Proposal:

- Add three four-digit CIP codes for professions that receive similar treatment as the list of 10 and PsyD in other statutes or regulations, including: PA's (51.09), Nurse Practioners (51.38), and certified nurse midwives (51.38), Public Health (51.22)
 - The National Health Service Corps loan repayment plan, as provided for by the Public Health Service Act (PHSA), as amended, authorizes loan repayment for several primary care providers in addition to physicians, including: PA's (51.09), Nurse Practitioners (51.38), and certified nurse midwives (51.38).
 - https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/loan-repayment/nhsc-loan-repayment-program
 - The HEAL loan program and authorized higher loan limits for a group of healthcare professions, many of which are on the list of ten. It also authorized Public Health programs (51.22), which are not currently in the Department's proposal.
 - Additionally, there are many instances of PAs being linked to some of the 10 professional programs in the non-inclusive list in the statute, including in Title VII and Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act dealing with the health workforce. In the Medicare statute, PAs are referred to under the same "Medical and Other Health Services" section as physicians and others that can bill Medicare directly. The <u>Social Security Act</u> also similarly deals with PAs along with other health professions included among the list of 10.
- 2. Change (b)(1)(ii) to say:
 - (ii) Is generally at the doctoral level <u>(unless a masters degree is the terminal degree for licensure)</u>, and that requires at least six academic years of postsecondary education coursework for completion, including at least two years of post-baccalaureate level coursework