# Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant (TEACH Grant)

EXIT COUNSELING

Stanford University Financial Aid
Spring 2017

## **Topics**

#### YOUR OBLIGATION

- Basic Requirements
- Low-Income School Directory
- High-Need Fields
- Length of Obligation
- Documenting Your Obligation
- Temporary Suspension and Discharge

#### WHAT HAPPENS IF OBLIGATION IS NOT MET

- Conversion to Unsubsidized Loan
- Repayment and Repayment Options
- Avoiding Delinquency and Default

# **Meeting Your Obligations**

TEACH GRANT



#### **Basic Requirements**

TO COMPLETE YOUR SERVICE OBLIGATION, YOU MUST TEACH FULL-TIME FOR AT LEAST FOUR YEARS:

- As a highly qualified teacher;
- At a school serving low-income students;
   and
- In a high-need field.

**DEFINITION OF TEACHER:** FOR TEACH GRANT, A TEACHER IS A PERSON WHO PROVIDES DIRECT CLASSROOM TEACHING OR CLASSROOM-TYPE TEACHING IN A NON-CLASSROOM SETTING, INCLUDING SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS AND READING SPECIALISTS.

WHAT IS HIGHLY QUALIFIED? SECTION 9101 (23) OF THE ELEMENTARY SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF 1065 OR A SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER IN SECTION 602(10) OF THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES ACT.

MORE INFORMATION:

WWW.ED.GOV/NCLB/METHODS/TEACHERS/HQTFLEXIBILITY.HTML

## **Schools Serving Low-Income Students**

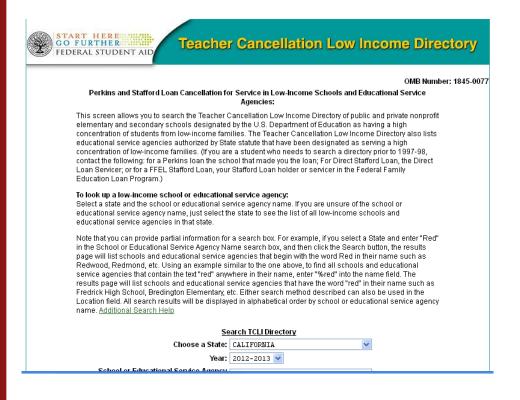
Any public or private elementary or secondary school list in the Departments Annual Directory of Designated Low-Income Schools for Teacher Cancellation Benefits Qualifies.

https://www.tcli.ed.gov/CBSWebApp/tcli/TCLIPubSchoolSearch.jsp

Any elementary or secondary school operated by the **U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)** – or operated on an Indian reservation by an Indian tribal group under contract or grant with the BIE also Qualifies, even if it is not listed as low-income.

If the school where you teach qualifies as a low-income school for all or part of one of your required four years of teaching, but doesn't qualify as a low-income school during subsequent school years, your subsequent years of teaching will still count for purposes of satisfying your TEACH Grant service obligation.

#### Some Low Income Schools in Our Area



- John O'Connell High (SF Unified)
- Martin Luther King , Jr.
   Elementary (Oakland Unified)
- Columbia Middle (Sunnyvale)
- Fremont High (Fremont Union High)

# Teaching at More Than One Low-Income School

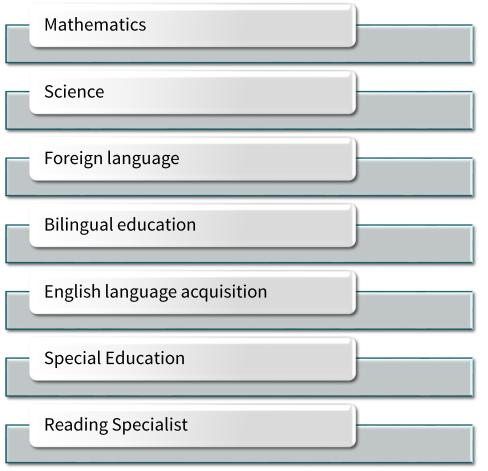
IF YOU TEACH AT MORE THAN ONE QUALIFYING LOW-INCOME SCHOOL DURING A SCHOOL YEAR, THAT YEAR OF TEACHING WILL COUNT AS ONE OF YOUR REQUIRED FOUR SCHOOL YEARS OF TEACHING SERVICE IF:

 You provide FedLoan Servicing with a certification from one or more of the chief administrative officers of the schools where you taught that your combined teaching was the equivalent of one school year of full-time employment,

and

• More than half of the classes you taught were in one or more of the highneed fields as defined in the TEACH Grant counseling material.

# High Need Fields (Subjects)



#### AND

Other identified teacher shortage areas as of the time you begin teaching in that field listed in the Teacher Shortage Area Nationwide Listing (Nationwide List) that the Department issues each year.

www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/tsa.pdf

#### California High-Needs Fields for 16-17 Year

STATEWIDE ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES OR SUBJECT MATTER:

- English/Drama/Humanities
- History/Social Science
- Mathematics/Computer Education
- Science
- Self-Contained Classes
- Special Education

IF YOU BEGIN QUALIFYING TEACHING SERVICE
IN A HIGH-NEED FIELD THAT IS ON THE
NATIONWIDE LIST, BUT IN SUBSEQUENT
SCHOOL YEARS OF TEACHING THAT HIGH-NEED
FIELD IS NO LONGER LISTED, YOUR
SUBSEQUENT YEARS OF TEACHING IN THAT
FIELD WILL CONTINUE TO QUALIFY FOR
PURPOSES OF SATISFYING YOUR SERVICE
OBLIGATION.

# **Length of Service Obligation**

- You must complete a 4-year service obligation for each academic program for which you received a TEACH Grant within eight years after you complete or otherwise cease to be enrolled.
- If you later receive a TEACH Grant for a second program, any qualifying service performed before completion can only be applied to the first program service obligation. Any qualifying service performed after the second program may be applied toward your service obligation for both programs.



# **Documenting Your Obligation - Initial**

YOU MUST KEEP FEDLOAN SERVICING INFORMED OF YOUR PROGRESS TOWARD SATISFYING YOUR SERVICE OBLIGATION.

WITHIN **120** DAYS AFTER YOU COMPLETE OR ARE OTHERWISE NO LONGER ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM FOR WHICH YOU RECEIVED A TEACH GRANT, YOU MUST NOTIFY FEDLOAN SERVICING IN WRITING THAT YOU:

- Are employed as a full-time teacher in accordance with the terms and conditions of the TEACH Grant service obligation;
   or
- Are not yet employed as a full-time teacher, but intend to meet the terms and conditions of your service obligation.

## **Documenting Your Obligation – Each Year**

If you begin teaching, your must provide documentation **after each year** of your four years of required teaching.

 A form for documenting your qualifying teaching service will be available from the FedLoan Servicing. This form must be certified by the chief administrative officer of the school where you taught for the year.

If you have completed your program but are not employed in a qualifying teaching position, you must notify the FedLoan Servicing at least once each year that you still intend to satisfy your service obligation.

## Completing Less Than a Full Year of Service

IF YOU DO NOT COMPLETE A FULL SCHOOL YEAR OF QUALIFYING TEACHING SERVICE, BUT COMPLETE AT LEAST HALF OF A SCHOOL YEAR, THE HALF-YEAR OF TEACHING CAN BE COUNTED AS ONE OF YOUR FOUR REQUIRED YEARS OF TEACHING SERVICE UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

- You were unable to complete a full year because of a condition covered under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA). <a href="http://www.dol.gov/whd/fmla/">http://www.dol.gov/whd/fmla/</a>
- You were called or ordered to active duty status for more than 30 days as a member of the reserve in the Armed Forces or as a full-time service member of the National Guard

and

your school employer considers your to have fulfilled your contract requirements for the school year.

#### **Temporary Suspension of 8-Year Period for Service Obligation**

A SUSPENSION CAN BE GRANTED IN 1-YEAR INCREMENTS AND CANNOT EXCEED A TOTAL OF THREE YEARS. THE 8-YEAR PERIOD YOU HAVE FOR COMPLETING YOUR SERVICE OBLIGATION WILL RESUME AT THE END OF THE SUSPENSION PERIOD.

YOU MUST REQUEST A SUSPENSION THROUGH FEDLOAN SERVICING AND PROVIDE ANY REQUESTED DOCUMENTATION.

- You must submit a request for a suspension of the period for completing your service obligation before any conditions occur that would convert your TEACH Grant to a Direct Unsubsidized Loan.
- Once a TEACH Grant has been converted to a loan, it can't be converted back to a TEACH Grant.

# **Qualifying Conditions for Suspension**

If you have completed or are otherwise no longer enrolled in the academic program for which you received a TEACH Grant, you may request a suspension of the eight-year period for completing your teaching service only if:

- You return to school and are enrolled in a program of study for which you would be eligible to receive a TEACH Grant, or a program that will satisfy state requirements for elementary or secondary school teacher certification (including an alternative teacher certification program);
- You have a condition covered under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA);
- You have been called to active duty status for more than 30 days as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces named in 10 U.S.C. 10101, or service as a member of the National Guard on full-time National Guard duty, as defined in 10 U.S.C. 101(d)(5), under a call to active service in connection with a war, military operation, or national emergency.
  - Military personnel may also receive a discharge (cancellation) of all or part of their teaching requirement if qualifying active duty exceeds the three year suspension limit.

THE CONDITIONS ABOVE ARE THE **ONLY** CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH YOU MAY RECEIVE A SUSPENSION OF THE 8-YEAR PERIOD FOR COMPLETING YOUR SERVICE OBLIGATION. MORE DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE AT <a href="http://www.myfedloan.org/teach-grants/index.shtml">http://www.myfedloan.org/teach-grants/index.shtml</a>

# Discharging your TEACH Grant Service Obligation

YOUR SERVICE OBLIGATION WILL BE DISCHARGED (CANCELED) IF:

- FedLoan Servicing receives acceptable documentation of your death from a family member or other representative.
- You become totally and permanently disabled and meet certain other requirements. You must apply for a discharge on a form that FedLoan Servicing will provide.

IF YOUR SERVICE OBLIGATION IS DISCHARGED BASED ON YOUR DEATH OR TOTAL AND PERMANENT DISABILITY, YOUR TEACH GRANT WON'T BE CONVERTED TO A DIRECT UNSUBSIDIZED LOAN, AND NEITHER YOU NOR YOUR FAMILY WILL BE REQUIRED TO REPAY THE TEACH GRANT FUNDS YOU RECEIVED.

# Results of Not Satisfying Your Obligation

TEACH GRANT



# Failure to Meet Your Service Obligation



# FAILURE TO COMPLETE SERVICE OBLIGATION CAUSES YOUR GRANT TO CONVERT TO AN UNSUBSIDIZED LOAN!



IF YOUR TEACH GRANT IS CONVERTED TO A DIRECT UNSUBSIDIZED LOAN, YOU'LL BE REQUIRED TO REPAY THE FULL AMOUNT OF ALL TEACH GRANT FUNDS YOU RECEIVED, WITH INTEREST CHARGED FROM THE DATE OF EACH TEACH GRANT DISBURSEMENT.

ANY TEACH GRANT THAT IS CONVERTED TO A DIRECT UNSUBSIDIZED LOAN WON'T COUNT TOWARD THE ANNUAL OR AGGREGATE LOAN LIMITS THAT APPLY TO OTHER FEDERAL STUDENT LOANS YOU'VE RECEIVED OR MAY RECEIVE IN THE FUTURE TO HELP PAY FOR YOUR EDUCATION.

#### **Conversion to a Direct Unsubsidized Loan**

#### A TEACH GRANT WILL BE CONVERTED TO A DIRECT UNSUBSIDIZED LOAN IF:

- You request it (for example, you've decided that you don't want to be a teacher).
- You did not complete your program and you failed to notify FedLoan Servicing within 120 days that you are either teaching in accordance to your Agreement to Serve (ATS), or are not yet employed but intend on meeting your service obligation.
- You did not complete your program and within 1 year of ceasing enrollment you have not:
  - Been determined eligible for a suspension
  - Re-enrolled in a TEACH Grant-eligible program
  - Began teaching service per your ATS.

#### **Conversion to a Direct Unsubsidized Loan (Continued)**

A TEACH Grant will be converted to a Direct Unsubsidized Loan if you complete your program but:

- Do not actively confirm to the FedLoan Servicing at least once each year that you intend to satisfy your service obligation.
- Do not begin or maintain qualifying employment as a teacher that would allow you to complete your required four years of service within the maximum 8-year period.

# **Loan Repayment**

FEDLOAN SERVICING WILL NOTIFY YOU OF THE DUE DATE OF YOUR FIRST PAYMENT AND PROVIDE YOU WITH A REPAYMENT SCHEDULE. YOUR LOAN WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS THAT APPLY TO DIRECT UNSUBSIDIZED LOANS.

Loan Terms		
Grace Period	6 months beginning on the day it is converted (interest accrues during this time)	
Interest Rate	Fixed rate of 5.31%	
Prepayment	You may prepay all or part of the loan before it is due with no penalty.	
Standard Repayment	10 years	

#### **Your Loan Interest**

INTEREST ON A TEACH GRANT THAT IS CONVERTED TO A LOAN IS CHARGED FROM THE DATE OF EACH TEACH GRANT DISBURSEMENT.

- At the time your grant is converted, you are given the opportunity to pay interest that accrued.
- If you choose not to pay the interest that has accrued, it will be added to the principal balance of your loan at the end of your grace period. This means that you will pay more interest over the life of your loan.

# **Estimated Interest and Total Payment**

	Did Not Pay Interest	Paid Interest
TEACH Grant Amount	\$5,013	\$5,013
Accrued interest for 9 years (5.84% fixed-interest rate)	\$2,635 (capitalized)	\$2,635 (paid at conversion)
Principal to be repaid	\$7,648	\$5,013
Monthly Payment (Standard)	\$84	\$55
Number of Payments	120	120
Total Amount Repaid	\$10,115	\$6,630
Plus: Interest paid at time of conversion	0	\$2,635
Grand Total Repaid	\$10,115	\$9,265

## **Repayment Plans**

If your grant is converted to a loan, you will be able to choose from several repayment plans. The Standard Repayment plan is a 10-year repayment plan with the minimum monthly payment being \$50 a month. Make sure to check with your servicer about repayment incentives. Signing up for Electronic Debit Account (EDA) may give you an interest rate reduction while you repay.

YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR REPAYMENT PLAN AT ANY TIME. OTHER PAYMENT PLAN OPTIONS INCLUDE:

- Graduated Repayment Plan
- Extended Repayment Plan
- Income Contingent Repayment Plan
- Income-Based Repayment Plan
- Consolidation

More information on Loan Repayment and possible forgiveness Programs can be found at <a href="http://www.stanford.edu/dept/finald/loans/repayment">http://www.stanford.edu/dept/finald/loans/repayment</a>

#### The Bottom Line

IN EXCHANGE FOR RECEIVING A TEACH GRANT, YOU MUST AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING:

- You must serve as a full-time teacher for a total of at least four academic years within eight years after you complete or otherwise cease to be enrolled in the program(s) for which you received TEACH Grant funds.
- You must perform the teaching service as a highly qualified teacher at a low-income school or educational service agency.
- Your teaching service must be in a highneed field.
- You must provide the U.S. Department of Education with documentation of your progress toward completing your service obligation.



#### Resources

at: www.nslds.ed.gov

#### **TEACH SERVICING:**

#### **TEACH Grant Program Contact Info:**

Toll free: 1-800-699-2908

http://www.MyFedLoan.org/TEACH

#### **NSLDS:**

The National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) contains information about all Title IV loans you have received, including TEACH Grants that have been converted to Direct Unsubsidized Loans. You may access NSLDS

#### FEDERAL STUDENT AID OMBUDSMAN:

The U.S. Department of Education's Federal Student Aid Ombudsman can help resolve problems related to student loans (including TEACH Grants that have been converted to loans) when other approaches have failed.

#### **Federal Student Aid Ombudsman Phone Number:**

Toll free: 1-877-557-2575

#### **Federal Student Aid Ombudsman Web site:**

www.ombudsman.ed.gov

#### **N'KENGE HAINES**

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