



HEAL Coalition ALERT: Congress Passes Loan Forgiveness Provisions for Public Health Workers

Budget reconciliation legislation approved by Congress and set to be signed by the President this week contains loan forgiveness provisions that could have a significant impact on allied health schools and their students.

The loan forgiveness provisions include full-time employees in “public health,” “public service for individuals with disabilities,” and “public service for the elderly,” among other eligible careers. Under the legislation, the Secretary will forgive loans for students upon completion of ten years of on-time loan payments, as long as the worker remains employed in the public service occupation during the entire payment period. There is however a major caveat – the provision only applies to students and schools participating in the Direct Loan program.

“The HEAL Coalition has been working closely with key Members and staff to remind them of the significant benefits which loan forgiveness provisions will have on the entire health care industry,” said Executive Director Tom Netting. “We are pleased that the provisions were included in the final conference report, and look forward to working with Congress on similar pieces of legislation that will provide grant funding to support the allied health professions.”

If you are interested in joining us, would like more information regarding the HEAL Coalition, contact Executive Director Tom Netting at (202) 626-8553.