



TEACH Grant Application 2026-2027

Return to: Financial Aid Office
Truman State University
McClain Hall 103
Kirksville, MO 63501
Fax: 660-785-7389
Email: finaid@truman.edu

STUDENT INFORMATION (please print)

Name: _____ Banner ID#: _____
Local Address: _____
E-Mail Address: _____ Local Phone: _____

The Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program was created to provide up to \$4,000 a year to undergraduate and graduate students who agree to serve for at least four years as full time “highly qualified” teachers in high-need fields in a public or nonprofit private elementary or secondary schools that serve students from low-income families.

The TEACH Grant provides up to a maximum yearly amount of \$4,000 in grants (\$16,000 total for an entire undergraduate program; \$8,000 total for graduate students) for full-time enrolled students. Funding is available to students enrolled half-time, although amounts will be reduced. Currently, the maximum is slightly less than \$4,000 due to federal sequestration.

We recommend that only students who are committed to teaching a high-need subject in a designated low-income school upon graduation should consider the grant. If the four year teaching obligation is not met within eight years of graduation, the grant will convert to an unsubsidized loan, which will have to be repaid with interest calculated back to the date the funds were disbursed.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA CHECKLIST

Before submitting this application, review the TEACH Grant eligibility criteria. You may refer to the fact sheet being provided or to the web site at studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/grants/teach. Check each box.

- ☐ I have filed the 2026-2027 FAFSA. (studentaid.gov)
- ☐ I am a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen.
- ☐ I scored at the 75th percentile on a college admissions test OR maintain a cumulative 3.25 GPA.
- ☐ I am an undergraduate with a pre-education major code as part of my student record OR I am a graduate student with a Masters of Arts in Education degree as part of my student record OR I am a Communication Disorders major.
- ☐ I have developed a course plan with my Education Advisor for my undergraduate and graduate work. The course plan **MUST** be submitted with the application.
- ☐ I plan to teach in a school serving low-income students (as listed in [studentaid.gov/app/tcli.action](https://studentaid.gov/app/tcli/action)).
- ☐ I plan to teach in an identified teacher shortage, high-need field.

Identified field: _____ Is this a Federal high-need field? ☐ YES ☐ NO

The Federal high-need fields are bilingual education and English language acquisition, foreign language, mathematics, reading specialist, science (such as Biology, Geology, Chemistry or Physics), and special education.

If it's not a Federal field, indicate in which state you plan to teach: _____

If not a Federal field, it must be listed in <https://tsa.ed.gov> report for the 2025-2026 school year under the state in which you plan to teach. Click the View Report option and enter the appropriate School Year and State search parameters.

Amount and Enrollment

The **annual** TEACH Grant award for full-time students is \$4,000 (reduced to \$3,000 for 3/4 time students, \$2,000 for 1/2 time students, and \$1,000 for less than half time students). Students may receive up to \$16,000 for undergraduate study and up to \$8,000 for graduate study. The TEACH Grant in combination with other student financial assistance may not exceed the cost of attendance at the University.

I would like to apply for a TEACH Grant in the amount of \$ _____ for 2026-2027.

Semester (s) requested for TEACH Grant: Fall 2026: ☐ Spring 2027: ☐

Indicate the number of credit hours per semester: Fall 2026: _____ credit hours Spring 2027: _____ credit hours

Indicate the appropriate status: Fall 2026: ☐ Undergrad ☐ Grad Spring 2027: ☐ Undergrad ☐ Grad

General Requirements

- Complete the TEACH Grant Initial and Subsequent Counseling before receiving your first TEACH Grant (“Initial Counseling”) and also before receiving a new TEACH Grant for each subsequent year of your program of study (“Subsequent Counseling”) online at studentaid.gov/app/launchTeach.action
- Sign an Agreement to Serve or Repay each year online at studentaid.gov/app/launchTeach.action
- Complete the TEACH Grant Exit Counseling when you either graduate OR withdraw from the school where you received your TEACH Grant
- Teach for at least four out of your first eight years of teaching at a school serving low-income students
- Teach in a high-need field (see areas specified in the annual listing at www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oep/pol/tsa.html#lists)
- Submit four completed teaching certifications within the eight-year service obligation period.

Statement of Understanding and Verification

I understand that before a TEACH Grant can be disbursed to my account, the recipient must complete the TEACH grant Initial and Subsequent counseling regarding the terms of the Grant and sign an Agreement to Serve or Repay available at studentaid.gov/app/launchTeach.action. Further information on when these steps are to be completed will be sent to my Truman State email address if the Grant is approved. I verify that the above information is correct and understand if I make any changes it is my responsibility to notify the Financial Aid Office immediately.

Student’s Signature: _____ Date: _____

(Electronic signatures not accepted)

If you have any questions, please call (660) 785-4130. You may submit the application in person at MC 103, fax to (660) 785-7389 or mail to Truman State University, Financial Aid Office, McClain 103, 100 E Normal Ave, Kirksville, MO 63501.

Truman TEACH Grant Fact Sheet

The TEACH Grant is a federal program, and Truman State University was approved to participate in these offers as of August 1, 2008. There is a Federal Student Aid TEACH Fact Sheet as well as a federal website, <https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/grants/teach>, where you can obtain good general information about the features of the program. You should review program guidelines before applying because **this grant has the potential to be converted to a loan** if education program requirements or teaching obligations are not met.

Steps to Apply:

- Be sure to notify your advisor of your decision to pursue teaching so the **education major code** can be added to your Truman student system record.
- Develop a **long-term course plan** for your undergraduate and graduate work with your Education Advisor.
- Be sure your **FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid—www.studentaid.gov) has been filed for the current school year. This will confirm you meet the general eligibility requirements for federal student aid.
- Be sure you have either scored at the **75th percentile on a college admissions test** (ACT, SAT, GRE) **or** have a cumulative GPA of at least a **3.25** (on a 4.0 scale).
- Submit **Truman's TEACH Grant Application** specifying the amount you would like to apply for along with your planned enrollment (full-time, half-time, etc.) for each term.

*Before you do this, it is a good idea to review the **high need, teacher shortage area fields**. These are defined by federal statute and listed in the federal TEACH Fact Sheet. Other teacher shortage areas are listed in the Annual Teacher Shortage Area Nationwide Listing, www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oep/pol/tsa.html#lists. If a field was designated as high-need at the time you received the TEACH Grant, it may satisfy your teaching obligation even if the field is no longer classified as high-need when you begin teaching.

It is also a good idea to be familiar with **school districts serving low-income students. See the Department of Education's Annual Directory of Designated Low-Income Schools for Teacher Cancellation Benefits at studentaid.gov/app/tcli.action.

- Complete **TEACH Grant Initial and Subsequent Counseling** online at studentaid.gov/app/launchTeach.action.
- Complete the **Agreement to Serve or Repay** online at studentaid.gov/app/launchTeach.action.

Disbursement:

Once TEACH Grant eligibility is determined and the amount is offered, both the TEACH Grant Initial and Subsequent Counseling and the Agreement to Serve or Repay must be completed. Funds will then be paid with the annual offer being split into two disbursements. **If you change your mind and want to cancel the offer, you may do so within 14 days of notification that it was disbursed.**

Other points of interest about the TEACH Grant:

- Students may apply for the TEACH Grant at any time during the academic year, but the application must be submitted while the student is still enrolled that year or by the deadline published by the Department of Education (whichever is earlier). Any payments for a previous semester will be based on credit hours completed. Applying in advance of the academic year, if possible, is recommended.
- TEACH is for a first bachelor's and first master's degree only. A student may not receive a TEACH Grant for a second bachelor's or a second master's degree.
- The requirement to have scored at the 75th percentile on a national college admissions test is a one-time check, whereas the use of the 3.25 GPA to meet eligibility guidelines has to be looked at each semester.
- Though a FAFSA has to be filed to determine some eligibility guidelines, students do not have to demonstrate financial need.
- The TEACH Grant when combined with the student's other financial assistance may not exceed the cost of attendance.
- If a student receives subsequent TEACH Grants, additional counseling will be required each year to review the terms and conditions of the offer. Exit counseling is also required when the student is preparing to leave the University.
- Under certain conditions the TEACH Grant may be converted to a Direct Unsubsidized Loan with interest accruing from the date of each grant disbursement:
 - ◊ If the recipient requests that the grant be converted to a loan
 - ◊ If the recipient doesn't begin or maintain qualifying teaching within a timeframe that would allow the recipient to complete the required four years of teaching within the eight year service obligation period.
- There is a possibility that a student who received a TEACH Grant early in their academic career could fail to be admitted to the teacher education program.
- A TEACH Grant converted to a Direct Unsubsidized Loan does receive a six-month grace period that begins on the day after your grants are converted.
- A TEACH Grant converted to a Direct Unsubsidized Loan can be reconverted to a grant only under limited circumstances.
- Your TEACH Grant service obligation may be canceled (discharged) if you die or if you become totally and permanently disabled. You may also receive a discharge of some or all your four-year teaching requirement if you are called or ordered to qualifying military active duty for a period that exceeds three years.

**For more information about pursuing a TEACH Grant eligible program, contact
Truman's School of Business and Professional Studies, VH 2300, Dr. Lance Ratcliff, Associate Dean.**

**For more information about certification and disbursement of a TEACH Grant, contact
Truman's Financial Aid Office, MC 103.**