

APA-1

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control: 635
Department or Agency: State of Alabama Optometric Scholarship Awards Board
Rule No.: Chapter 635-X-8
Rule Title: Approved Areas for Repayment of Loans With Service
Intended Action: Amend

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety? No

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare? No

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public? No

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services involved? No

To what degree?: N/A

Is the increase in cost more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the proposed rule? NA

Are all facets of the rule-making process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public? Yes

Does the proposed action relate to or affect in any manner any litigation which the agency is a party to concerning the subject matter of the proposed rule? No

Does the proposed rule have an economic impact? No

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of Section 41-22-23, Code of Alabama 1975.

Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Services Agency.

Signature of certifying officer

Amanda Benko
Amanda R Benko

Date

Monday, December 30, 2024

REC'D & FILED
DEG 31, 2024
LEGISLATIVE SVC AGENCY

APA-2

STATE OF ALABAMA
OPTOMETRIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS BOARD

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

AGENCY NAME: State of Alabama Optometric Scholarship Awards Board

RULE NO. & TITLE: Chapter 635-X-8 Approved Areas for Repayment of
Loans With Service

INTENDED ACTION: Amend

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION:
Correcting language on admin rules

TIME, PLACE AND MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS:
4/1/25
Amanda Benko
Email: bosal.optometry@outlook.com

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:
Friday, March 7, 2025

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY:
Amanda Benko
Email: bosal.optometry@outlook.com

Amanda Benko

Amanda R Benko

(Signature of officer authorized
to promulgate and adopt
rules or his or her deputy)

STATE OF ALABAMA
BOARD OF OPTOMETRIC SCHOLARSHIP AND LOAN AWARDS~~OPTOMETRIC-~~
~~SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS BOARD~~
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

CHAPTER 635-X-8
APPROVED AREAS FOR REPAYMENT OF LOANS WITH SERVICE

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635-X-8-.01 Committee On Approved Communities.

A standing committee as defined in 635-X-1-.06(2) shall be appointed to recommend communities which are acceptable as areas where the loan obligations can be repaid by service, as provided in Code of Ala. 1975, §§ 34-22-63(c), 34-22-65.

Author: Board of Optometric Scholarship and Loan Awards

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§ 34-22-60, et seq.

History: Filed September 7, 1984. Amended: Published ; effective .

635-X-8-.02 Identification Of Needy Communities.

The committee shall assume the initiative to identify the communities which are in need of additional optometric service and qualify as areas in which the loan recipients can repay their obligation by service, as provided in Code of Ala. 1975, §§ 34-22-63(c), 34-22-65.

At least once every two (2) years, the committee shall calculate by county or other geographic area an Optometric Shortage Index by dividing the population of the county or geographic area by the number of optometrists practicing within that county or geographic area.

Author: [Board of Optometric Scholarship and Loan Awards](#)
Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, §§ 34-22-60, et seq.](#)
History: Filed September 7, 1984. [Amended: Published ; effective](#) .

635-X-8-.03 Evaluation System.

It is the committee's obligation to devise a system to obtain the necessary information to evaluate the need of optometric service in a community.

Author: [Board of Optometric Scholarship and Loan Awards](#)
Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, §§ 34-22-60, et seq.](#)
History: Filed September 7, 1984. [Amended: Published ; effective](#) .

635-X-8-.04 Loan Recipient's Application To Classify Communities As A Needy Area.

The recipient of a loan may petition the Board for approval of a community as an area in which he/she may repay his/her obligation with service rather than cash.

Author: [Board of Optometric Scholarship and Loan Awards](#)
Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, §§ 34-22-60, et seq.](#)
History: Filed September 7, 1984. [Amended: Published ; effective](#) .

635-X-8-.05 Community's Application For Classification As A Needy Area.

Any community ~~or area~~ or area in the state with a population of less than 100,000 may petition the Board for approval as an area critically in need of additional optometric service. It is expected that such a petition will be presented by a responsible officer of the community or a representative group of citizens. These petitions shall be referred to the Committee on Approved Communities for review and evaluation.

Author: [Board of Optometric Scholarship and Loan Awards](#)
Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, §§ 34-22-60, et seq.](#)
History: Filed September 7, 1984. [Amended: Published ; effective](#) .

635-X-8-.06 **Committee's Report.**

The committee shall report at each meeting of the Board. It shall present recommendations for approval or disapproval of all areas it has investigated since the last meeting.

Author: [Board of Optometric Scholarship and Loan Awards](#)

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, §§ 34-22-60, et seq.](#)

History: Filed September 7, 1984. [Amended: Published ; effective](#) .

635-X-8-.07 **Approval As A Needy Area.**

A community shall be classified as an approved repayment-with-service area in which a loan obligation can be repaid with service if two-thirds (2/3) of the vote cast at the meeting of the Board is in the affirmative.

Author: [Board of Optometric Scholarship and Loan Awards](#)

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, §§ 34-22-60, et seq.](#)

History: Filed September 7, 1984. [Amended: Published ; effective](#) .

635-X-8-.08 **List Of Approved Needy Areas.**

A list of all communities approved by the Board shall be maintained by the ~~chairman~~[chair, the Board's Executive Secretary and the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry](#) and available to all recipients of loans. This cannot be considered a listing of all areas in the state which could qualify as repayment-with-service areas. Additions can be made as provided above. (635-X-8-.02, 635-X-8-.04 and 635-X-8-.05)

Author: [Board of Optometric Scholarship and Loan Awards](#)

Statutory Authority: [Code of Ala. 1975, §§ 34-22-60, et seq.](#)

History: Filed September 7, 1984. [Amended: Published ; effective](#) .