

HUMAN SERVICES PROFESSIONAL LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

ACT APPROPRIATION - HB4601/SB3082

Appropriations for PA 102-1089 to Address the Human Service Workforce Crisis

FACT SHEET

2024

THE PROBLEM

The Illinois General Assembly passed SB3925 (PA 102-1089) unanimously, to address the human service workforce crisis that directly impacts children, adults, and families we serve. The legislature understands the need to build and maintain a strong workforce for the health and human services sector when it passed SB3925. Without appropriations, however, human service providers are unable to effectively reduce the burdens the sector is collectively experiencing including record levels of vacancies, turnovers, and growing wage gaps.

Description	The Human Services Professional Loan Repayment Program provides loan repayment assistance to qualified human services professionals to recruit and retain them to work in community-based human services organizations.
Eligibility	a) a resident of Illinois; b) a borrower with an outstanding balance due on an eligible educational loan; and c) an individual who is not in default on a federally guaranteed educational loan and does not owe a refund on a grant or scholarship program administered by ISAC.
Service Commitment	a) Work for at least 24 consecutive months as a full-time employee as a human services professional in a community-based human services agency that currently has or did have a contract with a State agency to provide human services during the duration of the applicant's 24 consecutive month tenure; and b) Must remain a full-time employee as a human services professional in the same community-based human services organization for at least 12 months after receiving this grant.
Maximum Repayment	a) \$25,000 per year for a master's degree or higher from a qualified program; b) \$15,000 per year for a bachelor's degree from a qualified program; c) \$3,000 per year for an associate degree from a qualified program; and d) \$5,000 per year add-on if applicant is independently licensed as a licensed clinical social worker, a licensed clinical professional counselor, a licensed practitioner of the healing arts, a licensed marriage and family therapist, a board-certified behavior analyst, or a registered behavior technician.

THE SOLUTION

The General Assembly should appropriate the sum of \$15,000,000 for costs necessary to implement the Human Services Professional Loan Repayment Program.



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CALL TO ACTION

Support HB4601/SB3082 (Rep. LaPointe and Sen. Fine) to fund the Human Services Professional Loan Repayment program in FY2025.

ICOY promotes the safety, health, and success of Illinois' children, youth, and families by acting as a collective voice for policy and practice, and by connecting and strengthening the organizations that serve them. Visit ICOYouth.org.

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