State of Wisconsin
Higher Educational Aids Board

P.O. Box 7885
Madison, WI 53707-7885
HEABmail@wisconsin.gov

Telephone: (608) 267-2209
Fax: (608) 267-2808
heab.state.wi.us

Tony Evers
Governor

Tammie DeVooght Blaney
Executive Secretary

Teacher of the Visually Impaired Loan
Loan Application Instructions

Overview
The Teacher of the Visually Impaired Loan Program provides loans to Wisconsin resident undergraduates or graduate students who are enrolled at least half-time at an in-state or eligible out-of-state institution in a program that prepares them to be licensed as teachers of the visually impaired or as orientation and mobility instructors. This State of Wisconsin loan program provides education loans of $250 minimum to $10,000 maximum per year. The overall lifetime maximum a student can borrow is $40,000.

Eligibility

To be eligible for this loan, the student must:

1) be a Wisconsin resident;
2) be enrolled in a participating in-state or eligible out-of-state school; *****
3) be enrolled at least half-time (as determined by the school) in a degree or certificate program leading to Wisconsin licensure and a career as a teacher of the visually impaired or mobility and orientation specialist;
4) make satisfactory academic progress (per federal student financial aid criteria);
5) agree to practice full-time as a licensed a teacher of the visually impaired or mobility and orientation specialist in Wisconsin for the term of the forgiveness period.

Application Process

The student must complete and submit a FAFSA form each year. While this program does not require financial need to be shown, funding is limited, and FAFSA results are utilized in determining awardees to maximize program participation.

Students should inform the program administrators at their corresponding school of their interest in receiving a TVI loan each year, so administrators will consider them when allocating this loan.

TVI Program Administrators by Institution:

Northern Illinois University: Dr. Stacy Kelly Email: skelly@niu.edu
Link to programs: Graduate: Masters Visual Disabilities
Undergraduate: Bachelor Special Education Visual Impairments

Illinois State University: Dr. Mindy Ely Email: msely@ilstu.edu
Link to program: Special Education - Specialist in Low Vision and Blindness

Western Michigan University: Dr. Dawn Anderson Email: dawn.l.anderson@wmich.edu
Link to program: Blindness and Low Vision Studies

Based on program eligibility criteria, **the program administrator will designate students** who show eligibility for the TVI loan program and may offer a loan.

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Web Page: http://wisconsin.gov

Loan Document Completion Instructions

All documents may be completed and signed on the same day. If not possible, the program administrator will send the documents for completion. Three documents are required to apply for the loan: Form 1 Application, Form 2 Student Data and Form 3 Loan Acceptance.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR:

1) Determine possible applicants
2) Determine awards (Form 1) and 1st and 2nd term voucher amounts.
3) Review completed documents
4) Sign Form 2 and Form 3
5) Submit documents to the Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB)

APPLICANT:

1) Program Administrator provides loan application materials, Form 1, 2 and 3.
2) Complete all sections
3) Return to Program Administrator for review and submission to HEAB
4) Complete FAFSA: https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa

The school program administrator will forward to HEAB all student information and a signed loan agreement from each applicant.

When HEAB receives and accepts the student information and the signed TVI Loan Recipient Agreement, the loan will be disbursed, and a check will be sent to the college. Disbursements will be made according to Form 3 Loan Acceptance Form.

First term disbursements will be made upon acceptance after submission to HEAB per Form 3. Second term disbursements are made upon the request of the program administrator, confirming loan recipients in school and are making satisfactory academic progress.

The student must apply for and sign a loan agreement for each year of eligibility.

If you have questions about this information, contact;

Peter Zammuto by phone at 608-267-2209, or e-mail at peter.zammuto@wisconsin.gov