



Office of Student Financial Aid
1120 15th Street
Augusta, Georgia 30912

(706)737-1524 Phone
(706)737-1777 Fax

2015-2016 GRADUATE Application for Federal TEACH Grant Consideration

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU APPLY

TEACH Grant Program

The College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 created the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program that provides up to \$4,000 per year (\$8,000 total for four year program) in grants 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**.

Teaching Obligation

In exchange for receiving the TEACH Grant, you must agree to serve as a highly-qualified, full-time teacher (<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg107.html>) in a high-need subject area for at least four years at a school serving low-income students <https://www.tcli.ed.gov/CBSWebApp/tcli/TCLIPubSchoolSearch.jsp>. You must complete the four years of teaching within eight years of finishing 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.

IF YOU FAIL TO COMPLETE THE FOUR-YEAR TEACHING OBLIGATION YOU WILL HAVE TO REPAY THE GRANT WITH INTEREST!!!

Application Procedures

Please keep pages 1-3 of the application together. Complete and return to the Office of Student Financial Aid, 1120 15th Street Fanning Hall 1st Floor, Augusta, GA 30912.

Incomplete applications and forms cannot be processed and will be returned.

A student must complete the application on or before the last day of the academic term or the student's withdrawal date, whichever occurs first, in order to receive funds for that academic term. The last day of the academic term is the last day of exams.

Eligibility Requirements for Graduate Students

At Georgia Regents University, you must:

- ✓ Complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- ✓ Be a U.S. Citizen or eligible non-citizen
- ✓ Be enrolled in a program of study designated as TEACH Grant-eligible. Eligible programs for 2015-2016 are:

Graduate level programs with a major in the following Teacher Shortage Areas (may vary by State):

Statewide Academic Disciplines or Subject Matter

- Spanish
- Special Education

The above areas have been declared Teacher Shortage Areas for 2015-2016 by the U.S. Department of Education in Georgia. For a list of other Teacher Shortage Areas by state, please visit <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oep/pol/tsa.pdf>



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Student Name	Student ID Number	TEACH Grant-eligible Program of Study

Please indicate the term(s) you wish to apply: ____ Fall ____ Spring ____ Summer

Section 1: GPA Requirement Certification (Please check the one that applies)

Continuing Graduate Students: I certify that I have established a 3.25 overall GPA or higher at Georgia Regents University.

New Graduate Students: I certify that I have established a 3.25 overall GPA in my previous undergraduate work.

Current or former or retired teacher; I certify that I am teaching in a high-needs area and am enrolled in a TEACH eligible master's program.

Section 2: Program Certification (Please check all that apply)

Graduate students: I certify that I am enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a degree-seeking student in a Teach Grant-eligible program

I filed or will file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 2015-2016 academic year.

I understand that if I am awarded a Federal TEACH Grant, I must do the following:

1. Sign the online Agreement to Serve (ATS) and complete the Federal Teach Grant Entrance Counseling requirement at <https://teach-ats.ed.gov/ats/index.action>
2. Continue participation as a degree-seeking student in a TEACH Grant-eligible program at Georgia Regents University.
3. Maintain a 3.25 cumulative GPA each semester of enrollment in my TEACH Grant-eligible program.

Section 3: Student Signature

I certify that the above statements are true and I wish to be considered for the Federal TEACH Grant.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

*****Keep this page for your records*****

Amount of Award

The amount of the grant, per semester, is based on enrollment status: \$2,000 for full-time, \$1,000 for $\frac{3}{4}$ time, \$1,000 for $\frac{1}{2}$ time and \$500 for less-than $\frac{1}{2}$ time enrollment. The lifetime maximum is \$8,000 for graduate-level study.

As of March 1, 2013: TEACH Grant awards are subject to reduction due to sequestration. The amount of the reduction is determined by the U.S. Department 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 a Department of Education Web site. 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 Loan, with interest accrued from the date the grant funds were first disbursed. (www.teach-ats.ed.gov)

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://www2.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 high-need subject areas, a subject determined to be high-need when you sign 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:

- Spanish
- Special Education

Other teacher shortage areas listed in the Department of Education's Annual Teacher Shortage Area Nationwide Listing at <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/tsa.pdf>

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/tcli/TCLIPubSchoolSearch.jsp>. To fulfill your service requirement, the school at which you work must be designated low-income when 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. Once a grant is converted to a loan it cannot be converted back to a grant.