

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO**  
**THE EDUCATION (TEACHER STUDENT LOANS) (REPAYMENT ETC.)**  
**(AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2005**

**2005 No. 3309**

1. This explanatory memorandum has been prepared by the Department for Education and Skills and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

This memorandum contains no information for the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments.

2. **Description**

- 2.1 This SI amends the Education (Teacher Student Loans)(Repayment etc.) Regulations 2003 (SI 2003/1917). The amendment will ensure that women, who due to pregnancy or childbirth were unable to get a job before the close of the scheme, will have up to a further year to do so.

3. **Matters of special interest to the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments**

- 3.1 None

4. **Legislative Background**

- 4.1 The Education (Teacher Student Loans) (Repayment etc.) Regulations 2003 were made under section 186 of the Education Act 2002. They created a scheme whereby newly qualified teachers in certain subjects could apply to have their student loans repaid by the Department.

5. **Extent**

- 5.1 This instrument applies to England and Wales.

6. **European Convention on Human Rights**

Not applicable.

## **7. Policy background**

- 7.1 The 2003 Regulations created the Repayment of Teacher Loans scheme. The scheme was a pilot, so only those who had in place a contract of employment which commenced on or after 1st July 2002 and before 1<sup>st</sup> July 2005 could qualify.
- 7.2 In order to qualify for the scheme, applicants also had to start work within 7 months of attaining Qualified Teacher Status. The Regulations provided that women whose pregnancy or child birth prevented them getting eligible employment within 7 months of gaining their Qualified Teacher Status would have an extra 12 months to find a job. That concession did not extend across the 30 June 2005 closing date for the 3 year pilot scheme.
- 7.3 It has now been decided that an equivalent concession should be inserted. The effect will be that for those women who did not enter into a contract of employment by 30 June 2005 due to pregnancy or childbirth, the scheme is extended by one year to 30 June 2006. As of the date of coming into force of the instrument, they will be eligible to apply for repayment of their loans, provided they satisfy all of the scheme's criteria.

## **8. Impact**

- 8.1 A Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been prepared for this instrument as it has no impact on business, charities or voluntary bodies.
- 8.2 The impact on the public sector is simply a benefit to a small number of newly qualified teachers who were pregnant in the period leading up to 30 June 2005 and who take up teaching posts by 30 June 2006 teaching shortage subjects who will now be able to apply to have their student loans repaid.

## **9. Contact**

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