

The TEACH Grant program provides federal grants to students who plan to become full-time highly qualified teachers of high-need subjects in designated low-income elementary or secondary schools. Students who meet the eligibility requirements and agree to the teaching service requirement may receive up to \$4,000 a year (up to \$16,000 for undergraduate study or \$8,000 for graduate study).

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To receive a TEACH Grant you must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, and you must do following:

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), although you do not have to demonstrate financial need
- Enroll as an undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, or graduate student in a TEACH Grant eligible program (a major that will prepare you to become a highly-qualified teacher in a high need field as described below)
- Enroll in coursework necessary to begin a career in teaching, including subject area courses (e.g., math courses for a student who intends to be a math teacher)
- Meet certain academic achievement requirements such as an SAT score above the 75th percentile or a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 (unless you are currently a teacher or you are retiring from teaching and have expertise in a high need field (math, science, Special Education, English as a Second Language, or another high-need subject as defined by the U.S. Department of Education)
- Complete online TEACH Grant Initial Counseling for the TEACH first grant, and Subsequent Counseling for each TEACH Grant you receive in the future at <https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/launchTeach.action> (do this before signing the TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve)
- Sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve (see below for more information on this requirement)
- Complete the TEACH Grant Application and submit it to the Financial Aid Office Scholarship Unit

HIGH-NEED FIELD

The U.S. Department of Education has identified the following as subject areas having a shortage of teachers:

- Bilingual Education and English Language Acquisition
- Foreign Language
- Mathematics
- Reading Specialist
- Science
- Special Education
- Other identified teacher shortage areas as of the time you begin teaching in that field. These are teacher subject shortage areas (not geographic areas) that are listed in the Department of Education's *Annual Teacher Shortage Area Nationwide Listing*. To access the listing, please go online to <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/tsa.html>.

SCHOOLS SERVING LOW-INCOME STUDENTS

Schools serving low-income students include any elementary or secondary school listed in the Department of Education's *Annual Directory of Designated Low-Income Schools for Teacher Cancellation Benefits*. You will find the directory online at the following Website: <https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/tcli.action>.

TEACH GRANT AGREEMENT TO SERVE

For each year you receive a TEACH Grant, you must sign an electronic TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve at a Department of Education Website: <https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/launchTeach.action>. The agreement specifies the conditions under which you can receive a grant and the teaching service requirements, such as the following:

- For each academic program for which you receive TEACH Grant funds, you must serve as a full-time teacher for a total of at least four academic years within eight calendar years after you complete or withdraw from the academic program
- You must perform the teaching service as a highly-qualified teacher at a low-income school (the term “highly-qualified teacher” is defined in section 9101(23) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 or in section 602(10) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)
- You must teach in a high-need field
- You must comply with any other requirements that the Department of Education determines to be necessary
- An acknowledgement that if you do not complete the required teaching service obligation, the TEACH Grant funds you received will be converted to a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan that you must repay with interest charged from the date of each TEACH Grant disbursement

DISCLAIMER: This fact sheet was adopted from the Department of Education TEACH Grant Fact Sheet and provides a preliminary summary of the TEACH Grant Program based on the College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007. The information in this document is subject to change and is not binding on the Department of Education or Towson University.



APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL TEACH GRANT

Please PRINT Clearly:

Student Name (Last, First): TU ID#:

Your first step in applying for a Federal TEACH Grant is to read the Teach Grant Program Fact Sheet. As stated in the Fact Sheet, the application requirements for the TEACH Grant include:

- Completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), although financial need is not required
Academic requirements: a score above the 75th percentile on one or more portions of a nationally normed admission test (such as SAT, ACT, or GRE) or a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 (unless you are currently a teacher or you are retiring and have expertise in a subject where there is shortage of teachers (math, science, Special Education, English as a Second Language, or another high-need subject as defined by the U.S. Department of Education)

In addition to the federal requirements for the TEACH Grant Program, you will have to meet with your education advisor each term to plan your academic coursework. If you are not an education major you will also have to meet with the advisor for your academic major. Failure to meet with your advisor(s) will result in discontinuation of the TEACH Grant. If the grant is discontinued for this or any other reason, you will lose the grant for the current term. Further, you will still have the responsibility of fulfilling the service obligation for all TEACH Grant funds previously received or repaying the grant(s) with interest as a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan.

APPLICATION CERTIFICATION:

I certify that I have read this Federal Teach Grant Fact Sheet. I understand that I must teach full time in a high-need field in an elementary or secondary school that is designated by the U.S. Department of Education as having a high concentration of students from low-income families. I further understand that I must perform this service as a highly qualified teacher for four years within the eight years immediately following completion of my degree.

If you are currently a teacher or you are retiring from teaching and have expertise in a subject where there is a shortage of teachers (math, science, Special Education, English as a Second Language, or another high-need subject as defined by the U.S. Department of Education) please check here: [] Yes [] No

Student Signature: Date:

Return this form by ONLY one of the following methods:

Table with 4 columns: Mail or, Fax or, E-mail or, In Person. Contains contact information for each method.