

# Federal Teach Grant

UNC Pembroke

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Banner ID** \_\_\_\_\_

The Federal TEACH Grant Program provides grant assistance to students admitted to the college in either an undergraduate and graduate degree seeking program, who agree to serve for at least four years as full-time “highly qualified” teachers in a high-need field in a public or not-for-profit private elementary or secondary schools that serve students from low-income families.

A TEACH Grant recipient who does **not complete** the required teaching service within eight years of completing his or her academic program, subject to certain exceptions, or fails to meet certain other requirements of the TEACH Grant Program, must repay the TEACH Grant as a Direct Unsubsidized Loan under the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program with interest, accrued from the date the TEACH Grant was disbursed.

A Student in their first baccalaureate degree program may be eligible for up to \$4,000 per year to a maximum of \$16,000. A student admitted to the Master of Education Program may be eligible for up to \$4,000 per year to a maximum of \$8,000

Schools which offer a baccalaureate teacher preparation programs may not participate in this program at the post-baccalaureate level (TEEL). This is based on federal statues under section 686.4 of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (CCRAA), Pub. L. 110-84. However these students still have access to the Teacher Loan Forgiveness/ Forbearance Program.

**Availability:** The first TEACH Grants will be awarded to eligible students for the 08-09 school year.

**Student Eligibility Requirements:** to determine your eligibility for a TEACH Grant you must:

- **[Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\) at www.fafsa.ed.gov/](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/)**, although you do not have to demonstrate financial need.
- **Meet one of the following academic standards for undergraduates:**
  - Score above the 75th percentile on a college admissions test (e.g. SAT, ACT, GRE, or
  - Have an undergraduate cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 (on a 4.0 scale) to receive a grant in the first term, or
  - Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 (on a 4.0 scale) through the most recent term in the Master’s degree program for subsequent payments
- **For graduate programs:**

- Meet one of the following academic standards:
- Score above the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile on a college admissions test (e.g. SAT, ACT, or GRE)
- Have an undergraduate cumulative GPA of a least 3.25 (on a 4.0 scale) to receive a grant in the first term, or
- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 (on a 4.0 scale) through the most recent term in the Master's degree program for a subsequent payments; or
  - Be a current teacher or be a retiree from another occupation with expertise in a high-need field, enrolled in a Master's degree program; or
  - Be a former teacher pursuing an alternative route to certification within a Master's degree program.
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- **Meet the general eligibility requirements to receive financial aid, including making Satisfactory Academic Progress.**
- **Continue to meet the eligibility requirements to receive funding each semester**
- **Sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve** and respond to requests by the U.S. Department of Education confirming your continuing intention to meet the teaching obligation. This will be available electronically on a Department of Education Web site at <https://teach-ats.ed.gov/ats/index.action>
- **Complete TEACH Grant Counseling** at <http://mappingyourfuture.org/te> each academic year.
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### **TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve and Promise to Pay**

Each year you receive a TEACH Grant, you must sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve and Promise to Pay (service agreement) that will be available electronically on a Department of Education Web site. The TEACH Grant service agreement specifies the conditions under which the grant will be awarded, the teaching service requirements, and includes an acknowledgment by you that you understand that if you do not meet the teaching service requirements you must repay the grant as a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan, with interest accrued from the date the grant funds were first disbursed.

### **Teaching Obligation**

To avoid repaying the TEACH Grant with interest you must be a **highly-qualified, full-time teacher in a high-need subject area for at least four years at a school serving low-income students**. The link to schools serving low-income families is [www.tcli.ed.gov/CBSWebApp/tcli/TCLIPubSchoolSearch.jsp](http://www.tcli.ed.gov/CBSWebApp/tcli/TCLIPubSchoolSearch.jsp). You must complete the four years of teaching within eight years of finishing the program for which you received the grant. You incur a four-year teaching obligation for each educational program for which you received TEACH Grant funds, although you may work off multiple four-year obligations simultaneously under certain circumstances. Specific definitions of these terms are included below.

## Highly-Qualified Teacher

You must perform the teaching service as a highly-qualified teacher, which is defined in federal law. A TEACH Grant recipient who does not complete the required teaching service within eight years of completing his or her academic program, subject to certain exceptions, or fails to meet certain other requirements of the TEACH Grant Program, must repay the TEACH Grant as a Direct Unsubsidized Loan under the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program with interest, accrued from the date the TEACH Grant was disbursed.

The law identifies the following as high-need fields for purposes of the TEACH Grant Program –

- Bilingual education;
- English language acquisition;
- Foreign language;
- Mathematics;
- Reading specialist;
- Science;
- Special education; or
- Another field documented as high-need by the Federal government, a State government, or a Local Education Agency, and approved by the Secretary. This field must be listed in the Department's annual Teacher Shortage Area Nationwide Listing at: [www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/tsa.doc](http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/tsa.doc)

## Full-Time Teacher

You must meet the state's definition of a full time teacher and spend the majority of your time teaching one of the high-need subject areas. Elementary teachers who teach many subjects would not be able to fulfill their service agreement.

## High-Need Field

- Bilingual Education and English Language Acquisition
- Foreign Language
- Mathematics
- Reading Specialist
- Science
- Special Education
- Other teacher shortage areas documented as high-need by the Federal government, a State government, or a local education agency, approved by the U.S. Department of Education, and listed in the Department of Education's Annual Teacher Shortage Area Nationwide Listing ([www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/tsa.html](http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/tsa.html) ) at the time you begin your teaching service.

## Schools Serving Low-Income Students

Schools serving low-income students include elementary or secondary schools listed in the Department of Education's Annual Directory of Designated Low-Income

Schools for Teacher Cancellation Benefits at  
[www.tcli.ed.gov/CBSWebApp/tcli/TCLIPubSchoolSearch.jsp](http://www.tcli.ed.gov/CBSWebApp/tcli/TCLIPubSchoolSearch.jsp)

## Documentation

You must respond promptly to any requests for information or documentation from the U.S. Department of Education, even if they seem repetitive. These requests will be sent to you while you are still in school as well as once you are out of school. You will be asked regularly to confirm that you either still intends to teach or that you are teaching as required. You must provide documentation to the U.S. Department of Education at the end of each year of teaching.

If you temporarily cease enrollment in your program of study or if you encounter situations that affect your ability to begin or continue teaching, you will need to stay in touch with the U.S. Department of Education to avoid your grants being converted to loans before you are able to complete your teaching obligation.

## **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

**Failure to complete the teaching obligation, respond to requests for information, or properly document your teaching service will cause the TEACH Grant to be permanently converted to a loan with interest. Once a grant is converted to a loan it can't be converted back to a grant.**

For more information about the requirements associated with a TEACH Grant, see [www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oep/pol/tsa.html](http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oep/pol/tsa.html)

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Signature

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Date