

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
WESTERN INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION**

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CHAPTER 397 - WESTERN INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

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NAC 397.010 Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “Commissioners” means the three persons appointed to represent Nevada on the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, acting jointly.
2. “Rural area” means any part of this state which is more than 50 miles from the corporate boundaries of the cities of Carson City, Reno and Las Vegas.
3. *Residence is defined in NRS 10.155.*

(Other possible definitions may include loan, principal, support fee, stipend, student and underserved. the Commission may also want to amend the definition of “rural area”)

NAC 397.020 Petition to reduce period of required practice.

1. To apply for a reduction of the period of required practice authorized by paragraph (a) of subsection 2 of ~~NRS 397.065~~ *NRS 397.0645(2)(a)*, a person must petition the commissioners after having practiced continuously for not less than 1 year the profession which he was certified to study. The practice must have been:

- (a) As a full-time employee of the state; ~~for~~
- (b) In a rural area, with at least one-half of his overall practice time having been spent in the rural area ~~for~~; *or*

(c) As a full-time employee in an urban area with an underserved population as defined in NRS 397.0617

2. The petition must be in writing and must contain the reasons for the reduction.
3. Upon granting a petition, the commissioners will reduce the period of required practice by not more than 1 year.
4. The petitioner may appeal a denial of his petition to the commissioners in writing within 10 days after his receipt of the notice of denial.

NAC 397.030 Petition for an extension of time for completing required practice.

1. To apply for an extension of time for completing the ~~for~~ *contracted numbers of* years of required practice beyond 5 years as authorized by paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of ~~NRS 397.065~~ *NRS 397.0645*, a person must petition the commissioners in writing ~~while he is in~~

~~school or within 1 year after he completes the program for which he received state contributions for stipends~~ *within 5 years after the completion or termination of the student's education, internship, or residency for which he or she receives the stipend or support fee.* The petition must contain the reasons for the extension.

2. The commissioners, if good cause exists, ~~will~~ *may* grant extensions for:

- (a) Military service;
- (b) Service in the Peace Corps or a Vista program;
- (c) Participation in the National Health Scholarship Program;
- (d) Continuation of education in the petitioner's field of study or specialization;
- (e) Interruption of study ~~for 1 year~~ due to financial hardship;
- (f) Illness;
- (g) Failure to fulfill professional licensing requirements; and*
- ~~(g)~~ *(h)* Other circumstances deemed appropriate by the commissioners.

3. An extension may also be granted to a petitioner who failed to pass his professional examination, but practice of his profession must begin no later than 2 years after the administration of the first examination after his graduation from the program for which he received state contributions for stipends unless an extension is granted pursuant to subsection 2.

4. The petitioner may appeal a denial of his petition to the commissioners in writing within 10 days after his receipt of the notice of denial.

NAC 397.XXX Petition for Extension of Period of Repayment. (NRS 397.069)

1. To apply for an extension of time for repayment, a person must petition the commissioners in writing within 120 days from the date of default. The petition must contain the reasons for the extension.

2. The commissioners, if good cause exists, may grant extensions for:

- (a) Military service;*
- (b) Service in the Peace Corps or a Vista program;*
- (c) Participation in the National Health Scholarship Program;*
- (d) Continuation of education in the petitioner's field of study or specialization;*
- (e) Interruption of study for 1 year due to financial hardship;*
- (f) Illness;*
- (g) Failure to fulfill professional licensing requirements; and*
- (h) Other circumstances deemed appropriate by the commissioners.*

3. An extension may also be granted to a petitioner who failed to pass his professional examination, but practice of this profession must begin no later than 2 years after the administration of the first examination after his graduation from the program for which he received state contributions for stipends unless an extension is granted pursuant to subsection 2.

4. The petitioner may appeal a denial of his petition to the commissioners in writing within 10 days after his receipt of the notice of denial.

NAC 397.XXX Petition for Reduction of Principal Based on Hardship. (NRS 397.069)

1. To apply for reduction of principal based on hardship, a person must petition the commissioners in writing. The petition must contain the reasons for the reduction.

2. The petitioner may appeal a denial of his petition to the commissioners in writing within 10 days after his receipt of the notice of denial.

NAC 397.XXX Delegation to Director (NRS 397.067; NRS 397.0655)

1. The Director may require, upon notice to a recipient of a loan, that the recipient repay the balance and any unpaid interest on the loan at once if:

(a) An installment is not paid within 30 days after it is due;

(b) The recipient fails to notify the three Nevada State Commissioners, within 30 days, of:

(i) A change of name or of the address of the recipient's home or place of practice; or

(ii) The termination of the recipient's education or completion of his or her internship for which he or she receives the loan; or

(c) The recipient fails to comply with any other requirement or perform any other obligation the recipient is required to perform pursuant to any agreement under the program.

2. After 120 days the recipient is in default, the Director may coordinate debt collection efforts as necessary.

3. The Director may negotiate terms of repayment, including how and when payments will be made on loans or stipends in default.