

1 (a) An assistant state attorney or an assistant public
2 defender is not eligible for assistance under the program
3 until the assistant state attorney or assistant public
4 defender has been employed as an assistant state attorney or
5 an assistant public defender for 3 years of continuous service
6 on his or her employment anniversary date.

7 (b) After an individual has completed 3 years of
8 continuous service, an affidavit of certification on a form
9 approved by the commission shall be submitted to the state
10 attorney's office or the public defender's office, as
11 appropriate. The affidavit of certification shall, upon
12 approval of the state attorney or the public defender, be
13 submitted to the commission.

14 (c) Upon receipt of the certificate, the commission
15 shall begin yearly payments in the amount of \$3,000 to the
16 lender that services the eligible student loan. These payments
17 shall be made for the benefit of the qualified assistant state
18 attorney or assistant public defender named in the certificate
19 and for the purpose of satisfying the eligible student loan
20 obligation.

21 (d) Upon an individual's completion of 6 years of
22 continuous service, the yearly loan assistance payment amount
23 shall increase to \$5,000. Upon an individual's completion of
24 13 years of continuous service or upon full satisfaction of
25 the eligible student loan obligation, whichever occurs first,
26 loan assistance payments shall cease. The total amount of loan
27 assistance payments permitted under the program for any one
28 assistant state attorney or assistant public defender may not
29 exceed \$44,000.

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