

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

Public Health Service

**Health Services Administration  
Bureau of Health Personnel  
Development and Service  
3700 East-West Highway  
Hyattsville, MD 20782**

November 6, 1981

Re: Requirements for Aliens who  
Apply for Health Education  
Assistance Loans (HEAL)

Dear HEAL Lenders and Schools:

It has come to our attention that students are not providing appropriate information concerning citizenship status on HEAL applications. This is to advise you of HEAL Program requirements for students who are not United States citizens or nationals.

In order to receive a HEAL loan, a student must be a citizen, national, or permanent resident of the United States, a citizen or permanent resident of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, a permanent resident of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, or in the United States for other than a temporary purpose and intend to become a permanent resident. A student who is in the U.S. on a student visa or an exchange visitor visa is not eligible to receive HEAL loans.

A student who indicates that he or she is not a U.S. citizen or national in Item 6 of the HEAL application is required to give the I-94 authority. We have been receiving applications indicating only the alien registration number (example: A-98765432). We have been advised by the Immigration and Naturalization Service that students in the United States on a temporary basis (who are ineligible for HEAL loans) may have alien registration numbers. The alien registration number is, therefore, unacceptable because it does not provide proof of permanent residence and we cannot use it for determining HEAL student eligibility. This means that we cannot insure loans indicating only the alien registration number.

Lenders must obtain from the student a copy of the Alien Registration Receipt Card (either Form I-151 or Form I-551) as proof of permanent residence and must assure that the student has indicated "I-151" or "I-551" in Item 6 on the HEAL application. Financial aid administrators, who forward HEAL applications to lenders on behalf of their students, should make sure that the applications contain the appropriate documentation before forwarding them to the lenders. Lenders shall return applications if the I-94 authority does not meet requirements.

Students who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents, but are in the United States for other than a temporary purpose, may be eligible for HEAL loans. Lenders should exercise especially careful judgment

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when making loans to these students in order to assure that students will not default on their loans, and that they will be available during repayment after receiving their U.S. education. Please contact the HEAL Branch at (301) 436-5987 for information on individual situations.

Please disregard page 58 (page 4, Exhibit V-2) of the HEAL Lender/School manual as it no longer meets requirements.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Heningburg  
Director  
Division of Student Services