

SB0441-EEE_MACo_SUP.pdf

Uploaded by: Brianna January

Position: FAV



Senate Bill 441

*Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Nancy Grasmick Public School
Professional Award – School Nurses*

MACo Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Education, Energy, and the Environment
Committee

Date: February 14, 2024

From: Brianna January

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS** SB 441. This bill would extend eligibility to Maryland’s existing student loan repayment assistance program to school nurses who serve in a public school.

Maryland’s public school educators, state and local government staff, and even nonprofit professionals already enjoy the aid of the Student Loan Repayment Program and its accompanying tax credit. Just last year, the General Assembly extended eligibility to public school behavioral and mental health staff.

SB 441 recognizes the hiring and retention challenges facing other public school professionals and extends this existing program to school staff supporting our students’ health needs and well-being.

This is an especially important undertaking at a time when our students are struggling with mental health as they return to classrooms post-pandemic and as our schools struggle to hire and retain qualified staff, including school nurses. By allowing these critical school staff to apply for the State’s student loan repayment assistance program, these professionals are more likely to serve in a Maryland public school and to remain serving in them. Additionally, doing so offers an added incentive for more people to pursue education in nursing and the medical field.

Counties remain committed to supporting all students and the school professionals working with them. SB 441 would help ensure our public schools are better staffed with school nurses and that the state’s most vulnerable low-income students have better access to their services. Counties view this bill as a valuable tool to help address this vexing issue, and accordingly, MACo **SUPPORTS** SB 441 and requests a **FAVORABLE** report.

CE Ball 2024 - SB 441 Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assist

Uploaded by: County Executive Calvin Ball

Position: FAV



HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

3430 Courthouse Drive ■ Ellicott City, Maryland 21043 ■ 410-313-2013 Voice/Relay

Calvin Ball
Howard County Executive
cball@howardcountymd.gov

www.howardcountymd.gov
FAX 410-313-3051

February 14, 2024

Senator Brian Feldman, Chair
Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: **TESTIMONY OF SUPPORT**: SB 441: Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award - Public School Nurses

Dear Chair Barnes, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee,

I commend Senator Beidle for introducing Senate Bill 441 which would expand the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program to include school nurses in our public schools. School nurses play a critical role in ensuring the health and well-being of the entire school community. During the COVID-19 pandemic after schools re-opened, nurses were on the frontlines of ensuring school safety and controlling the spread of the virus. Not only did they maintain their regular duties, but they also managed testing, administered vaccines, coordinated care and quarantining for students who tested positive. We are fortunate that within the Howard County Public School system (HCPSS), there are 85 nurses who cover 77 schools.

However, across the state, most schools do not have a dedicated nurse. Instead, there are cluster nurses that split their time serving multiple schools. Considering the growing shortage of healthcare workers across the country and across the state, any tool we can use to invest and incentivize healthcare workers is essential.

As County Executive and a former educator, I understand the power of education provides critical pathways to advancement. However, none of that would be possible without the hard work and dedication of our professional school staff who work to ensure bright futures for the next generation. Expanding the loan repayment program to school nurses serving our schools will help retain and attract our most talented experts while also acknowledging the critical role they play in students' overall health and well-being. We remain committed to strengthening community-based health resources and long-term investments in supporting the needs of our students, educators and staff in our schools. With 85 school nurses in Howard County Public School System, HB 545 will be a clear signal of support.

In FY24, I allocated \$1.5 million in funding for Howard County's Student Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Teachers for qualified educators who commit to teaching in the Howard County Public School System to help retain the highest quality teachers. This comes on top of our commitment of \$16 million in retention bonuses received by educators in recent years and a \$1.1 billion investment in the school systems FY24 budget.



HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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Now more than ever, it is critical to ensure access to health services for our students. In order to do this, we must commit to supporting the professionals who serve them and our communities. I welcome your support and urge a favorable report on SB 441.

All the Best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Calvin Ball', is written over a thin blue horizontal line.

Calvin Ball, Howard County Executive

SB 441 - EEE - MDH -LOS.pdf

Uploaded by: Jason Caplan

Position: FAV



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

February 14, 2024

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Education Energy and the Environment Committee
2 West, Semate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: Senate Bill 441 – Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award - Public School Nurses – Letter of Support

Dear Chair Feldman and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (Department) respectfully submits this letter of support for Senate Bill (SB) 441 – Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award - Public School Nurses.

SB 441 expands the Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award within the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program to include school nurses who meet specified eligibility criteria. The Office of Student Financial Assistance within the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) administers the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program including repayment of higher education loans for program awardees.

In a Maryland Public School Health Workforce Assessment Survey conducted in 2023, the majority of Maryland School Health Services Coordinators cited “insufficient staff levels” as a reason for impeding their work in serving students health needs for the school years 2020-21 and 2021-22. The survey also cited salaries as a challenge for recruitment of school nurses, as hourly wages for school nurses nationally are 75% of hospital nurses’ hourly earnings. Additionally, many schools face high nurse turnover rates.

The Department supports the incentive program proposed by SB 441 as another avenue to recruit and retain nurses in the state, and alleviate the school nursing staff shortage as it removes financial barriers for school nurses participating in the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program.

If you have any further questions, please contact Sarah Case-Herron, Director, Office of Governmental Affairs at sarah.case-herron@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Laura Scott', is positioned above the typed name.

Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H.
Secretary

SB 441.Hoffman Student Loan Repayment for School N

Uploaded by: John Woolums

Position: FAV

BILL: Senate Bill 441
TITLE: Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Nancy Grasmick
Public School Professional Award - Public School Nurses
DATE: February 14, 2024
POSITION: SUPPORT
COMMITTEE: Education, Energy, and the Environment
CONTACT: John R. Woolums, Esq.

The Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE) supports Senate Bill 441 in order to ensure that the scope of the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program includes school nurses.

MABE greatly appreciates the focus of this legislation on expanding an existing state program to meaningfully enhance the availability of registered nurses to provide high quality health services to our students. Senate Bill 441 would contribute significantly toward the recruitment and education of much needed school nurses in schools across the state. MABE supports the role of the current Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program in providing financial assistance to teachers, including those teachers who work in a Federal Title I school or school identified for improvement by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). In addition, other eligible professional employment fields include speech pathologists, social workers, and physical and occupational therapists. However, school nurses are not eligible for the Program. Therefore, MABE strongly supports the program expansion proposed by Senate Bill 441.

MABE's support for this bill is grounded in the association's advocacy for the essential staffing and resources necessary to meet the school health needs of our nearly 900,000 public school students. The benefits and value of access to high quality school-based health services for students and families, teachers and staff, and communities at large can hardly be overstated. For many years, evidence has been mounting that additional resources are needed to provide the holistic array of somatic and mental health services, and social, emotional, behavioral and academic supports for all students. Today, students and staff continue to cope with these accumulated challenges in an environment of educator and other professional staffing shortages, including shortages of registered nurses in schools.

Under current law and regulations, school health services must be overseen by a "designated school health services professional" and may be provided by a "school health services aide". The definition of "designated school health services professional" includes a physician, certified nurse practitioner, or registered nurse, with experience or special training both in working with children and families in community or school health programs and practices in accordance with the current medical and nursing standards of care" (COMAR 13A.05.05.06). Regarding the administration of medication, the regulations also ensure the direct supervision by health professionals, including registered nurses (COMAR 13A.15.11.04). In these ways, registered nurses are vital to the successful operation of school health services throughout Maryland.

For these reasons, MABE requests a favorable report on Senate Bill 441.

SB 441_Horizon Foundation_fav.pdf

Uploaded by: Kerry Darragh

Position: FAV



February 14, 2024

COMMITTEE: Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee

BILL: SB 441 – Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award - Public School Nurses

POSITION: Support

The Horizon Foundation is the largest independent health philanthropy in Maryland. We are committed to a Howard County free from systemic inequities, where all people can live abundant and healthy lives.

The Foundation is pleased to support SB 441 – Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award - Public School Nurses.

This bill would expand the Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award to include public school nurses.

Maryland’s health care work force has experienced unprecedented levels of fatigue and attrition, mostly due to the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Pre-existing nursing shortages have only gotten worse. The Baltimore Sun reports that, nationally, “[m]ore than 275,000 additional nurses are needed by 2030.”ⁱ Worse yet, the Baltimore Banner notes, “Nationally, about a third of schools lack full-time nurses... A big issue in recruiting school nurses is pay. Two-thirds of registered nurses in schools earn less than \$60,000 annually...”ⁱⁱ

Considering the expense of enrolling in nursing school coupled with a relatively low level of compensation in a school setting, Maryland must do everything in its power to entice additional workers to join the school nursing field. By making school nurses eligible for a grant under the Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award program, Maryland has an opportunity to defray some of the financial burdens currently being experienced by our school nurse population. Although significantly more must be done to bolster our health care workforce in schools, SB 441 represents a good faith effort to reward the dedication and public service of our school nurses.

The Horizon Foundation believes that everyone deserves access to quality and affordable health care. SB 441 would increase access to care in schools by

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Lanlan Xu, Ph.D.

helping recruit additional registered nurses to work in these spaces. For this reason, the Horizon Foundation **SUPPORTS SB 441 and urges a FAVORABLE report.**

Thank you for your consideration.

ⁱ <https://www.baltimoresun.com/2023/05/05/maryland-nursing-schools-aim-to-diversify-students-update-curriculums-amid-shortage/>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.thebaltimorebanner.com/education/k-12-schools/baltimore-city-school-nurses-L47WL6VLGRB33B5TADSCJ4BYYY/>

SB441_MSEA_Lamb_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Lauren Lamb

Position: FAV

FAVORABLE
Senate Bill 441

**Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program – Nancy Grasmick Public
School Professional Award – Public School Nurses**

Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment
February 14, 2024

Lauren Lamb
Government Relations

The Maryland State Education Association supports Senate Bill 441, which would expand the Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award within the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program to include public school nurses who are licensed as registered nurses, provide health services in public schools, and are employed by a county school system or a local health department to provide school health services.

MSEA represents 75,000 educators and school employees who work in Maryland's public schools, teaching and preparing our almost 900,000 students so they can pursue their dreams. MSEA also represents 39 local affiliates in every county across the state of Maryland, and our parent affiliate is the 3-million-member National Education Association (NEA).

Last year, this body made a timely investment in the recruitment and retention of educators and school-based mental health professionals by expanding eligibility for the Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award, which is under the umbrella of the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program. This expansion and the addition of \$5 million to the program enhanced a previously underutilized resource. In its expansion, however, school nurses were left out.

Though the larger Janet L. Hoffman program issues awards to nurses, school nurses are excluded. This should be rectified, especially as the school nursing profession faces growing shortages due to heavy workloads and lower pay compared to other specialties.^{1 2} This bill would remedy that omission. It is consistent with the goal of the Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award – to retain crucial school-based staff by reducing their student loan burden – and an important acknowledgement of school nurses' contributions.

We urge the committee to issue a Favorable Report on Senate Bill 441.

¹ Why Are School Nurses Leaving? NEA Today (2023). <https://www.nea.org/nea-today/all-news-articles/why-are-school-nurses-leaving>

² State Laws on School Nursing Outline Copious Responsibilities for Nurses. Child Trends (2022).

<https://www.childtrends.org/publications/state-laws-on-school-nursing-outline-copious-responsibilities-for-nurses>

SB 441 - Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repaymen

Uploaded by: Mary Pat Fannon

Position: FAV



PSSAM
Public School Superintendents' Association
OF MARYLAND

Mary Pat Fannon, Executive Director
1217 S. Potomac Street
Baltimore, MD 21224
410-935-7281
marypat.fannon@pssam.org

BILL: SB 441
TITLE: Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award - Public School Nurses
DATE: February 14, 2024
POSITION: Favorable
COMMITTEE: Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
CONTACT: Mary Pat Fannon, Executive Director, PSSAM

The Public School Superintendents' Association of Maryland (PSSAM), on behalf of all twenty-four public school superintendents, **supports** Senate Bill 441.

This bill expands eligibility for the Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award to include public school nurses with two years of experience who provide health services in a public school and are employed by a local school system or local health department (LHD) to provide health services through an agreement with a local board of education. The bill also expands the requirements of the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) to publicize the program to include doing so to eligible public school nurses in an effort to recruit and retain nurses working in public schools in the State

The Nancy Grasmick Teacher Award was created in 2012 within Janet L. Hoffman LARP for Maryland. Last year, this program expanded eligibility to include mental health professionals (including school psychologists, resource psychologists, psychologist coordinators, social workers, social worker supervisors, school counselors, or mental health coordinators), but left out school nurses. This legislation corrects that oversight and PSSAM strongly encourages its inclusion via this legislation.

School nurse shortages are a significant problem in Maryland and we support any initiatives that will encourage students to enter the field of nursing and specifically work in public education. Nursing, like teaching, is not a highly paid profession, but a labor of love for students and learning and nurses are a backbone of support for students and their families in school settings.

The demand on school nurses has grown exponentially from managing basic first aid to providing comprehensive health services and medication management for the increasing number of students with chronic health problems. In addition to hands-on treatment for students, nurses are educators who promote and support healthy development and safety for the school

community. In far too many circumstances, school nurses are the first, or only, medical professionals for underserved students and families. In short, nurses play a crucial role in the somatic and behavioral health of school ecosystems, and in turn, aid in the academic success for students.

For these reasons, PSSAM **supports** Senate Bill 441 and urges a **favorable** report.

SB441 Public School Nurses.pdf

Uploaded by: Pamela Beidle

Position: FAV

PAMELA G. BEIDLE
Legislative District 32
Anne Arundel County

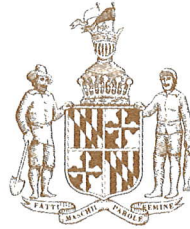
Chair, Finance Committee

Executive Nominations Committee

Joint Committee on Gaming Oversight

Joint Committee on Management
of Public Funds

Spending Affordability Committee



Miller Senate Office Building
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Annapolis, Maryland 21401
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800-492-7122 Ext. 3593
Pamela.Beidle@senate.state.md.us

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 14, 2024

Senate Bill 441

Janet Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program
Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award – Public School Nurse

Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan and members of the Committee;

I am pleased to present Senate Bill 441 – Janet Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program – Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award – Public School Nurse. SB 441 addresses what we believe to be an oversight in the Janet Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program. This program was established by the Maryland General Assembly to address professional shortages in state and local governments, as well as the non-profit section.

School nurses are responsible for the health of every student, yet we do not even have enough nurses to have one nurse in every school. There is on average about 0.75 nurses per school on a statewide basis, according to the most recently available data from the Maryland State Department of Education (2018-2019). This number translates to an average of 1 nurse per 848 students. In Frederick, Montgomery, and Washington Counties, as well as Baltimore City, the numbers are dramatically worse with one nurse per close to 1,500 students.

We need to correct the oversight in the Janet Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program for school nurses. The program already recognizes other health professions that work in schools including speech language pathologists and occupational therapists. Last year, the Maryland General Assembly, thanks to the work of this Committee, clarified that program must also be available to mental health professionals in school. School nurses are the only health professional who are now excluded from the program.

The school nursing shortage will not be addressed overnight, and it will take more than this legislation. However, we know that loan repayment programs provide a strategy that works. It simply does not make sense that school nurses are the only school health professional excluded from the Janet Hoffman Loan Repayment Program, nor that nurses in other governmental settings are eligible, just not school nurses.

Finally, we all know that we are in the midst of an extended crisis with the nursing shortage. Our school systems are struggling more than ever to compete with the private sector for nurses.

In 2022, I sponsored legislation, which was cross-filed with then Delegate Ariana Kelly, to create the Maryland's Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis. The Commission submitted its final report in January. In the report, there was frequent mention of loan repayment programs as an important strategy as we move forward in addressing the crisis in nursing.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this legislation to the Committee. I respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 441.

Employer (2022)	School Nurses	Licensed Practical Nurses	Certified Nursing Assistant	Other Health Services	Enrollment (2018-19)	Schools Count	Students Per Nurse	Nurses Per School
Allegany	22	1	0	6	8539	26	388	0.85
Anne Arundel	77	21	135.5	7	83300	124	1082	0.62
Baltimore	173	0	40	0	113814	174	658	0.99
Baltimore City	50	3	127	1	79297	167	1585.94	0.30
Calvert	18	7	0	2	15936	25	885.33	0.72
Caroline	8	2	7	0	5829	10	728.63	0.80
Carroll	48	3	0	3	25179	44	524.56	1.09
Cecil	29	0	0	0	15307	29	527.83	1.00
Charles	35	9	0	0	27108	38	774.51	0.92
Dorchester	12	4	1*	1*	4785	13	398.75	0.92
Frederick	26	8	56	0	42713	68	1642.81	0.38
Garrett	0	11	0	0	3842	12	NA	NA
Harford	61	5	0	0	37826	54	620.10	1.13
Howard	59	0	62	0	57907	77	981.47	0.77
Kent	2	0	4	1	1912	5	956.00	0.40
Montgomery	118	0	212	59	162680	208	1378.64	0.57
Prince George's	198	21	0	2	132667	208	670.04	0.95
Queen Anne's	14	2	0	0	7749	14	553.50	1.00
SEED School	1	1	0	1	404	1	404.00	1.00
Somerset	6	4	1	1	2930	9	488.33	0.67
St. Mary's	33	3	0	0	17999	30	545.42	1.10
Talbot	6	0	6	1	4674	8	779.00	0.75
Washington Local Hospital	16	10	26	1	22681	45	1417.56	0.36
Wicomico	28	0	9	2	14949	25	533.89	1.12
Worcester	17	0	0	0	6810	14	400.59	1.21
Statewide	1057	115	685.5	87	896837	1428	848.47	0.74

Notes * 1 person certified as CNA and CMT

Data Source and Years: Nursing data from 2018-2019 MSDE Survey; Enrollment and school count data from 2018-2019 MdReportCard Enrollment Data; the local employer is current year (2022)

SB 441 - EEE - MBON - LOS.docx.pdf

Uploaded by: Rhonda Scott

Position: FAV



Board of Nursing

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

January 26, 2024

The Honorable Senator Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: SB0441 – Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award - School Nurses - Letter of Support

Dear Chair Feldman and Committee Members:

The Maryland Board of Nursing (the Board) respectfully submits this letter of support for Senate Bill (SB) 441 – Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award - School Nurses. This bill expands the Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award within the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program to include school nurses who are licensed as registered nurses, provide health services in public schools, and are employed by a county school system or a local health department to provide health services through an agreement with a county board.

The Board believes in increasing incentives that support nurses and other healthcare workers, especially when it comes to different forms of financial assistance. This bill aims to include school nurses as recipients to educational loan repayment assistance, reducing the financial burden and costs of higher education. As a result, this bill will help to support the effort to recruit and retain nurses working in public schools. Retaining school nurses will also help to improve the nursing workforce shortage within the state.

I hope this information is useful. For more information, please contact Ms. Mitzi Fishman, Director of Legislative Affairs, at mitzi.fishman@maryland.gov or Ms. Rhonda Scott, Executive Director, at rhonda.scott2@maryland.gov, or call (410) 585 – 2049.

Sincerely,

Gary N. Hicks
Board President

The opinion of the Board expressed in this document does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.

2024 MNA and MASHN SB 441 Senate Side.pdf

Uploaded by: Robyn Elliott

Position: FAV



Committee: Senate Education, Energy, and Environment Committee

Bill Number: Senate Bill 441 – Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program
– Nancy Grasmick – Public School – Professional Award

Hearing Date: February 13, 2024

Position: Support

The Maryland Nurses Association and the Maryland Association of School Health Nurses supports strongly supports *Senate Bill 441 – Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program – Nancy Grasmick – Public School – Professional Award – Public School*. The bill addresses an oversight that has resulted in the exclusion of school nurses from the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program. This loan program was created by the Maryland General Assembly to address professional shortages in State agencies, local government agencies, and nonprofit organizations.

The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) has recognized that nurses can participate in the program. However, MHEC’s website states that school nurses are excluded. All other school health professions may participate, including speech language pathologists, occupational therapists, and social workers. This means that school nurses are the only type of nurse that is not eligible for the program as well as the only school health professional not eligible. This exclusion does not make sense, and appears to be an oversight.

There is a severe shortage of school nurses across Maryland, and we ask for the Maryland General Assembly for help in correcting the exclusion of school nurses from the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program. We know that loan repayment programs are not going to solve the school nurse shortage, but it is an important strategy in addressing

targeted shortage areas. The recent report of the Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis highlighted the interest in loan repayment programs as a critical tool to addressing health professional shortages.ⁱ

We need more nurses in Maryland schools. Many school nurses must split their time between more than one school. On average, Maryland jurisdictions have 0.74 nurse per school, with an average of 848 students per school nurse. Some jurisdictions, such as Frederick County and Baltimore City, have ratios that where there are more than 1,500 students per nurse.ⁱⁱ

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.

ⁱ[https://health.maryland.gov/docs/SB%20440%20Ch.%20708%20\(2022\)%20%E2%80%93%202023%20Final%20Report%20%E2%80%93%20Commission%20to%20Study%20the%20Heal.pdf](https://health.maryland.gov/docs/SB%20440%20Ch.%20708%20(2022)%20%E2%80%93%202023%20Final%20Report%20%E2%80%93%20Commission%20to%20Study%20the%20Heal.pdf)

ⁱⁱ 2018-2019 MSDE Survey (see attached)

SB 441 MNA Attachment - MHEC Website on Janet Hoff

Uploaded by: Robyn Elliott

Position: FAV



Enter search term



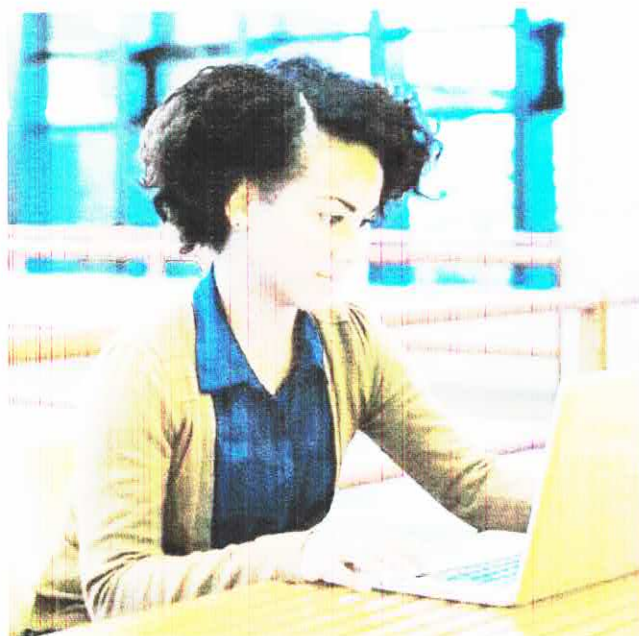
MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION
STUDENT SUCCESS WITH LESS DEBT



Section Menu



Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program (LARP)



The Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program (LARP) is closed for the 2023-2024 academic year.

The Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program (LARP) is to provide State assistance in the repayment of educational loans to individuals providing public service in eligible employment fields, serving Maryland low income or underserved residents.

Who May Apply?

Individuals employed in Maryland by state agency, nonprofit, or local government serving a specific population.

Eligible employment fields are:

- **Lawyers** – judicial clerks in any courts and policy analyst are not eligible. The principal part of the position must provide legal services to low income residents in Maryland who cannot afford legal services.
- **Nurses** - school nurses are not eligible
- **Nurse Faculty**
- **Licensed Clinical Counselors** – must work in a high need geographic area of the state.
- **Physical and Occupational Therapists**
- **Social Workers**
- **Speech Pathologist**
- **Teachers** at any level or subject field who are employed in a public school within the state (regardless of the area of certification), any teacher who works in a Federal Title I school or schools identified for improvement by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) in the following areas of certification are prioritized for the awarding over all other teacher applicants:
 - **Technology education (secondary)**
 - **Chemistry (secondary)**
 - **Computer Science (secondary)**



- Latin (secondary)
- Mathematics (secondary)
- Physics (secondary)
- Earth/Space Science (secondary)
- Dance (elementary & secondary)
- Reading Specialist (elementary & secondary)
- Speech Language Pathology (educational service area)
- Spanish (secondary) and
- Special Education; generic – infant to grade 3; grades 1 through 8; grades 6 to adult; hearing impaired; severely & profoundly disabled; visually impaired.

- **The Nancy Grasmick Teacher Award** - Provides loan repayment assistance to those teachers that have qualifying student loan debt and have taught in Maryland for the past 2 years. In addition to meeting the general Janet L Hoffman LARP requirements, applicants must also meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Teach in Science, technology, engineering, or math subjects; OR teach in a school in which at least 75% of the students are enrolled in the free meal program in the state for 2 years, AND
- Have received the *HIGHEST PERFORMANCE EVALUATION* rating for the most recent year available in the county in which the teacher has taught.

URBAN TEACHER CENTER (UTC) APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS - You must be in your 2nd year of the program and possess a Maryland Resident-Teaching Certificate. You must submit a LARP General application and all required documents by the deadline specified in the "When to Apply" section. UTC applicants are not eligible to receive the lock-in award.

INCOME REQUIREMENTS

All LARP applicants excluding Nurse Faculty:

- If Single \$75,000.00
- If Married \$150,000.00

Nurse Faculty

- If Single \$100,000
- If Married \$185,000

How do I Apply? Complete an online LARP application through an MDCAPS (Maryland College Aid Processing System) account. If you do not have an MDCAPS account, you must create an account to submit the application.

Award Selection & Award Amount

Applicants will be grouped according to eligible employment field. Within employment fields, individuals will be ranked according to graduation date, then application complete date. If individuals have identical graduation dates and application complete dates, applicants with the lowest income will be awarded first. Priority is given to individuals who have graduated from an institution of higher education in the last three years. Priority employment fields established by law are legal services and nursing. Priority for awarding will also be given to applicants who are employed as nurse faculty members or applicants who teach in schools designated as federal Title I, schools Identified for Improvement by MSDE, or who teach in designated critical shortage subject fields.

AWARD AMOUNT

Awards will be determined by an applicant's overall reported educational debt at the time of application. Recipients will lock-in to an award level that contains set award amounts. Award funds are distributed annually over a three (3) year period as long as the recipient remains eligible and continues to submit the required annual employment, lender and tax documentation **by October 1.**

Total Debt

Overall Award Limit

Yearly Payment

SB 441 MNA Attachment - MSDE School Nurse Statewid

Uploaded by: Robyn Elliott

Position: FAV

Employer (2022)	School Nurses	Licensed Practical Nurses	Certified Nursing Assistant	Other Health Services	Enrollment (2018-19)	Schools Count	Students Per Nurse	Nurses Per School
Allegany	22	1	0	6	8539	26	388	0.85
Anne Arundel	77	21	135.5	7	83300	124	1082	0.62
Baltimore	173	0	40	0	113814	174	658	0.99
Baltimore City	50	3	127	1	79297	167	1585.94	0.30
Calvert	18	7	0	2	15936	25	885.33	0.72
Caroline	8	2	7	0	5829	10	728.63	0.80
Carroll	48	3	0	3	25179	44	524.56	1.09
Cecil	29	0	0	0	15307	29	527.83	1.00
Charles	35	9	0	0	27108	38	774.51	0.92
Dorchester	12	4	1*	1*	4785	13	398.75	0.92
Frederick	26	8	56	0	42713	68	1642.81	0.38
Garrett	0	11	0	0	3842	12	NA	NA
Harford	61	5	0	0	37826	54	620.10	1.13
Howard	59	0	62	0	57907	77	981.47	0.77
Kent	2	0	4	1	1912	5	956.00	0.40
Montgomery	118	0	212	59	162680	208	1378.64	0.57
Prince George's	198	21	0	2	132667	208	670.04	0.95
Queen Anne's	14	2	0	0	7749	14	553.50	1.00
SEED School	1	1	0	1	404	1	404.00	1.00
Somerset	6	4	1	1	2930	9	488.33	0.67
St. Mary's	33	3	0	0	17999	30	545.42	1.10
Talbot	6	0	6	1	4674	8	779.00	0.75
Washington Hospital	16	10	26	1	22681	45	1417.56	0.36
Wicomico	28	0	9	2	14949	25	533.89	1.12
Worcester	17	0	0	0	6810	14	400.59	1.21
Statewide	1057	115	685.5	87	896837	1428	848.47	0.74

Notes * 1 person certified as CNA and CMT

Data Source and Years: Nursing data from 2018-2019 MSDE Survey; Enrollment and school count data from 2018-2019 MdReportCard Enrollment Data; the local employer is current year (2022)

SB 441 - EEE- MBON - LOS.docx.pdf

Uploaded by: State of Maryland (MD)

Position: FAV



Board of Nursing

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

January 29, 2024

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West, Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 441 – Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award - School Nurses - Letter of Support

Dear Chair Feldman and Committee Members:

The Maryland Board of Nursing (the Board) respectfully submits this letter of support for Senate Bill (SB) 441 – Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award - School Nurses. This bill expands the Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award within the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program to include school nurses who are licensed as registered nurses, provide health services in public schools, and are employed by a county school system or a local health department to provide health services through an agreement with a county board.

The Board believes in increasing incentives that support nurses and other healthcare workers, especially when it comes to different forms of financial assistance. This bill aims to include school nurses as recipients to educational loan repayment assistance, reducing the financial burden and costs of higher education. As a result, this bill will help to support the effort to recruit and retain nurses working in public schools. Retaining school nurses will also help to improve the nursing workforce shortage within the state.

I hope this information is useful. For more information, please contact Ms. Mitzi Fishman, Director of Legislative Affairs, at mitzi.fishman@maryland.gov or Ms. Rhonda Scott, Executive Director, at rhonda.scott2@maryland.gov, or call (410) 585 – 2049.

Sincerely,

Gary N. Hicks
Board President

The opinion of the Board expressed in this document does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.