

ligation of less than one year for each maximum annual amount, or portion thereof, paid on behalf of the person for qualified loans.

(3) Persons on active duty before entering into agreement

The active duty service obligation of persons on active duty before entering into the agreement shall be served after the conclusion of any other obligation incurred under the agreement.

(4) Concurrent completion of service obligations

A service obligation under this section may be completed concurrently with a service obligation under section 3006 of this title.

(f) Effect of failure to complete obligation

(1) Alternative obligations

An officer who is relieved of the officer's active duty obligation under this section before the completion of that obligation may be given any alternative obligation, at the discretion of the Secretary.

(2) Repayment

An officer who does not complete the period of active duty specified in the agreement entered into under subsection (b)(3), or the alternative obligation imposed under paragraph (1), shall be subject to the repayment provisions under section 3006 of this title.

(g) Rulemaking

The Secretary shall prescribe regulations to carry out this section, including—

(1) standards for qualified loans and authorized payees; and

(2) other terms and conditions for the making of loan repayments.

(Pub. L. 107-372, title II, §267, as added Pub. L. 116-259, title II, §201(a), Dec. 23, 2020, 134 Stat. 1160.)

§ 3078. Interest payment program

(a) Authority

The Secretary may pay the interest and any special allowances that accrue on one or more student loans of an eligible officer, in accordance with this section.

(b) Eligible officers

An officer is eligible for the benefit described in subsection (a) while the officer—

(1) is serving on active duty;

(2) has not completed more than three years of service on active duty;

(3) is the debtor on one or more unpaid loans described in subsection (c); and

(4) is not in default on any such loan.

(c) Student loans

The authority to make payments under subsection (a) may be exercised with respect to the following loans:

(1) A loan made, insured, or guaranteed under part B of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1071 et seq.).

(2) A loan made under part D of such title (20 U.S.C. 1087a et seq.).

(3) A loan made under part E of such title (20 U.S.C. 1087aa et seq.).

(d) Maximum benefit

Interest and any special allowance may be paid on behalf of an officer under this section for any of the 36 consecutive months during which the officer is eligible under subsection (b).

(e) Coordination with Secretary of Education

(1) In general

The Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of Education regarding the administration of this section.

(2) Reimbursement authorized

The Secretary is authorized to reimburse the Secretary of Education—

(A) for the funds necessary to pay interest and special allowances on student loans under this section (in accordance with sections 428(o), 455(l), and 464(j) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1078(o), 1087e(l), and 1087dd(j));¹ and

(B) for any reasonable administrative costs incurred by the Secretary of Education in coordinating the program under this section with the administration of the student loan programs under parts B, D, and E of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1071 et seq., 1087a et seq., 1087aa et seq.).

(f) Special allowance defined

In this section, the term 'special allowance' means a special allowance that is payable under section 438 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087-1).

(Pub. L. 107-372, title II, §268, as added Pub. L. 116-259, title II, §202(a), Dec. 23, 2020, 134 Stat. 1162.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Higher Education Act of 1965, referred to in subssecs. (c) and (e)(2)(B), is Pub. L. 89-329, Nov. 8, 1965, 79 Stat. 1219. Parts B, D, and E of title IV of the Act are classified generally to parts B (§1071 et seq.), D (§1087a et seq.), and E (§1087aa et seq.), respectively, of subchapter IV of chapter 28 of Title 20, Education. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 1 of Pub. L. 89-329, set out as a Short Title note under section 1001 of Title 20 and Tables.

§ 3079. Student pre-commissioning education assistance program

(a) Authority to provide financial assistance

For the purpose of maintaining adequate numbers of officers of the commissioned officer corps of the Administration on active duty, the Secretary may provide financial assistance to a person described in subsection (b) for expenses of the person while the person is pursuing on a full-time basis at an accredited educational institution (as determined by the Secretary of Education) a program of education approved by the Secretary that leads to—

(1) a baccalaureate degree in not more than five academic years; or

¹ So in original. The semicolon probably should be preceded by a third closing parenthesis.