



# State of Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board

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## WISCONSIN TEACHER EDUCATION LOAN PROGRAM: ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION PROCESS

The Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB) manages and services the State of Wisconsin Teacher Education Loan (TEL) program. The program provides educational loans of up to \$10,000 per year. The overall maximum a student can borrow under this program is \$30,000. One hundred percent of this loan is forgivable, only if all criteria for forgiveness are met.

**NOTE:** This loan is directly from the State of Wisconsin. This debt does not appear in national databases which show federal loans. If you have a student loan servicer (ACS, Sallie-Mae, Great Lakes, etc.) this loan will not appear in their database.

### Loan Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the loan you must meet all of the following criteria:

1. Resident of the State of Wisconsin and registered with Selective Service - *if required*; and be
2. Enrolled at least half-time status as a sophomore, junior or senior by a University of Wisconsin System Institution or a non-profit, independent college or university in the state of Wisconsin; and be
3. In a program of study leading to a full-time teaching degree in a discipline defined as a teacher shortage area by the Federal Department of Education (see Disciplines table below); and
4. Have a grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or equivalent; and
5. Agree to practice full-time as a licensed teacher (with full-time teaching licensure) in Wisconsin:
  - a. For the term of the forgiveness period; and
  - b. In an elementary or secondary school located in the city of Milwaukee or a county defined as “rural” as defined by this program (eligible county list available separately); and
  - c. Be hired to work and utilize the discipline specified with loan agreement, defined as a teacher shortage area by the Federal Department of Education.

The following disciplines have been identified as teacher shortage areas in the state of Wisconsin:

#### Standard Disciplines:

English as a Second Language  
 Bilingual Education  
 Foreign Languages  
 Mathematics  
 Music  
 Reading  
 Sciences  
 Library Media

#### Special Education:

Cognitive Disabilities  
 Cross Categorical  
 Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
 Early Childhood-Special Education  
 Emotional/Behavioral Disorders  
 Learning Disabilities  
 School Speech and Language Disabilities  
 Visual Disabilities

#### Career and Technology Education:

Business Education  
 Family and Consumer Education  
 Technology Education

### Application Process

Application to this loan program is made through the financial aid office at a participating Wisconsin University of Wisconsin System Institution or a non-profit, independent college or university in the state of Wisconsin. Applicants should inform the financial aid administrators of their interest in receiving the Wisconsin Teacher Education Loan. Funding is limited. Application does not guarantee loan funds will be available.

Based on program eligibility criteria, **the school financial aid administrator will designate students** for the Teacher Education Loan and offer a loan. The school financial aid administrator will submit to HEAB all completed loan documents for each designated student.

After HEAB receives and approves all of the completed Teacher Education Loan Program application documents, the loan will be disbursed directly to the college or university. Subsequent academic year loans are subject to this process.

## **Forgiveness, Program Compliance and Repayment**

One hundred percent of the loan may be forgiven. Prior to earning forgiveness you must:

- Complete a program of study leading to a full-time teaching degree; in
- A discipline defined as a teacher shortage area by the Federal Department of Education (list provided on first page of this document); and
- Obtain a teaching license from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction of a permanent type; and
- Be hired as a full-time teacher in an elementary or secondary school; in
- The city of Milwaukee or a county defined as “rural” as defined by this program (eligible county list available separately); and be
- Employed utilizing a discipline defined as a teacher shortage area by the Federal Department of Education; and
- Receive a rating of proficient or distinguished on the educator effectiveness system or equivalent (in a school that does not utilize the educator effectiveness system).

For each year employed meeting all the criteria listed above, 25% of the loan will be forgiven. Forgiveness is applied incrementally based upon completion of a full year of employment. Forgiveness is obtained yearly by submission of the Status and Employment Verification form.

If repayment becomes necessary, this debt is incurred from the State of Wisconsin and repayment will be made directly to the State of Wisconsin. If not eligible for Forgiveness or not in program compliance, repayment will begin no sooner than six months after withdrawal or graduation from the nominating institution. The interest rate of the loan is 5%. Payments are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month and the loan must be repaid within ten years from the date repayment begins.

<b>REPAYMENT AMOUNTS BASED ON ORIGINAL LOAN AMOUNT, 5% INTEREST, AND 120 PAYMENTS (TEN YEARS)</b>			
<b>Original Loan Amount:</b>	<b>Interest paid by end of payment period:</b>	<b>Total amount to be repaid:</b>	<b>Monthly Payment:</b>
\$10,000	\$ 2,727.86	\$ 12,727.86	\$ 106.07
\$20,000	\$ 5,455.72	\$ 25,455.72	\$ 212.13
\$30,000	\$ 8,183.59	\$ 38,183.59	\$ 318.20

***Please note: The Wisconsin Teacher Education Loan is a State of Wisconsin loan and cannot be consolidated with federal loans. Therefore, the monthly payment shown on the chart above is in addition to any other loan payments the recipient may be required to make.***

If a loan recipient fails to repay their loan, the debt will be sent to the Department of Revenue for collection action. Loan recipients who are having difficulties making their monthly payments are strongly encouraged to contact the Higher Educational Aids Board to discuss their payment options. Depending on their circumstances, loan recipients may be eligible for temporary deferments of their loans or reduced minimum monthly payments.

### **Program Administrator**

Please contact the administrator with any questions regarding the Wisconsin Teacher Education Loan program.

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