001. SCOPE AND AUTHORITY. These regulations govern the procedure for making awards under Nebraska Revised Statutes (Neb. Rev. Stats.) §§71-5650 to 71-5670 of the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act.

002. DEFINITIONS. Definitions set out in the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act and the following apply to this chapter.

002.01  FISCAL YEAR. Fiscal year means July 1 through June 30.

002.02  NEBRASKA RESIDENT. Nebraska Resident is defined by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-502 and the rules and regulations of the educational institution, which under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-501 determines resident status at the time of registration.

002.03  PART-TIME MASTER’S-LEVEL MENTAL HEALTH STUDENT. Part-time master’s-level mental health student means a student who will complete a minimum of 12 but fewer than 18 credit hours per fiscal year.

003. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS. All applicants to participate in a program under the Rural Health and Systems and Professional Incentive Act must submit a complete Department approved application, meet the requirements of Neb. Rev. Stats. §§ 4-108 to 4-114, the statutory requirements of the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act, and the requirements of this chapter.

003.01  LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM. An applicant for participation in the loan repayment program must have a local entity that provides matching funds for the loan repayment and that must provide the Department with verification of the applicant’s practice during the required practice obligation.

003.02  STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM. An applicant for participation in the student loan program must be a Nebraska resident and be enrolled as a full-time student during the fiscal year for which the loan may be granted. An applicant may be enrolled as a part-time master’s level mental health student during the fiscal year for which the loan may be granted.

004. STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS. An individual receiving a student loan must successfully complete sufficient credit hours at the educational institution to be considered a full-time student during the fiscal year for which the loan was granted, and a part-time master’s
level mental health student must successfully complete a minimum of 12 credit hours during the fiscal year for which the loan was granted. Doctorate-level students will not be awarded more than four loans through the program, and master’s-level students will not be awarded more than two loans through the program.