The Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program provides grant money to eligible 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.

Eligible students may receive up to $4,000* per academic year in grant funds, up to a maximum of $16,000 for an undergraduate degree and $8,000 for a graduate degree. Part-time students are eligible for a reduced amount.

*Due to the federal budget cuts effective March 1, 2013, all awards will be subject to a reduction from the initial prorated eligibility amount. Reduction amounts are determined by the Dept. of Education.

Program Requirements:
Students must be enrolled in a program of study designated as TEACH Grant-eligible. Eligible programs prepare a student to teach in a high-need area which includes: 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.

Please Initial Next to Each Certification:

1. I certify that I plan to serve as a full-time teacher in a high-need field at a school that serves low-income students. If I fail to meet the service agreement outlined in the TEACH Agreement to Serve (ATS), I understand that my TEACH Grant will be converted to an unsubsidized loan with interest charged from the date the TEACH Grant was originally disbursed.

2. I certify that I have completed a 2022-2023 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa.

3. I certify that I have completed the TEACH Agreement to Serve, and the TEACH Grant Entrance Counseling at https://studentaid.gov/app/launchTeach.action.

4. I certify that I scored above the 75th percentile on a college admissions test (e.g. SAT, ACT, GRE) and have submitted a copy of those scores to the UIW Office of Financial Assistance; or I graduated 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 I currently have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 (on a 4.0 scale) on my college coursework to receive a grant, and for each subsequent term.

5. I certify that I will notify the Office of Financial Assistance immediately if I withdraw from school, change my major, change my area of teaching interest, or change my address and contact information.

Signature: __________________________ Date: ____________________
Keep this page for your records

Amount of TEACH Award
The yearly amount of the grant is based on enrollment status: $4,000 for full-time, $3,000 for ¾ time, $2,000 for ½ time and $1,000 for less-than ½ time enrollment. The lifetime maximum is $16,000 for undergraduate-level study and $8,000 for graduate-level study. **Due to the federal budget cuts effective March 1, 2013, all awards will be subject to a reduction from the initial prorated eligibility amount. Reduction amounts are determined by the Dept. of Education.**

TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve and Promise to Pay
Each year you receive a TEACH Grant, you must sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve (ATS) and Promise to Pay (service agreement) that will be available electronically on the Department of Education Web site below. The TEACH Grant service agreement 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 Stafford Loan, with interest accrued from the date the grant funds were first disbursed. (https://studentaid.gov/app/launchTeach.action)

Teaching Obligation
To avoid repaying the TEACH Grant with interest you must be a highly-qualified, full-time teacher in a high-need subject area for at least four years at a school serving low-income students. You must complete the four years of teaching within eight years of finishing or ceasing to be enrolled in the program for which you received the grant. You incur a four-year teaching obligation for each educational program for which you received TEACH Grant funds, although you may work off multiple four-year obligations simultaneously under certain circumstances.

Highly-Qualified, Full-Time Teacher
You must perform the teaching service as a highly-qualified teacher, which is defined in federal law. The definition can also be found online at: http://www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg107.html. To be considered full-time, you must meet the state’s definition of a full-time teacher.

High-Need Subject Areas
You must spend the majority (at least 51 percent) of your time teaching one of the current high-need subject areas for the state you are teaching in, or a subject that was determined to be high-need when you signed your Agreement to Serve. Elementary teachers who teach many subjects would not be able to fulfill their service agreement. Currently the high-need subjects are: Bilingual Education and English Language Acquisition, Foreign Language, Mathematics, Reading Specialist, Science, or 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 at https://www.tcli.ed.gov/CBSWebApp/iCLI/TCLIPubSchoolSearch.jsp. To fulfill your service requirement, the school at which you work must be designated as low-income at the time you sign your ATS.

Documentation
You must respond promptly to any requests for information or documentation from the U.S. Department of Education, even if they seem repetitive. These requests will be sent to you while you are still in school as well as once you are out of school. You will be asked regularly to confirm that you either still intend to teach, or that you are teaching as required. You must provide documentation to the U.S. Department of Education at the end of each year of teaching. If you temporarily cease enrollment in your program of study or if you encounter situations that affect your ability to begin or continue teaching, you will need to stay in touch with the U.S. Department of Education to avoid your grants being converted to loans before you are able to complete your teaching obligation.

IMPORTANT REMINDER:
Failure to complete the teaching obligation, respond to requests for information, or properly document your teaching service will cause the TEACH Grant to be permanently converted to a loan with interest accrued from the date the grant funds were first disbursed. Once a grant is converted to a loan it can’t be converted back to a grant.