or conviction of a felony.
- (e) Withdrawal from the institution in anticipation of any action under (d), above, or for any other reason(s) not authorized by the Board.
- (f) Change of institution and/or major without prior written approval from the Board.
- (g) Change of Guam residency.
- (h) In the event that the Board has made an exception pursuant to 11(b) or 11(c), and the recipient regained entitlement of his or her award , such recipient will be required to sign a cash repayment promissory note with two local guarantors. Repayment shall become due and payable until after graduation or termination of studies for any other reason. No service credit shall be allowed pursuant to 12(a) for the period in which the academic deficiency occurred.
- (i) Failure to comply with other Board rules and regulations.

12.0 **SERVICE CREDIT.** For the purpose of repayment of the student loan, the recipient shall receive:

- (a) **Service Credit.** The recipient shall receive service credit at the rate of for each year \$500 each month or its equivalence of \$6000 per year when employed on Guam or in the office of Guam's Delegate to Congress. If the recipient (a) returns to Guam and (b) begins employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation without interruption, the recipient is considered to have met the obligation to the Board and will receive credit beginning on the date of employment.
- (b) **Postponement.** If the recipient wishes not to begin employment on Guam within six (6) months after graduation to continue studies on a full-time basis at an accredited institution of higher education, he/she may appeal in writing to the Board for permission. Should permission be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue studies. If prior approval from the Board is not obtained, the recipient who does not return and begin employment of Guam within six (6) months, must pay in cash \$16.66 per day (\$6,000 per year) for each day the person is not employed on Guam. Once this amount has been paid in full, the recipient is entitled to use service credit for the remaining amount of the debt for each year of employment on Guam.
- (c) **Interruption.** If a person receiving service credit wishes to temporarily terminate employment on Guam to continue his studies on a full-time basis at an accredited institution of higher education as recognized by the Council of Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA), an appeal in writing must be submitted to the Board of Regents for approval. Should such approval be granted, the repayment obligation shall be deferred for the period granted to continue studies. If prior approval of the Board is not obtained, the recipient must pay in cash \$16.66 per day (\$6,000 per year) for each day the person is not employed on Guam. Once the amount is paid in full, the recipient is entitled to use service credit on the remaining debt.
- (d) **Ineligibility for Service Credit.** Any recipient who did not receive the degree sought with assistance from the Board of Regents, and who did not obtain prior approval, shall be ineligible for service credit. All monies disbursed during attendance under the Student Loan Program will become due and payable in monthly monetary payments as determined by the University of Guam Collections Department.
- (e) **Annual Proof of Employment.** It is the responsibility of the recipient to provide the Board of Regents documentary evidence of such employment and, each year thereafter, until such obligation is fulfilled.
- (f) **Death or Total Disability.** In the event the recipient should become totally

disabled (physiological or psychological) or upon death, while completing service credit, any obligation on the note shall be terminated upon certification of two (2) physicians licensed to practice in the United States.

- 13.0 CONFLICT. In the event any revised regulation herein is found to be in conflict with a previous regulation under which a student was awarded financial assistance, the regulation in effect at the time of the award shall continue to apply to the student for the remainder of the recipient's studies for which the award was made.

Student Loan 3/30/00