

TEACH Grant recipients must also confirm to the Federal Department of Education in writing within 120 days of completing or otherwise ceasing enrollment in a TEACH-eligible program that they are fulfilling (or planning to fulfill) the terms and conditions of the service agreement.

The elementary or secondary school's chief administrative officer must certify documentation of the teaching service. This documentation must show that the TEACH recipient was a full-time, highly-qualified teacher at a school serving low-income students, teaching a high-need subject area for at least four years.

### Important Reminders

- Failure to complete the teaching obligation or properly document teaching service will cause the TEACH Grant to be permanently converted to an unsubsidized Federal Direct Stafford Loan with interest. Interest would accrue from the date of the original disbursement.
- Once a grant is converted to a loan, it cannot be converted back to a grant.
- Students must seriously consider the financial impact that converting these grants into loans will have on their future.

### For More Information

For more information on the TEACH Grant, go to [www.studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/TEACH.jsp](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/TEACH.jsp)

For information on TEACH Grant eligible programs at UF, contact the College of Education Office of Student Services, G-416 Norman Hall, (352) 392-0721, ext. 400.

This brochure was produced by the University of Florida Office for Student Financial Affairs Information/Publications Services Office in S-102 Criser Hall.



This document is available in alternative formats for students with documented print-related disabilities. For information, call Student Financial Affairs line for students with disabilities: (352) 392-1272 (V/TDD).

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



Office for Student Financial Affairs

*Educating Leaders for a Global Community*

**UF** UNIVERSITY of  
FLORIDA  
*The Foundation for The Gator Nation*

## The TEACH Grant

The Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant program was created by the College Cost Reduction and Access Act for students who plan careers as full-time teachers in high-need subject areas. TEACH Grants will be in effect for the 2008-2009 academic year.

### General Requirements/ Program Info

- If students do not fulfill ALL program requirements, TEACH Grants must be repaid as Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loans. Interest will accrue from the date of the original disbursement.
- Students can receive up to \$4,000 per year for an undergraduate degree (up to a \$16,000 aggregate for a four-year program). Graduate students can receive \$4,000 per year (up to an \$8,000 aggregate total).
- TEACH Grants are prorated for students enrolled less than half time (\$3,000 for 3/4 time enrollment; \$2,000 for 1/2 time; \$1,000 for less than half time).

### Student Eligibility

- To receive a TEACH Grant a student must
  - ✍ Complete a *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)*
  - ✍ Be a U.S. Citizen or eligible non-citizen.
  - ✍ Be enrolled in one of UF's TEACH Grant Eligible programs:
    - Biology Education ProTeach MED
    - Chemistry Education ProTeach MED
    - Physics Education ProTeach MED
    - Elementary/Special Ed. ProTeach BAE
    - Elementary/Special Ed. Proteach MED
    - Reading Education MED
- Students must also meet the following academic achievement requirements:
  - ✍ Score above the 75th percentile on one battery of a nationally-normed college

admissions test such as the SAT, ACT, GRE, etc.

Or:

- ✍ Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 on a 4.0 scale AND maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 each semester.

*NOTE:* GPA used to determine eligibility for first semester transfer students will be the transfer cumulative GPA. GPA used to determine eligibility for first semester graduate students will be the undergraduate cumulative GPA.

Or:

- ✍ Be a current or former teacher or retiree enrolled in a TEACH Grant-eligible master's degree program.
- Students must complete TEACH Grant loan entrance and subsequent loan counseling.
- Students must also sign a *TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve* each year with the U.S. Department of Education available electronically at [www.teach-ats.ed.gov](http://www.teach-ats.ed.gov).

### TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve

To receive a TEACH Grant, the student must sign a *TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve* and *Promise to Pay* (service agreement) each year, available electronically at [www.teach-ats.ed.gov](http://www.teach-ats.ed.gov). The TEACH Grant service agreement specifies the conditions under which the grant will be awarded and the teaching service requirements, as well as a student acknowledgment of understanding that if teaching service requirements are not met the grant must be repaid 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 as a loan with interest, recipients must be highly-qualified, full-time teachers in a high-need subject area at a school serving low-income students. Teachers must serve for at least four years within eight years of finishing their program. Specific definitions of terms are below.

- **Highly Qualified Teacher:**  
The term highly-qualified teacher is defined in

section 9101(23) of the "Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965" and in section 602(10) of the "Individuals with Disabilities Education Act"—online at: [www.ifap.ed.gov/dpclatters/GEN0414.html](http://www.ifap.ed.gov/dpclatters/GEN0414.html).

- **Full-Time Teacher:**  
Recipients must meet the state's definition of a full-time teacher and spend at least 51 percent of time teaching in a designated "high need" field at a designated school for teaching to count towards meeting the service obligation. These designations can change over time. Elementary school teachers who teach many subjects would not be able to fulfill their service agreement.
- **High-Need Subject Areas:**
  - ✍ Bilingual Education and English Language Acquisition
  - ✍ Foreign Language
  - ✍ Mathematics
  - ✍ Reading Specialist (available at UF)
  - ✍ Science (available at UF)
  - ✍ Special Education (available at UF)
  - ✍ Other teacher shortage areas identified at the time you begin teaching. These subject areas (not geographic areas) are listed in the Department of Education'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).
- **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" at <https://www.tcli.ed.gov/CBSWebApp/tcli/TCLIPubSchoolSearch.jsp>.
- **Documentation:**  
For each TEACH-eligible program for which TEACH Grant funds are received, recipients must provide documentation to the Department of Education that the teaching obligation was completed.