

Presbyterian College
Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education
(TEACH) Grant Program

The U.S. Department of Education's TEACH Grant Program provides grant funds to postsecondary students who are completing or plan to complete coursework that is needed to begin a career in teaching, and who agree to serve for at least four years as a full-time, highly qualified teacher in a high-need field, in a school serving low-income students. Eligible full-time students may receive \$4,000 per year in TEACH Grant funds up to a maximum of \$16,000 for undergraduate study.

In exchange for receiving a TEACH Grant, you must agree to serve as a full-time teacher in a high-need field in a public or private elementary or secondary school that serves low-income students (see below for more information on high-need fields and schools serving low-income students). As a recipient of a TEACH Grant, you must teach for at least four academic years within eight calendar years of completing the program of study for which you received a TEACH Grant.

IMPORTANT: If you fail to complete this service obligation, all amounts of TEACH Grants that you received will be converted to a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan. You must then repay this loan to the U.S. Department of Education. **You will be charged interest from the date the grant(s) was disbursed.**

Student Eligibility Requirements

To receive a TEACH Grant at Presbyterian College you must:

- Be accepted into the PC Department of Education program.
- Complete a PC TEACH Grant Affidavit. The affidavit can be printed from the Financial Aid Office page and must be signed at an Education Dept. faculty member.

- Complete a TEACH Grant entrance interview with a member of the PC Financial Aid staff.
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), although you do not have to demonstrate financial need.
- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
- Be enrolled in coursework that is necessary to begin a career in teaching or plan to complete such coursework. Such coursework may include subject area courses (e.g., math courses for a student who intends to be a math teacher).
- Meet certain academic achievement requirements (generally, scoring above the 75th percentile on a college admissions test or maintaining a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25).
- Sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve (ATS) and complete on-line counseling at the Dept of Ed.'s TEACH Grant home at www.teach-ats.ed.gov.

High-Need Fields

High-need fields are the specific areas identified below:

- Bilingual Education and English Language Acquisition
- Foreign Language
- Mathematics
- Reading Specialist
- Science
- Special Education
- Other identified teacher shortage areas as of the time you begin teaching in that field. These are teacher subject shortage areas (not

geographic areas) that are listed in the Department of Education's *Annual Teacher Shortage Area Nationwide Listing*. To access the listing, please go to www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/tsa.doc.

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*. To access the Directory, please go to www.tcli.ed.gov and click on the SEARCH button.

Teach Grant Agreement to Serve

Each year you receive a TEACH Grant, you must sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve that will be available electronically on a Department of Education website. The TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve 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 disbursed.**

IMPORTANT REMINDER

If you receive a TEACH Grant but do not complete the required teaching service, as explained above, you will be required to repay the grants as a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan, with interest charged from the date of each TEACH Grant disbursement.