



Sam Houston State University Financial Aid and Scholarships Office

MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

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 \$4000 **per year** less sequester fees to full-time students who intend to teach in an elementary or secondary school that serves students from low-income families. Undergraduate students enrolled in a four year program may receive a maximum total of \$16,000. Graduate students may be eligible for a maximum total of \$8000.

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 enrolled as a junior or senior undergraduate, post baccalaureate, or graduate student (Master's only; not Doctoral) in a declared, high-need field attempting coursework that is necessary to begin a career in teaching. See the back of this flyer for more details.
- Meet certain academic achievement requirements:
 - maintain SHSU's Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy
 - current SHSU students must maintain an SHSU GPA of 3.25
 - first time transfer students must have a transfer GPA of 3.25
 - first time graduate students must have completed undergraduate degree with GPA of 3.25
- Complete TEACH Grant counseling for each aid year that you receive the award
- Sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve for each aid year. (See below for more information on the TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve).
- Amount of award is based on enrollment

Service Obligation

In exchange for receiving a TEACH Grant, you must agree to serve as a full-time teacher in a high-need field in an 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. You must be a highly qualified, full-time teacher as defined by the U.S. Department of Education. A full-time teacher of a high-need field is one who spends the majority (at least 51%) of time teaching in one of the high-need subject areas. **Most elementary teachers will not be eligible due to this 51% requirement.**

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/CBSWebApp/tcli/TCLIPubSchoolSearch.jsp>



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High-Need Fields

Federal

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

Texas

- Bilingual/English as a Second Language
 - Elementary and Secondary Levels
- Career and Technical Educational
 - Secondary Level
- Mathematics
 - Secondary Level
- Special Education
 - Elementary and Secondary Levels
- Technology Applications & Computer Science
 - Elementary and Secondary Levels

*Other identified teacher shortage areas as of the time you begin teaching in that field. These are teacher subject shortage areas (not geographic areas) that are listed in the Department of Education’s Annual Teacher Shortage Area Nationwide Listing.

Sam Houston State University Designated Eligible Programs

Undergraduate (Junior or Senior)

- Major in Education w/following minors:
 - Bilingual (EC – 6)
 - Mathematics (4 – 8)
 - Science (4 – 8)
 - Special Education (EC – 6)
- Minor in Secondary Education w/following Major:
 - Agricultural Business
 - Agricultural Engineering Technology
 - Animal Science
 - Composite Science
 - Interdisciplinary Agriculture
 - Mathematics
 - Plant & Soil Sciences
 - Spanish

EC-6 & 4-8 Generalist/CORE not eligible

Graduate (Master’s only; not Doctoral)

- Agriculture
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Curriculum & Instruction
- Family & Consumer Sciences
- Instructional Leadership
- Instructional Technology
- International Literacy
- Mathematics
- Reading/Language Arts
- Spanish
- Special Education (M.A. or M.Ed.)
- Statistics
- Sustainable Ag & Food Environment
- Teaching & Learning
- TESOL

Failure to Complete the Service Obligation

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. Note: TEACH Grant recipients will be given a 6-month grace period prior to entering repayment if a TEACH Grant is converted to a Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan. Details can be found online at www.teachgrant.ed.gov.