



University of the Incarnate Word

Office of Financial Assistance

TEACH Program Information Sheet

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Students who plan to teach may wish to consider participating in the new federal TEACH Program . Complete details are available online at <http://www.teachgrant.ed.gov>. **Be aware that if you receive the TEACH Grant but do not fulfill the stringent requirements of the program, the amount awarded in grant money becomes a loan with interest (at the same rate as the federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan) calculated from the date of each award.**

Amount of Grant

The TEACH Grant Program provides up to \$4000 per year (\$16,000 total for an undergraduate program; \$8000 total for graduate studies) in grants to full time students who plan to teach full time in high-need subject areas at schools serving students from low-income families (for examples, visit their online resource at <https://www.tcli.ed.gov/CBSWebApp/tcli/TCLIPubSchoolSearch.jsp>). Students attending less than full time will have the grant reduced (three-quarter time students may receive up to \$3000; half-time students may receive up to \$2000, and less-than-half time students may receive up to \$1000).

Teaching Obligation

Grant recipients agree to teach for at least four full years within eight years of finishing their teacher preparation program, and to teach high-need subjects in designated schools that serve low-income students. If you do not complete the teaching obligation, your grants will convert to an unsubsidized loan, which you must repay with interest.

Service Agreement and Counseling

Each year you receive a TEACH Grant, you must sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve and Promise to Pay (service agreement) which will be available electronically on the U.S. Department of Education web site. When you sign the service agreement, you are agreeing to repay the grant as a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan, with interest accrued from the date that the grant funds were disbursed, if you do not complete the teaching obligation. **Once the grant has been converted to a loan, it cannot be converted back to a grant.**

You will be required to complete counseling through the financial aid office each year that you accept a TEACH Grant. You will also be required to attend Exit Counseling when you graduate or leave school.

High-Need Subject Areas

- Bilingual education and English language acquisition
- Foreign language
- Mathematics
- Reading Specialist
- Science
- Special Education
- Other identified teacher shortage areas listed by state at <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/tsa.html>

To Apply at UIW (each award year), you must:

- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Complete a FAFSA at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov> , although you do not have to demonstrate financial need to be eligible
- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 throughout your academic program, or demonstrate a score above the 75th percentile on a national standardized college admissions test (submit a paper copy of your test scores showing percentile ranking to the Office of Financial Aid).
- Be accepted into an eligible degree program. You may:
 - Major in education and pursue a certification in a high need subject area, or:
 - Major in a high need subject area with the intent of also completing teacher certification
- Undergraduate students are eligible only if they are pursuing their first undergraduate degree. Students pursuing a second undergraduate degree or those in the fifth year (Graduate Certification year) of the teaching degree are NOT eligible for the TEACH Program.
- Complete Entrance Counseling at <http://mappingyourfuture.org/te> .
- Sign an 'Agreement to Serve' at <https://teach-ats.ed.gov/ats/index.action> .

Documentation

You will need to confirm within 120 days of completing or ceasing to enroll in your teacher preparation program that you are fulfilling (or plan to fulfill) the terms and conditions of your service agreement. You must document your teaching service, and your documentation must be certified by the chief administrative officer at the school where you teach.



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TEACH Program Checklist

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The new Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program that provides up to \$4,000 per year in grants for graduate and undergraduate students to students who intend to **teach full-time in high-need subject areas** for at least **four years at schools that serve students from low-income families**. Students may receive up to \$16,000 for undergraduate study and up to \$ 8,000 for graduate study. Part-time students are eligible for a reduced amount.

Students that do not complete the four year required teaching obligation will repay the grant with interest.

Program Requirements:

- Be enrolled in a program of study designated as TEACH Grant-eligible. Eligible programs are those that prepare a student to teach in a high-need area. High need areas of study include Bilingual Education and English Language Acquisition, Foreign Language, Mathematics, Reading Specialist, Science, and Special Education. Other high need areas are online at <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/tsa.html> .
For example, major in education and pursue a certification in a high need subject area like Mathematics or Science, or major in a high need subject area, such as a foreign language, with the intent of also completing teacher certification .
- Meet one of the following academic achievement requirements:
 - Score above the **75th percentile** on a college admissions test (e.g. SAT, ACT, GRE) **and submit a copy of those scores to the UIW Office of Financial Assistance, or**
 - Graduate from high school with a cumulative **GPA of at least 3.25** (on a 4.0 scale) to receive a grant as a freshman, **or**
 - Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 (on a 4.0 scale) on your college coursework to receive a grant for each subsequent term
- Complete Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application for current academic year at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>.
- Complete UIW Student Information Form for current academic year. Form available for download at <http://www.uiw.edu/finaid>.
- Complete TEACH Entrance Counseling each year at <http://www.mappingyourfuture.org>.
- Complete an Agreement to Serve (ATS) at <https://teach-ats.ed.gov/ats/index.action>. You will need your FAFSA PIN to electronically sign. You can retrieve your PIN at <http://www.pin.ed.gov> .

After the above requirements have been completed, the Office of Financial Assistance will receive the results of your TEACH Entrance Counseling and your Agreement to Serve. These results will then be loaded into our system so that we can revise your current award. You will be notified by mail or e-mail once TEACH funds are awarded. If there are revisions that require a reduction of loans, you will be contacted by our office prior to making any changes.