TEACH Grant FAQ

1. How many actual years of service are required regardless of the amount of funds accepted?

4 years of service in an 8-year period.

2. Are there any differences between undergraduate and graduate qualification requirements?

The accepted programs (as defined by the school). The annual amounts ($4,000 maximum) are the same. The aggregates are different ($16,000 lifetime max for undergraduates; $8,000 lifetime max for graduates).

3. Can masters students who are teaching full-time, as well as taking courses toward a degree or new license, access the TEACH funds?

As long as they are in graduate school in a school-certified program (as defined by UNM College of Education).

4. What happens if the student does not complete the four-year service requirement and does not get an approved suspension?

The “grant” turns into an unsubsidized loan with interest charged back to the date of disbursement.

5. What happens if a student’s GPA drops below a 3.25?

He or she is ineligible for additional funds until bringing his/her GPA above 3.25.

6. UNM’s Elementary Education Program is a K-8 program. Some of the students will be teaching math and science in the mid-level. Will these students qualify for the loan?

As long as the program meets the standards of “highly qualified, full-time teacher, in a high need subject area, at a school serving low-income students.” The school principal completes the certification annually.
7. Bilingual and TESOL endorsements apply to any K-12 license, such as Elementary, PE, Health Education, and Art Education. Does the grant also cover these areas?

The student must be in an approved bachelors or graduate program. If the endorsement is done as a non-degree student, he or she would not be currently eligible to receive funds.

8. Does this grant apply only to graduate programs with licensure components or also to graduate programs that declare an endorsement in one of the areas listed on this grant?

We would consider any student in the following codes (as defined by COE):

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>MA</th>
<th>SED</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MA-SED</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>SED</td>
<td>Secondary Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>MA-SPCD</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>SPCD</td>
<td>Special Education</td>
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<td>MA-ELED</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>ELED</td>
<td>Elementary Education</td>
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9. Are students in any graduate program within special education eligible: M.A., Ed.S., Ph.D., or a transcripted certificate program (e.g., ISLB Certificate in SPCD)?

See answer above.

10. Can students work for Department of Defense schools to repay their obligation?

Only schools considered to serve “low-income” populations are outlined currently.

11. If a teacher is teaching in a school designated as low income, but after a few years the school's status changes, does the teacher have to change schools to fulfill his or her obligation?

Yes.

12. If a student has Loan for Service, does he or she have to pay back years separately for TEACH grant and Loan for Service?

No.