

NATIONAL DEFENSE EDUCATION ACT OF 1958

Two provisions of this act are of interest to those involved in graduate training. A brief summary of their provisions is given below.

Loans to Students in Institutions of Higher Education (Title II)

Purpose: To provide Federal assistance in the establishment, at institutions of higher education, of students loan funds for making low-interest loans to students to pursue their education at such institutions. Generally, the Federal Government will contribute 90 percent of the capital of these funds and the institutions 10 percent.

Applications: Applications by institutions for Federal capital contributions are filed with the Commissioner of Education.

Students eligible: To be eligible for a loan, a student must (a) be in need of the amount of the loan to pursue a course of study at the institution; (b) be capable of maintaining good standing in such course; and (c) have been accepted for enrollment as a full-time student, or, if already attending the institution, be in good standing and in full-time attendance as an undergraduate or graduate student.

Amount: No student may be loaned over \$1,000 in any year or over \$5,000 in the aggregate.

Interest: Three percent per year on the unpaid balance beginning with the date on which repayment of the loan is to begin.

Repayment: Begins 1 year after a borrower ceases to pursue a full-time course of study at an institution of higher education, and ends 11 years thereafter. The borrower may, however, accelerate his repayments.

Nature of student contract: The loan must be evidenced by note or other writing, but no security or endorsement may be required unless the borrower is a minor not legally able to create a binding obligation, in which case either security or endorsement may be required.

National Defense Fellowships (Title IV)

Purpose: To increase the number of students in graduate programs, particularly students interested in teaching in institutions of higher education.

Number of fellowships authorized: One thousand fellowships may be awarded during the fiscal year 1959 and 1,500 during each of the 3 succeeding years.

Terms of fellowships: Individuals receiving fellowships must be accepted for study in graduate programs of institutions of higher education, which programs are approved by the Commissioner of Education. To have a graduate program approved, the institution must apply to the Commissioner and he must find that the program is a new program or an existing program which has been expanded; that the program or the expansion will increase the facilities available for graduate training of college or university teachers and will promote a wider geographical distribution of such facilities; and that in accepting persons for graduate study in these programs, preference will be given to persons interested in teaching in institutions of higher education.

Fellowship stipends: Each holder of a fellowship will receive \$2,000 for the first year of graduate study, \$2,200 for the second year, and \$2,400 for the third year, plus \$400 each year for each dependent.

Duration of fellowships: Fellowships are for periods of study, not in excess of 3 academic years, during which the holder maintains satisfactory proficiency in, and devotes full time to, study or research in the field in which the fellowship was awarded, in an institution of higher education, and does not engage in gainful employment (other than part-time employment by the institution in teaching, research, or similar activities, approved by the Commissioner of Education).

Cost-of-education payments to institutions: The institution of higher education which a fellowship holder attends will be paid that portion of the cost of the new graduate program, or of the expansion of the existing program, in which the fellow is pursuing his course of study, which is reasonably attributable to him -- but not more than \$2,500 per year per fellow.

WOODROW WILSON NATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS

Going directly to the heart of education's most urgent problem -- the critical shortage of qualified teachers -- the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship program recruits and supports promising scholars for their first year of graduate study. The project is backed by a \$25 million grant from the Ford Foundation and administered by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation at Princeton, New Jersey.

It has been predicted that between 30 and 40,000 new full-time college teachers each year will be needed to train the wave of students seeking college educations in the sixties. The current annual output of Ph.D.'s averages 9,000, of which only half go into college teaching.

This year's 1,200 Wilson Fellows were chosen from 7,000 candidates, all nominated and all rigorously screened by committees

of faculty members. These candidates came from over 700 undergraduate colleges. The elected Wilson Fellows begin graduate work next fall at 80 different universities. Each Fellow receives a living allowance of \$1,500, plus the full cost of tuition and fees. Married students receive additional stipends. In this year's group of winners, there are 875 men and 325 women. Of these, 38% are planning to take courses in the humanities; 34% in the social sciences and 28% in the natural sciences and mathematics.