

Budget Unit Brief

FY 2017



Teach Iowa Scholars Program

Purpose

The Teach Iowa Scholars Program offers an income bonus or student loan repayment to recent graduates of postsecondary teacher preparation programs that teach in eligible teaching fields at a school district or area education agency for up to five years. Eligible teaching fields are those designated annually as shortage areas by the Department of Education.

Eligibility

To be eligible, teachers must graduate in the top 25.0% of their class within the teacher preparation program and must secure full-time employment for the coming school year. The employment can be at either a local school district or an area education agency but must be in a designated teaching field.

Awards

The maximum annual award is a \$4,000 income bonus or student loan repayment for up to five consecutive years of full-time employment.

Funding

The Program was first funded for FY 2015 with a General Fund appropriation of \$1.3 million to the College Student Aid Commission. Since then, annual funding has been reduced to \$400,000 to reflect lower than expected demand.

If funding is not sufficient to make awards to all applicants, the Commission awards funds based on the following priorities:

1. Renewals of awards from the previous year.
2. Iowa resident status.
3. Graduation date by academic year, with the most recent academic year given priority.
4. Prioritized eligible teaching fields, as ranked by the Department of Education.
5. Prioritized regional need within eligible teaching fields, as ranked by the Department of Education.
6. Date of application.

Related Statute and Administrative Rule

Iowa Code section [261.110](#)

[283](#) Iowa Administrative Code chapter [28](#)

Revised September 6, 2016

More Information

Iowa College Student Aid Commission: <https://www.iowacollegeaid.gov/content/teach-iowa-scholars-program>

Iowa General Assembly: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/>

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