

What is the TEACH Grant Program?

The U.S. Department of Education's Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program provides funds to students who are completing or plan to complete coursework that is required to begin a career in teaching, and who agree to teach

- in a high-need field;
- at a school or educational service agency serving low-income students;
- and
- full-time for at least four years (within eight years after you are no longer enrolled at the school where you received your TEACH Grant).

The Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant (TEACH Grant) Program awards grants to students who intend to teach, to help pay for their postsecondary education. TEACH Grants are available to eligible students who are enrolled at a school that participates in the TEACH Grant Program (**PSU participates**), in a program of study that the school has designated as TEACH Grant-eligible (**graduate ESOL programs are eligible**).

If you're enrolled full-time, you can receive up to \$4,000 each year in TEACH Grant funds, up to a maximum of \$8,000 for graduate study.

If you're enrolled less than full-time, the maximum TEACH Grant amount you can receive each year will be less. Your school will tell you the actual amount of TEACH Grant funds you qualify to receive each year.

As a condition for receiving a TEACH Grant, you must **agree to teach full-time for at least four school years as a highly qualified teacher in a high-need field (ESOL is one of the fields)**, at an elementary school, secondary school, or educational service agency that serves low-income students. This is called your "TEACH Grant service obligation." If you don't meet the service obligation requirements, your TEACH Grants will be converted to loans that you must repay.

TEACH Grants are different from other types of grants...

The term "grant" usually refers to money that doesn't have to be repaid. However, if you don't meet the terms of your TEACH Grant service obligation, the TEACH Grants you received will be converted to Direct Unsubsidized Loans under the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program that you must repay in full, with interest charged from the date of each TEACH Grant disbursement. For this reason, it's very important that you fully understand the terms and conditions of the TEACH Grant service obligation before you accept a TEACH Grant.

You must complete the required four years of teaching within eight years after you graduate from or otherwise stop attending the school where you received your TEACH Grant.

Before receiving a TEACH Grant, you must complete TEACH Grant Initial and Subsequent Counseling, and sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve or Repay.

The link below contains complete information on the TEACH Grant:

<https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/teachCounselingGuide.pdf>

Contact person for PSU graduate ESOL program: Ms. Julie Blanken (jblanken@pittstate.edu)

(last updated 10/15/2021)