**This TEACH Grant information is only valid for 2016-2017 school year.**

**Program information may change for subsequent years.**

TEACH Grant Program

The Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program provides up to $4,000 per year in grants for undergraduate and graduate 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. If you fail to complete the 4-year teaching obligation within 8 years of completing or ceasing your program of study, the grant will convert to a loan, with interest retroactive to first date of disbursement.

- Undergraduate study: up to $4,000 per year for first baccalaureate to a maximum of $16,000
- Graduate study: up to $4,000 per year for first Master’s degree to a maximum of $8,000

Student Eligibility Requirements

To receive a Teach Grant you must annually complete each requirement.

1. Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
2. Be admitted to the Teacher Education Program within the College of Education.
3. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), although you do not have to demonstrate financial need.
4. Enrolled in a program of study designated as TEACH Grant-eligible. Southeast Missouri State University has determined that the following majors will be TEACH Grant eligible programs for the school year. If you change majors at any time, you may no longer be eligible for the TEACH Grant program.

- Biology Education
- Chemistry Education
- Physics Education
- Spanish Education
- French Education
- German Education
- TESOL
- Biology Education: Unified Science
- Chemistry Education: Unified Science
- Physics Education: Unified Science
- Earth Science Education: Unified Science
- Science Education Emphasis
- Exceptional Child Education
- Secondary Education: Educ Std
- Secondary Education: Educ Tech
- Secondary Education: Middle
- Secondary Education: (GR level ONLY)

5. Meet one of the listed academic achievement requirements.
   a. For undergraduate programs:
      1) Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 (on a 4.0 scale) through the most recent term for continuing students; or
      2) Score above the 75th percentile on a college admissions test (e.g. SAT, ACT, or GRE). For SAT and GRE scores, a copy of the testing results is required. ACT results may be required on a case-by-case basis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACT</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1997-2005</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>2007-2009</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2014</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>24</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
b. For graduate programs:

1) Score above the 75th percentile on a college admissions test (e.g. SAT, ACT, or GRE). For SAT and GRE scores, a copy of the testing results is required. ACT results may be required on a case-by-case basis; or

2) Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 (on a 4.0 scale) through the most recent term in the Master’s degree program (for first semester recipients, undergraduate cumulative GPA would be used); or

3) Be a current teacher. Documentation must come from a school official and must be on school letterhead. Copies of contracts will be accepted.

6. Complete and return the TEACH Grant application.

Once the grant has been awarded, you will need to complete counseling and an Agreement to Serve. It will take approximately two weeks from date of application for access to be granted. You will receive an e-mail from our office once it is available.

7. Complete TEACH Grant counseling once an e-mail confirmation has been sent to you.

8. Sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve and respond to requests by the U.S. Department of Education confirming your continuing intention to meet the teaching obligation.

TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve and Promise to Pay

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 you incur a four-year teaching obligation for each education program for which you received TEACH Grant funds. Multiple four-year obligations may be worked off simultaneously under certain circumstances. 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. Total repayment for an undergraduate student could equal $37,872; for graduate students this amount could equal $15,189.

Highly-Qualified Teacher

You must perform the teaching service as a highly-qualified teacher, which is defined in federal law within Section 9101(23) of ESEA:

“Highly qualified” means that the teacher has obtained full State certification as a teacher and holds a certificate to teach in Missouri, and does not have certification or licensure requirements waived on an emergency, temporary, or provisional basis. A highly qualified teacher also holds a minimum of a bachelor’s degree and has demonstrated subject-matter competency in each of the academic subjects in which the teacher teaches, either by taking the required state tests (the C-BASE and the Praxis II exam) or through Missouri’s HOUSE.”

High-Need Fields

- Federal High-Need Fields
  - Bilingual Education and English Language Acquisition
  - Foreign Language
  - Mathematics
  - Reading Specialist
  - Science
  - Special Education
- State High-Need Fields*
  - A complete list of high-needs fields can be found at [http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/tsa.pdf](http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/tsa.pdf)
*Due to the nature of the TEACH Grant program, Southeast Missouri State University will not deem state-identified high-need fields as eligible majors. Please see the list on the previous page for approved majors.

**Full-Time Teacher**

You must meet the state’s definition of a full time teacher and spend the majority of your time teaching one of the high-need subject areas. Elementary teachers who teach many subjects would not be able to fulfill this requirement.

**Schools Serving Low-Income Students**


**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 accruing interest. *Once a grant is converted to a loan it CANNOT be converted back to a grant.*

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you have any questions concerning this program, please contact Student Financial Services at (573) 651-2253 or sfsgrants@semo.edu.