



KANSAS TEACHER SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP

This **service obligation scholarship program** provides financial assistance to both students pursuing bachelor's degree programs and currently licensed teachers pursuing endorsement in hard-to-fill disciplines or master's degrees in hard-to-fill disciplines or either group planning to teach (K-12) in an underserved geographic area in Kansas. Applicants must complete the FAFSA.

Applicants must be: a resident of the State of Kansas and attending a Kansas postsecondary institution; **AND**

- a) Enrolled in a program leading to licensure as a teacher in an identified hard-to-fill discipline* or underserved geographic area** **OR**
- b) Currently licensed as a teacher enrolled in a course of instruction leading to endorsement in one of the hard-to-fill disciplines* or teach in one of the underserved geographic areas** in Kansas; **OR**
- c) Currently licensed teachers enrolled in a program leading to a master's degree in an identified discipline* or underserved area** (This scholarship is not a resource for Counseling, Administration or Reading/Library Specialist degrees); **AND**
- d) Complete the FAFSA and the State of Kansas Student Aid Application.

***Identified Hard-to-fill disciplines for 2016-17 are:** Special Education, Mathematics, Science

****Underserved Geographic Areas are:** USD 501 Topeka; USD 500 Kansas City, KS; USD 259 Wichita and State Board of Education Area 5 (which includes all of the western 1/3 of the State of Kansas).

All Kansas Teacher Service Scholarship NEW applicants:

- ◇ Complete/submit the FAFSA, priority deadline April 1.
- ◇ State of Kansas Student Aid Application completed and submitted either online at www.kansasregents.org or the paper application, the Kansas Teacher Service Scholarship form (found at www.kansasregents.org), and the \$12.00 non-refundable application fee mailed to the Kansas Board of Regents.
- ◆ Submit all official academic transcripts.
- ◇ Submit at least one letter of recommendation; academic, or employment-related.
- ◇ Submit a one page personal statement of your academic and teaching goal, including your personal commitment to teaching in your field or underserved area.
- ◇ If a current teacher, submit a copy of your teaching certificate or licensure.
- *Renewal* applicants must complete the FAFSA, priority deadline April 1; and the State of Kansas Student Aid Application each school year. (Priority deadline May 1)
 - ◆ *High school transcripts are not accepted. Send the transcript from your degree granting institution, or the institution that you are currently receiving your degree from. If you have graduate school hours include a transcript of your graduate work to date in addition to your undergraduate transcript(s).*

Submit the state application and all additional documents to Kansas Board of Regents on or before the May 1 priority date.

Recipients:

First priority in awarding goes to junior and senior level college students and currently licensed teachers who meet the outlined criteria and provide all official academic transcripts; at least one academic, or employment-related letter of recommendation; a personal statement of academic and teaching goals; and if a current teacher, a copy of your teaching certificate or licensure. Funds are rarely available for freshman or sophomore students. This is a merit-based scholarship. Students may be enrolled either part-time or full-time. The average GPA of recipients has been 3.50.

Recipients are eligible to receive funding for up to ten semesters, which includes a combination of both undergraduate and graduate work and must continue to maintain satisfactory academic progress. Additional documentation may be required for the scholarship to transition from an undergraduate to graduate program. The number of recipients is dependent on state funding levels.

◇ **Renewals** are prior year recipients, and must submit: the FAFSA and the State of Kansas Student Aid Application **each school year** to receive funding.

Award Amount:

Recipients may be eligible for up to \$5,514 (\$2,757/semester) during 2016-17. The funding amount will be as follows:

12 + hours - \$2,757/per semester	9 –11 hours - \$2,208/per semester
6 – 8 hours - \$1,654/per semester	3 – 5 hours - \$1,103/per semester

Service Obligation Requirement:

Kansas Teacher Service Scholarship recipients will sign **an agreement/promissory note with the State of Kansas** in which they will agree to:

- Complete the required course of instruction leading to licensure and full endorsement in a field of education as a teacher in the selected hard-to-fill teaching discipline or in an underserved geographic area in the State of Kansas;
- Obtain and maintain necessary licensure and endorsement as specified in the teaching agreement;
- Engage in teaching in the hard-to-fill discipline or in an underserved geographic area in the State of Kansas, within six months of licensure, in an accredited public or private elementary or secondary school on a full-time basis for a period equal to the time scholarship was awarded or commence teaching on a part-time basis for a period of time that is equivalent to full-time, multiplied by the length of the course of instruction for which the scholarship was awarded.

Please Note: Fulfillment of your teaching obligation begins **AFTER** completion of your program or you are no longer receiving the scholarship.

◆ If a recipient is unable to fulfill the service obligation they will be subject to repaying the amount of the scholarship they received plus accrued interest at a rate which is equivalent to the interest rate applicable to loans made under the federal PLUS program at the time the agreement was first entered into plus five percentage points (currently that interest rate is 11.84%).