

NASFAA Webinars

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM): The TEACH Grant Program


Presented April 7, 2008

National Association of Student
Financial Aid Administrators

NASFAA's Webinar Series
**Notice of Proposed
Rulemaking (NPRM):
The TEACH Grant Program**
April 7, 2008

Co-sponsored with
**American Association of Colleges
for Teacher Education (AACTE)**

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Introduction: NASFAA Staff

Eunice Powell

Associate Director

Professional Assessment, Training, &
Regulatory Assistance

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Introduction: NASFAA Staff

Dr. Philip R. Day, Jr.

President/CEO

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Introduction: AACTE Staff

Dr. Sharon P. Robinson
President/CEO

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Introduction: NASFAA Staff

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Introduction: AACTE Staff

Dr. Jane West
Vice President
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Introduction: Department of Education Staff

Gail McLarnon
Program Analyst

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Senior Policy Analyst

Policy & Budget Development
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Introduction: Department of Education Staff

Lisa DiCarlo
Director, Direct Loan Operations
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Application, Origination, and Disbursement
Systems (AODS)



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Questions, please!

If you wish to ask a question, please do so by using the "SUBMIT QUESTION" button in the lower left hand corner of your screen.

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TEACH Grant Program

- New grant program authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act
- Grants become available July 1, 2008
- New 34 CFR 686



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TEACH Grant NPRM

- Published in the *Federal Register* on March 21, 2008
- Result of Negotiated Rulemaking
 - Consensus reached
- Comments on NPRM due April 21, 2008
- Specified comment submission procedures:
<http://www.regulations.gov>

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TEACH Grant NPRM

TEACH Grant Program
Guide for Public Comment on Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)



NPRM published March 21, 2008
Comments due on or before April 21, 2008

Comments must be submitted by specified method (see NPRM, p. 15336):

- Electronically via Federal eRulemaking Portal at *<http://www.regulations.gov>*
- Via postal mail;
- Via commercial delivery; or
- Hand delivery.

Docket ID ED-2008-OPE-0001
<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/fregisters/attachments/FR03212008TECH.pdf>

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TEACH Grant Program

- Non-need-based
 - Can replace EFC same as Unsub Stafford
 - Amount not used or needed to replace EFC is counted as aid
 - FAFSA required
- Grant plus other aid may not exceed COA
 - Grant may be reduced to avoid overaward



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TEACH Grant Program

- Up to \$4,000 per year
 - Undergraduate study (2- and 4-year programs)
 - Post-baccalaureate level
 - Graduate study (Master's)
- Total of \$16,000 for undergraduate + post-baccalaureate study
- Total of \$8,000 for graduate study



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TEACH Grant Program

- Grant not linked to award year
- May be awarded continuously until aggregate total is exhausted
- Funds for a payment period may come from different annual awards

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TEACH Grant Program

1st Grant 1st Grant 1st Grant 2nd Grant

Fall: \$1500 Spring: \$1500 Summer: \$2000

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TEACH Grant Program

Service obligation

- Full-time teacher in high-need field in low-income school
- Teach for 4 years within 8 years of program completion
- Not in proportion to amount or number of grants received

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TEACH-Eligible Institutions

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graph TD; A[Two-year program fully acceptable into teacher preparation program or high-need baccalaureate] --> B[High-quality teacher preparation baccalaureate or masters degree]; A --> C[Teacher certification post-baccalaureate program]; B --> D[Baccalaureate in high-need field and agreement with school that has teacher preparation/certification]; C --> D;
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High-quality teacher preparation baccalaureate or masters degree

Teacher certification post-baccalaureate program

Baccalaureate in high-need field and agreement with school that has teacher preparation/certification

Two-year program fully acceptable into teacher preparation program or high-need baccalaureate

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TEACH Grant: High Quality Program

Is either—

- Accredited by a specialized accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for the accreditation of professional teacher education programs; or
- Approved by a State *and* includes extensive pre-service clinical experience, and provides either pedagogical coursework or assistance in the provision of such coursework

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TEACH Grant: High Quality Program

Provides supervision and support services to teachers, or assists in the provision of services to teachers, such as—

- Identifying and making available information on effective teaching skills or strategies;
- Identifying and making available information on effective practices in the supervision and coaching of novice teachers; and
- Mentoring focused on developing effective teaching skills and strategies

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TEACH Grant Program – NPRM

School A offers high-quality teacher preparation at master's level, and a baccalaureate degree that does not include teacher education.

- Can a student in the bachelor's program majoring in math receive a TEACH Grant?
- Can a student receive TEACH Grants prior to declaring a major if he or she signs ED's service agreement?
- Can the school withhold TEACH Grants until the student declares a TEACH-eligible major?

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TEACH Grant Program – NPRM

School B has no teacher preparation program of its own but it has entered into an agreement with a school that does.

- Can it award TEACH Grants to students who are majoring in a high-need field but are not taking any of the education courses that the agreement covers?



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TEACH Grant Program – NPRM

- School C offers teacher certification within a bachelor's degree; students are accepted specifically into the teacher education curriculum
 - Can the school award TEACH Grants only to students who have been admitted into the teacher education curriculum?
- Several paths to teacher preparation exist to allow grants in various circumstances

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TEACH Grant Program

Types of Eligible Student: 686.11

- “Student” [686.11(a)]
 - Undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, graduate
- Current or former teachers, or retirees from other professions [686.11(b)]
 - Graduate programs only
 - Includes alternative certification programs

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TEACH Grant Program – NPRM

Student Eligibility Criteria: All Recipients

- Must meet general student eligibility
- Must file FAFSA
- Must sign service agreement
 - ED collects and tracks via Web site
- Must enroll in TEACH-eligible program

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TEACH Grant Program – NPRM

Student Eligibility: “Students”

- Must meet academic qualification, *either*:
 - Obtain admissions test score above 75th percentile, *or*
 - Maintain at least 3.25 GPA (4.0 scale) through most recent payment period

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TEACH Grant Program – NPRM

Student Eligibility: “Students”

- Must be completing coursework and other requirements necessary to begin a career in teaching or plan to complete such coursework and requirements prior to graduating

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TEACH Grant Program – NPRM

Student Eligibility: Current Teacher

- Must be either:
 - In master’s degree program, or
 - Pursuing alternative certification in a master’s degree program

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TEACH Grant Program – NPRM



Student Eligibility: Former Teacher

- Must be pursuing alternative certification in a master’s degree program

Student Eligibility: Retiree

- Must be either
 - In a master’s degree program, or
 - Pursuing alternative certification in a master’s program

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TEACH Grant Service Obligation

Must teach full-time

- In high-need field
- Total of 4 years within 8 years of program completion/cessation
- As highly-qualified
- In low-income school

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TEACH Grant Program – NPRM

- Failure to complete service obligation causes grant to convert to unsubsidized Stafford Loan
 - Collected under the Direct Loan Program
- No credit for part-time teaching
- No partial fulfillment of service

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TEACH Grant Program – NPRM

Grant that becomes a loan

- Can never revert back to grant
- Does not count against annual or aggregate loan limits
- Does not count in cohort default rate
- Could be eligible for loan forgiveness



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TEACH Grant Service Obligation

- Service obligation in proposed 686.12
- Additional provisions impacting service obligation in 686.40 – 686.43
 - Periods of allowable suspension of 8-year service period for extenuating circumstances
 - Triggers for conversion of grant to loan

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TEACH Grant Counseling Requirements

- Counseling provisions in proposed 686.32
- Institutional requirement
- ED will develop an interactive electronic counseling program that will be connected to the annual renewal of the service agreement which may be used in the future to meet part of the institutional counseling requirement

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TEACH Grant Counseling Requirements

Three types of required counseling

- Initial
- Subsequent
- Exit



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TEACH Grant Counseling Requirements

- Provide all required counseling in person, by audiovisual presentation, or by interactive electronic means
- Individual with expertise in Title IV programs available shortly after counseling to answer questions
- Provide written materials to correspondence and study abroad students

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TEACH Grant Initial Counseling

- Explain terms and conditions of TEACH Grant service agreement
- Provide information about how to identify low-income schools and documented high-need fields



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TEACH Grant Initial Counseling

Inform recipient that in order for teaching to count towards service obligation, high-need field in which he or she will teach must be one of the designated high-needs or a high-need field in Nationwide List at time and for State in which recipient begins teaching in field



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TEACH Grant Initial Counseling

Inform recipient of opportunity to request suspension of eight-year period for completing service agreement and conditions under which suspension is granted

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TEACH Grant Initial Counseling

- Explain that certain conditions could preclude recipient from completing service obligation
- Emphasize that failure or refusal to complete service obligation requires repayment of TEACH Grant as unsubsidized Direct Loan
 - Interest accrues from date of disbursement



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TEACH Grant Initial Counseling

- Explain circumstances under which a TEACH Grant is converted to an unsubsidized Direct Loan
- Emphasize that once a TEACH Grant is converted to a loan, it cannot be reconverted into a grant



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TEACH Grant Initial Counseling

- Review information about availability of ED Student Loan Ombudsman's Office
- Describe likely consequences of loan default
- Inform recipient of sample or average monthly repayment amounts based on a range of student loan indebtedness

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TEACH Grant Subsequent Counseling

Emphasize that failure or refusal to complete service obligation requires repayment of TEACH Grant as unsubsidized Direct Loan

- Interest accrues from date of disbursement



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TEACH Grant Subsequent Counseling

- Explain circumstances under which a TEACH Grant is converted to an unsubsidized Direct Loan
- Emphasize that once a TEACH Grant is converted to a loan, it cannot be reconverted into a grant



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TEACH Grant Subsequent Counseling

- Review information about availability of ED Student Loan Ombudsman's Office
- Review terms and conditions of TEACH Grant service agreement

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TEACH Grant Exit Counseling

- Provide information about how to identify low-income schools and documented high-need fields
- Inform recipient that in order for teaching to count towards service obligation, high-need field in which he or she will teach must be one of the designated high-needs or a high-need field in Nationwide List at time and for State in which recipient begins teaching in field



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TEACH Grant Exit Counseling

Inform recipient of opportunity to request suspension of eight-year period for completing service agreement and conditions under which suspension is granted



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TEACH Grant Exit Counseling

- Explain circumstances under which a TEACH Grant is converted to an unsubsidized Direct Loan
- Emphasize that once a TEACH Grant is converted to a loan, it cannot be reconverted into a grant

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TEACH Grant Exit Counseling

- Review information about availability of ED Student Loan Ombudsman's Office
- Describe likely consequences of loan default
- Inform recipient of sample or average monthly repayment amounts based on a range of student loan indebtedness



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TEACH Grant Exit Counseling

- Inform recipient that four-year service obligation must be completed within eight calendar years of completing TEACH Grant-eligible program
- Annually document that employment meets service agreement conditions or intent to complete service agreement



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TEACH Grant Exit Counseling

- Inform recipient of average anticipated monthly repayment amount based on range of student loan indebtedness if TEACH Grant is converted to a loan
- Review possible repayment options if TEACH Grant is converted to a loan

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TEACH Grant Exit Counseling

- Suggest debt-management strategies that would facilitate repayment if TEACH Grant is converted to a loan
- Explain how to contact ED



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TEACH Grant Exit Counseling

Review conditions under which recipient may request deferment, forbearance, obtain full or partial discharge, or receive teacher loan forgiveness if TEACH Grant is converted to a loan



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TEACH Grant Exit Counseling

- Inform recipient of availability of Title IV loan information in National Student Loan Database System (NSLDS)
- If counseling conducted through interactive electronic means, take reasonable steps to ensure each recipient receives counseling materials and participates in and completes counseling

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TEACH Grant Exit Counseling

- Conduct counseling before recipient ceases attendance or at time determined by institution
- Provide exit counseling in acceptable format or mail written counseling materials to last known address within 30 days of learning that:
 - Student has withdrawn from institution
 - Student has withdrawn from TEACH Grant-eligible program
 - Student did not complete exit counseling

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TEACH Grant Counseling Requirements

Initial and exit counseling requirements overlap Stafford Loan counseling requirements

- Conduct counseling at same time
- Utilize and expand existing counseling materials



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TEACH Grant Counseling Requirements

- Work with other campus offices to complete counseling requirements
- NASFAA's TEACH Grant Webinar on Wednesday, April 9, will focus on meeting counseling requirements in cooperation with other campus personnel

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TEACH Grant Counseling Requirements

- Review counseling requirements carefully
- Submit comments about specific counseling components, frequency of counseling, and ease or difficulty of implementation

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TEACH Grant Program

Resources

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/tsa.html>

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/TEACH.jsp>

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Thank You!

Please join us on
Wednesday, April 9, 2008
1:30PM to 3:00PM EST

**TEACH Grant:
Counseling Students**

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