

# Kansas Teacher Service Scholarship

## Program Description

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 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 discipline\* or underserved area\*\* (Accepted for admission, or currently enrolled, in a course of instruction leading to licensure as a teacher in one of the hard-to-fill disciplines\* or one of the underserved geographic areas\*\* of Kansas); **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\*\* (Currently licensed as a teacher and been accepted for admission, or enrolled in a course of instruction leading to a master's degree in a field of education as a teacher in one of the hard-to-fill disciplines\*, or in one of the underserved geographic areas\*\* of Kansas. This scholarship is not a resource for Counseling, Administration or Reading/Library Specialist degrees); **AND**

Complete the FAFSA and the State of Kansas Student Aid Application.

**\*Hard-to-fill disciplines for 2015-16 are: Special Education, Mathematics, Science, Foreign Language, and English as a Second Language (ESL).**

**\*\*Underserved geographic areas for 2015-16 have been identified as: 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).**

## 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 and at least one academic, or employment-related letter of recommendation, and personal statement of your academic and teaching goal. 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. The number of designees is dependent on state funding levels.

## 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.

***The state application and all additional documents must be received by the Kansas Board of Regents on or before the May 1 priority deadline.***



◀ 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 11.41%).

**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 2015-16. The funding amount will be as follows:

12 + hours - \$2,757/per semester    6 – 8 hours - \$1,654/per semester

9 – 11 hours - \$2,208/per semester    3 – 5 hours - \$1,103/per semester

### **Checklist for 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](http://www.kansasregents.org) or the paper application, the Kansas Teacher Service Scholarship form, 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 (deadline May 1) each school year.

*\*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).*

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS,  
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Financial Aid



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## *Kansas Teacher Service Scholarship*

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