

Federal Student Aid TEACH Fact Sheet

For Texas A&M University-Texarkana

www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov

TEACH GRANT PROGRAM

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. If, after reading all of the information on this fact sheet, you are interested in learning more about the TEACH Grant Program, go to:

<https://teach-ats.ed.gov/ats/images/gen/factsheet.pdf>

Effective Dates

The first TEACH Grants at A&M University-Texarkana will be awarded to eligible students for the 2009–2010 award year beginning Fall 2009.

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 at A&M-Texarkana, you must meet the following criteria:

- ▶ Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), although this is a non-need based program.
- ▶ Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
- ▶ Be an undergraduate degree-seeking student at A&M-Texarkana in one of the following approved teacher education programs:
 - Biology-Composite Science-Grades 8-12
 - Biology-Life Science-Grades 8-12
 - Interdisciplinary Studies-EC-4 Bilingual Education Generalist or EC-6 Bilingual Education
 - Interdisciplinary Studies-EC-4 Generalist with EC-12 Special Education or EC-6 Generalist with EC-12 Special Education
 - Interdisciplinary Studies -Math/Science Grades 4-8
 - Interdisciplinary Studies Science-Grades 4-8
 - Math Grades 4-8
 - Math Grades 8-12
- ▶ Have a cumulative 3.25 grade point average (GPA) and maintain this GPA each semester of award
- ▶ Sign a TEACH Grant “Agreement to Serve” with the Department of Education. See below for more information on the TEACH Grant “Agreement to Serve” or go to: <https://teach-ats.ed.gov/ats/index.action>

High-Need Field

High-need fields are the specific areas identified by the Department of Education below:

- ▶ Bilingual Education and English Language Acquisition
- ▶ Foreign Language
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Reading Specialist
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Special Education

Other teacher shortage areas are listed in the Department of Education's Annual Teacher Shortage Area Nationwide Listing at: <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 that is 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: <https://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 is available at: <https://teach-ats.ed.gov/ats/index.action>. The TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve 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 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..

IMPORTANT REMINDER

If you receive a TEACH Grant but do not complete the required teaching service, as explained above, you will be required to repay the grants as a *Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan*, with interest charged from the date of each TEACH Grant disbursement.

Next Steps

If you are interested in learning more about the TEACH Grant Program, go to: <https://teach-ats.ed.gov/ats/images/gen/factsheet.pdf>

Disclaimer

This fact sheet provides a 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 A&M-Texarkana.

