



TEACH Grant

Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH)
Grant Program

What you need to know before you get a TEACH Grant

The U.S. Department of Education's (the Department's) TEACH Grant program provides grant funds to postsecondary students who are completing or plan to complete coursework that is needed to begin a career in teaching, and who agree to serve for at least four years as a full-time, highly qualified teacher in a high-need field, in a school serving low-income students. The annual statutory amounts are as follows: eligible full-time students may receive \$4,000 per year in TEACH Grant funds, up to a maximum of \$16,000 for undergraduate and postbaccalaureate study, and \$8,000 for graduate study. Award amounts are decreased based on enrollment hours. The annual amount is subject to change based on federal sequestration.

If you receive a TEACH Grant but do not complete the required four years of teaching service within eight years after completing the coursework for which you received the grant, or if you otherwise do not meet the requirements of the TEACH Grant Program, all TEACH Grant funds that you received will be converted to a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan that you must repay in full, with interest, to the Department. Once a TEACH Grant is converted to a loan, it cannot be converted back to a grant.

Eligibility Requirements

- ❖ Must be admitted as a degree-seeking student in KSU Bagwell College of Education
- ❖ Must be classified as a junior/senior (minimum 60 earned semester hours) or enrolled in an approved master's degree program at KSU Bagwell College of Education
- ❖ Must be seeking a degree, at KSU, in one of the following majors:
 - Foreign Language Education
 - Mathematics (Middle Grades or Secondary)
 - Science (Middle Grades or Secondary-Biology, Chemistry or Physics)
 - Special Education (Individual General Curriculum)
 - Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
 - Reading Specialist
- ❖ Must not have a prior undergraduate or master's degree
- ❖ Must maintain a minimum 3.25 KSU Adjusted GPA (checked at the end of each semester)
- ❖ Must be a U.S. Citizen or Eligible Non-Citizen
- ❖ Must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.gov
- ❖ Must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for Financial Aid

Eligibility Requirements (continued)

- ❖ Must complete counseling (on ED's TEACH Grant website at <http://teach-ats.ed.gov>) which explains the terms and conditions of the TEACH Grant service obligation
- ❖ Must sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve (on ED's TEACH Grant website at <http://teach-ats.ed.gov>)

What is a TEACH Grant Eligible Program?

A TEACH Grant eligible program is a program of study that is designed to prepare you to teach as a highly qualified teacher in a high-need field and that leads to a bachelor's or master's degree, or is a postbaccalaureate program. A postbaccalaureate program is **not** TEACH Grant eligible if it is offered by a school that also offers a bachelor's degree in education.

Schools that participate in the TEACH Grant Program determine which of the programs they offer are TEACH Grant eligible. A program that is TEACH Grant eligible at one school might not be TEACH Grant eligible at another school.

Terms and Conditions of the TEACH Grant Service Obligation

- ❖ For each TEACH Grant eligible program you receive TEACH Grant funds, you must serve as a full-time teacher for a total of at least four academic years within eight years after you complete or otherwise cease to be enrolled in the program for which you received the grant.
- ❖ You must perform the teaching service as a highly qualified teacher at a low-income school or educational service agency.
- ❖ Your teaching service must be in a high-need field
- ❖ You must provide ED with documentation of your progress toward completing your service obligation.
- ❖ If you do not meet the requirements of your service obligation, all TEACH Grant funds you received will be converted to a Direct Unsubsidized Loan. You must repay this loan in full, with interest charged from the date of each TEACH Grant disbursement.

Award Amounts

The award amount is subject to change based on federal sequestration. The annual statutory amount is as follows:

- Full-time enrollment (12+ credit hours): \$4,000
- Three-quarter-time enrollment (9-11 credit hours): \$3,000
- Half-time enrollment (6-8 credit hours): \$2,000
- Less-than-half-time enrollment (5 credit hours or less): \$1,000

TEACH Grant High-need Fields

- ❖ Foreign Language
- ❖ Mathematics
- ❖ Reading Specialist
- ❖ Science
- ❖ Special Education
- ❖ Any other field listed in the U.S. Department of Education's annual that are listed in the Department of Education's Annual Teacher Shortage Area Nationwide Listing. To access the listing, please go to:
<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/tsa.doc>

Can a TEACH Grant service obligation ever be suspended?

In certain cases, you may be able to temporarily suspend the eight-year time period for completing your teaching service obligation.

If you completed the academic program for which you received a TEACH Grant, or you are otherwise no longer enrolled in the program, you may request a [suspension](#) of the eight-year period for completing your service obligation based on:

- ❖ Your enrollment in a program of study for which you would be eligible to receive a TEACH Grant, or your enrollment in a program that has been determined by a state to satisfy the requirements for certification to teach in the state's elementary or secondary schools. For example, if you received a TEACH Grant for an undergraduate program and you later enroll in a graduate program for which you would be eligible to receive a TEACH Grant; or
- ❖ A condition covered under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) (www.dol.gov/esa/whd/fmla/) ; or
- ❖ Being called or ordered to active duty status for more than 30 days as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces named in 10 U.S.C. 101 (The Army National Guard of the U.S., the Army Reserve, the Navy Reserve, the Marine Corps Reserve, the Air National Guard of the U.S., the Air Force Reserve, and the Coast Guard Reserve)

The conditions listed above are the **only** conditions under which you may receive suspension of the eight-year period for completing your service obligation.

Can a TEACH Grant service obligation ever be Cancelled?

You may cancel all or part of a TEACH Grant by submitting the [TEACH Grant Cancellation](#) to the KSU Office of Student Financial Aid within 14 calendar days of the date you are notified of the disbursement to your student account.

If you submit the [TEACH Grant Cancellation](#) form after the 14-day period but within 120 days of the date the TEACH Grant disbursement date, KSU may return the TEACH Grant funds, but is not required to do so. However, you may at any time request that the Department of Education convert a TEACH Grant to a Direct Unsubsidized Loan that you can repay.

How does the Department of Education track my teaching service?

Within 120 days of completing or otherwise ceasing enrollment in your program of study, you must [certify](#) to the U.S. Department of Education that either you are employed as a full-time teacher in accordance with the terms and conditions of the service agreement, or you are not yet employed as a full-time teacher but you intend to meet the terms and conditions of the service agreement. At the end of each year, if you are performing full-time teaching service in accordance with the service agreement, you must provide the Department with documentation of your teaching service on a [Department-approved](#) form that is certified by the chief administrative office of the school in which you are teaching. The form must document that you are a highly qualified teacher, teaching in any of the designated high-need fields, in a designated low-income school.

Discharge of a TEACH Grant Service Obligation

The Department will discharge your TEACH Grant service obligation only under the following conditions:

- The Department receives acceptable documentation of your death; or
- The Department determines that you are totally and permanently disabled, and you meet certain additional conditions during a 3-year conditional discharge period.

If the Department discharges your service obligation under one of these two conditions, your TEACH Grant(s) will not be converted to a Direct Unsubsidized Loan, and neither you nor your family will be required to repay any TEACH Grant funds that you received.

What happens if I don't complete the required teaching service in accordance with the service agreement?

If you receive a TEACH Grant but do not complete the required teaching service as previously explained, you will be required to repay the grants as a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan, with interest charged from the date that each TEACH Grant was disbursed. For more information, go to www.teach-ats.ed.gov.

Resources

- ❖ www.myfedloan.org/teach-grants/
 - TEACH Grant Servicer
- ❖ www.teach-ats.ed.gov
 - TEACH Grant Counseling
 - Agreement to Serve
- ❖ KSU Financial Aid Office
 - (770) 423-6074
 - kfa_teach@kennesaw.edu
- ❖ KSU Bagwell College of Education
 - [Ms. Kellie Oxford](#), Certification Officer