

The TEACH Grant program provides a federal grant to students who plan to become full-time, highly qualified teachers of high-need subjects in designated low-income elementary or secondary schools, or an educational service agency. The TEACH Grant Program provides grants of up to \$4,000 a year to students who are completing or plan to complete course work needed to begin a career in teaching (up to \$16,000 for undergraduate study or \$8,000 for graduate study).

## APPLICATION STEPS

- 1) Review the **Student Eligibility Requirements** and **High-Need Fields** sections below to confirm you are eligible for the Federal TEACH Grant.
- 2) Complete the Towson University TEACH Grant Application (**3<sup>rd</sup> page of this document**) and email it to the TU Financial Aid Office, Scholarship Unit at [scholarship@towson.edu](mailto:scholarship@towson.edu).
- 3) The TU Scholarship Unit will review your application and will email you an approval/denial decision.

### After the TU Scholarship Unit sends you an approval email:

- 4) Complete the online **TEACH Grant Initial Counseling** session and the **TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve and Repay** online at <https://studentaid.gov/teach-agreement/>.

Please note, **you can't complete the TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve until** after your application is approved.

- 5) Meet with the College of Education advisor, [Dr. Laila Richman](#), to discuss TEACH Grant requirements and complete the **Academic Advisor Acknowledgement Form**. (The TU Scholarship Unit will email you this form when they approve your application.)

After all processing steps have been completed, the Scholarship Unit will add your final TEACH Grant award to your TU financial aid record.

## STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To receive a TEACH Grant you must:

- Be a [U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen](#).
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online. Visit [www.towson.edu/fafsa](http://www.towson.edu/fafsa).  
The FAFSA is required, but you don't have to demonstrate financial need to qualify for this grant program.
- Enroll as an undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, or graduate student in a TEACH Grant eligible program. Approved majors that will prepare you to become a highly qualified teacher in a high need field are included on the TEACH Grant Fact Sheet following this page.
- 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. If you are currently a teacher or you are retired from teaching and have expertise in a high need field (such as math, science, Special Education, English as a Second Language, or another high-need subject as defined by the U.S. Department of Education) then you are not subject to the SAT or GPA requirement.

## **HIGH-NEED FIELDS**

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 Reports*.

## **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*. Visit: <https://studentaid.gov/tcli/>.

## **TEACH GRANT AGREEMENT TO SERVE AND REPAY**

Each year you receive a TEACH Grant, you must sign an electronic TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve and Repay at the Department of Education website (<https://studentaid.gov/teach-agreement/>). 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 as described by the Department of Education.
- You must comply with any other requirements that the Department of Education determines to be necessary.
- 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. For more information on the TEACH Grant Application process and eligibility requirements, please visit <https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/grants/teach>.

**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:

- You must complete the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#), but 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 must meet with your education advisor each term to plan your academic coursework. If you are not an education major, you must also 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:

**Submission Methods** (Choose one.) - Please include student's name and TU ID Number.

Document Upload	Fax	Mail	In Person
Scan documents and upload to <a href="http://www.towson.edu/SubmitAidDocs">www.towson.edu/SubmitAidDocs</a> . Please combine multiple pages into a single PDF file.	410-704-2584	Towson University Financial Aid Office 8000 York Road Towson, MD 21252	Room 339 Enrollment Services Center Monday - Friday 8:00 - 4:30

Please allow us 4 to 5 days to remove document requests from your To-Do-List.