UTSA
TEACH Grant Fact Sheet

TEACH stands for “Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education.

The TEACH Grant is a federally-funded non-need program created to help college students who plan to teach, pay for college. These grants are available to eligible undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, and graduate students who agree to serve as full-time teachers in high-need fields at schools that serve students from low income families.

The information below will help you understand the basic program qualifications and requirements.

Applicant Qualifications:

A grant recipient must:
- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Enrolled as an undergraduate student with at least Junior standing or;
- A graduate student or;
- A post-baccalaureate student accepted into a teacher certification program for a high-need field
- Be enrolled in coursework that is necessary to begin a career in teaching in a high-need field

Application Process:

An applicant must:
- Submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). You do not have to demonstrate financial need.
- Complete the TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve -ATS (see additional information on reverse side). The ATS must be completed for each year of participation in the TEACH Grant program.
- Participate in TEACH Grant counseling before each annual award
- Participate in TEACH Exit Counseling upon separation from the university

Academic Standards¹:

Applicants must meet the following academic achievement requirements:
- 3.25 GPA on a 4.0 scale *

¹ GPA requirement must be maintained for each semester you receive the TEACH Grant
* Cumulative GPA
**Award Amounts**:  
- The TEACH Grant provides up to $4000 per year for undergraduate/graduate students.  
- Undergraduate students may not exceed a total award of $16,000.  
- Graduate students may not exceed a total award of $8000.  
- Students who are not full-time will receive the grant in a smaller, prorated amount.

TEACH grants are not based on financial need, but you must file the FAFSA to be considered eligible.

**Service Obligations**  
Students will be required to teach in a Title I school and a high-need field for four out of the eight years immediately following the completion of study or otherwise ceasing enrollment. No partial credit will be earned for serving part, but not all, of the required four years. Four years of service will be required regardless of how many years the grant is received.

**Additional Information:**  
**High-Need Fields**  
The high-need fields recognized for the TEACH Grant are as follows:  
- Bilingual Education and English Language Acquisition  
- Foreign Language  
- Mathematics  
- Reading Specialists  
- Science  
- Special Education  
- Other teacher shortage areas identified at the time you begin teaching

These are teacher subject shortage areas (not geographic areas) that are listed in the Department of Education’s Annual Teacher Shortage area Nationwide Listing. To access the listing, please go to:  
www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/tsa.pdf

3 Student’s should check to verify their program is still an eligible TEACH Grant program at the start of every academic year.

**USDE-Designated Low Income Schools**  
The U.S. Department of Education’s Annual Directory of Designated Low-Income Schools for Teacher Cancellation designates schools that serve low-income students. These schools meet the TEACH Grant requirement. To access the listing, please go to:  
www.tcli.ed.gov and click on the SEARCH button

**The TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve:**  
The TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve provides the conditions under which the grant will be awarded and the Teaching service requirements. According to the agreement, a grant recipient must:

- Serve as a full-time teacher for a total of not less than four academic years within eight years of completing study or ceasing enrollment.  
- Be a highly qualified teacher at a U.S. Department of Education (USDE) designated low-income elementary or secondary school.  
- Complete the teaching service requirement within a high-need field.  
- Provide evidence of employment as certified by chief administrative officer of the school upon completion of each year of teaching service.  
- Grant recipient must complete an Agreement to Serve for each program of study for which TEACH Grants were received.

The TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve also includes the acknowledgement by the recipient that failure to complete the teaching service requirement will result in the award amount being converted to an Unsubsidized Direct Stafford Loan, to be repaid with interest accruing from the first disbursement date of the grant.

4 to find more detail about requirements to become a highly qualified teacher please go to www.ed.gov/teachers/nclbguide/improve-quality.html

**Consequences for Failing to Meet Service Obligations**  
TEACH Grants will be converted to a Federal Direct unsubsidized Stafford loan if:

- The grant recipient regardless of enrollment status, requests the conversion.  
- Within 120 days of ceasing enrollment, the recipient fails to notify the Department of Education that they are employed, or intends to pursue employment, as a full-time teacher in accordance with the Agreement to Serve.  
- Has not re-enrolled in a TEACH Grant eligible program.  
- Has not begun teaching service in accordance with the Agreement to Serve.  
- Does not actively confirm to the Department of Education, at least annually, his or her intention to satisfy the Agreement to Serve.  
- Fails to begin or maintain qualified employment within a timeframe that would allow completion of the teaching service.

**NOTICE: Once the grant converts to a loan it cannot be converted back to a grant**  
5 Grants converted into a Direct unsubsidized Stafford loan will be assessed interest from the date from the first disbursement date of the grant.

5 There is a 6-month grace period before repayment begins for grants converted to Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loans.

**Amount of the TEACH Grants, in combination with other assistance, may not exceed your Cost of Attendance.**