

# TEACH GRANT PROGRAM

Review of the online TEACH Grant Power Point (KSU Financial Aid website Grant's Section), signing of KSU TEACH Agreement form and completion of federal Entrance Counseling and Agreement to Serve are required in order to receive TEACH Grant funds.

Through the College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007, Congress created the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program that provides grants of **up to \$4,000 per year** to students who intend to teach in a public or private elementary or secondary school that serves students from low-income families. **The annual amount is subject to change based on Federal Sequestration.** If you are interested in learning more about the TEACH Grant Program, you should begin by viewing the information on the Kennesaw State University [Financial Aid](#) website or you may contact the Financial Aid Office at (770) 423-6074.

## Conditions

In exchange for receiving a TEACH Grant, you must agree to serve as a full-time teacher in a high-need field in a public or private elementary or secondary school that serves low-income students (see below for more information on high-need fields and schools serving low-income students). As a recipient of a TEACH Grant, you must teach for at least four academic years within eight calendar years of completing the program of study for which you received a TEACH Grant. **IMPORTANT:** If you fail to complete this service obligation, all amounts of TEACH Grants that you received will be converted to a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan. You must then repay this loan to the U.S. Department of Education. You will be charged interest from the date the grant(s) was disbursed.

## Student Eligibility Requirements

To receive a TEACH Grant you must meet the following criteria:

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), although you do not have to demonstrate financial need.
- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
- Be enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student in a postsecondary educational institution that has chosen to participate in the TEACH Grant Program. **KSU requires admission to the teacher education program.**
- Be enrolled in coursework that is necessary to begin a career in teaching or plan to complete such coursework. Such coursework may include subject area courses (e.g., math courses for a student who intends to be a math teacher).
- Meet certain academic achievement requirements (generally, scoring above the 75th percentile on a college admissions test or maintaining a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25).
- Sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve (see below for more information on the TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve).

## High-Need Field

Initial Certification (B.S. and M.A.T. programs) and Advanced Degree (M.Ed.) funding is restricted to the specific areas identified below:

- ESOL (English to Speakers of Other Languages)
- TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages)
- Foreign Language Education
- Mathematics (Middle Grades or Secondary)
- Reading Specialist
- Science (Middle Grades or Secondary – Biology, Chemistry or Physics)
- Special Education (Individual General Curriculum)
- Early Childhood Education
- Master of Arts

## 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. To access the Directory, please go to [www.tcli.ed.gov](http://www.tcli.ed.gov) and click on the SEARCH button.

## Teach Grant Agreement to Serve

Each year you receive a TEACH Grant, you must sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve that will be available electronically on a Department of Education website. The TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve specifies the conditions under which the grant will be awarded, the teaching service requirements, and includes an acknowledgment. The acknowledgment ensures that you, the recipient, 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 was disbursed. Specifically, the TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve will require the following:

- For each TEACH Grant-eligible program for which you received 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 completed or withdrew from the academic program for which you received the TEACH Grant.
- 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.
- Your teaching service must be in a high-need field.
- 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, 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 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.