

# Scholarship and Incentive Programs for Teachers



## Inspired to Teach

<https://www.okhighered.org/otc/inspired-to-teach.shtml>

Inspired to Teach is designed to support the teacher pipeline and the preparation of public-school teachers for prekindergarten through twelfth grade. As funding is available, the program provides a scholarship to eligible students majoring in teacher education and incentivizes these individuals to enter the workforce as Oklahoma public school teachers for at least five consecutive years.

### Student Scholarships:

- \$1,000 per academic year for up to three academic years for full-time students who have earned less than 90 credit hours.
- \$2,500 for the final academic year for full-time students who have earned 90 or more credit hours.

### Benefit to program participants who are employed as a traditional certified teacher:

Incentive payments may be awarded following each consecutive year of satisfactory service as documented by the employing school district for up to five years of service for scholarship recipients upon graduation from an accredited Oklahoma teacher preparation degree program.

The maximum amount of employment incentive payments for any qualified participant shall be \$4,000 per year for up to five years, not to exceed a total of \$20,000 per participant.

## Teacher Shortage Employment Incentive Program (TSEIP)

<https://www.okhighered.org/otc/tseip.shtml>

The Teacher Shortage Employment Incentive Program (TSEIP) is a legislative program administered by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The program reimburses eligible student loan expenses or pays an equivalent cash benefit to individuals who graduate from an Oklahoma accredited teacher education program, receive teaching certification in mathematics or science and agree to teach in an Oklahoma public secondary school for at least five consecutive years.

## Teacher Loan Forgiveness (TLF) Program

<https://www.readyseteopay.org/repaying/tlf.html>

The Teacher Loan Forgiveness (TLF) Program was created to encourage people to become educators within designated schools that serve low-income families. Teachers with Stafford loans may qualify for up to \$17,500 in loan forgiveness if they meet the program's specific eligibility requirements.

## Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant

<https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/grants/teach>

The TEACH Grant program provides grants of up to \$4,000 per year to students who agree to teach for four years at an elementary school, secondary school or educational service agency that serves students from low-income families. Among other eligibility requirements, as a condition for receiving the grant, participants must agree to teach full time in a high-need field for which they are highly qualified. If the service obligation requirements are not met, all TEACH Grant funds received will be converted to a Direct Unsubsidized Loan which must be repaid in full, with interest charged from the date of each TEACH Grant disbursement.



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## University of Oklahoma's Debt-Free Teachers Program

<https://www.ou.edu/debtfree teachers>

The University of Oklahoma's Debt-Free Teachers program is a merit- and need-based debt forgiveness program for outstanding OU College of Education students committed to working in high-need schools. For each year they teach in the state of Oklahoma, recipients can receive forgiveness of up to \$5,000 student loan debt, for a maximum of four years.

## East Central University (ECU) Teacher's Promise Scholarship

<https://www.ecok.edu/current-students/paying-college/teachers-promise>

The ECU Teacher's Promise Scholarship is a scholarship for first-time entering freshmen whose parent(s) is a teacher in an Oklahoma public school. To be eligible, an individual must meet the following requirements: be enrolled full-time; a dependent of an Oklahoma public school teacher; an Oklahoma resident; meet regular ECU Admission standards; and have a FAFSA on file with the university. Qualified applicants receive a \$750 tuition waiver per semester, available up to four years (eight semesters total).

## Public Service Loan Forgiveness

<https://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/public-service>

Congress created the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program to encourage individuals to enter and continue to work full-time in public service jobs. Under this program, borrowers may qualify for forgiveness of the remaining balance due on their eligible federal student loans after they have made 120 payments on those loans under certain repayment plans while employed full time by certain public service employers.

## Dr. Bob Mooneyham Memorial Scholarship for Future Teachers

<https://www.ossba.org/scholarship/>

The Dr. Bob Mooneyham Memorial Scholarship for Future Teachers is sponsored by the Oklahoma State School Boards Association Foundation. To qualify for the one-year \$5,000 scholarship, candidates must:

- ▶ Be a high school student who will earn a diploma from an Oklahoma public high school during the 2022-23 school year.
- ▶ Have plans to attend an accredited Oklahoma college, university or career technology center beginning in the fall of 2023.
- ▶ Have a minimum 3.0 unweighted high school GPA.
- ▶ Have a minimum 20 ACT or 1040 SAT score.
- ▶ Plan to major in education.
- ▶ Plan to be an Oklahoma educator.

## The Panhandle Promise Scholarship

<https://opsu.edu/arts-education/education/panhandle-promise-scholarship/>

The Panhandle Promise Scholarship removes the financial barrier and offers incentive for local residents to pursue classroom teacher degrees in exchange for a two-year commitment to teach in an Oklahoma panhandle public school.

This scholarship is for students who are enrolled full-time at Oklahoma Panhandle State University in one of the following traditional education degree pathways:

- ▶ Elementary Education
- ▶ Music Education
- ▶ Math (Teaching Option)
- ▶ Health and Physical Education (Teaching Option)
- ▶ English (Teaching Option)
- ▶ Agriculture Education (Teaching Option)

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### For more information, contact:

**Dr. Melissa Brevetti**

Coordinator for Teacher Education Programs

[mbrevetti@osrhe.edu](mailto:mbrevetti@osrhe.edu)

### Or visit:

[www.okhighered.org/otc](http://www.okhighered.org/otc)



**Oklahoma Teacher Connection**

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## INSPIRED TO TEACH COORDINATOR LIST - 2 YEAR

Institution	I2T Coordinator First Name	I2T Coordinator Last Name	Email	Telephone
Carl Albert State College	Marc	Willis	<a href="mailto:mwillis@carlialbert.edu">mwillis@carlialbert.edu</a>	(918) 647-1464
Connors State College	Lori	Palmer	<a href="mailto:lori.palmer@connorsstate.edu">lori.palmer@connorsstate.edu</a>	(918) 463-6280
Eastern Oklahoma State College	Kristen	Turner	<a href="mailto:ktturner@eosc.edu">ktturner@eosc.edu</a>	(918) 465-1720
Murray State College	Amy	McCain	<a href="mailto:amccain@mscok.edu">amccain@mscok.edu</a>	(580) 387-7411
Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College	Dustin	Grover	<a href="mailto:dugrover@neo.edu">dugrover@neo.edu</a>	(918) 540-6202
Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College	Amy	Ishmael	<a href="mailto:aishmael@neo.edu">aishmael@neo.edu</a>	(918) 540-6212
Northern Oklahoma College	Kerri	Gray	<a href="mailto:kerri.gray@noc.edu">kerri.gray@noc.edu</a>	(580) 628-6760
Northern Oklahoma College	Diana	Watkins	<a href="mailto:diana.watkins@noc.edu">diana.watkins@noc.edu</a>	(580) 628-6431
Oklahoma City Community College	Michael	Franco	<a href="mailto:mfranco@occc.edu">mfranco@occc.edu</a>	(405) 682-1611, x 7204
Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City	Lauren	McElroy Walls	<a href="mailto:lauren.mcelroy_walls@okstate.edu">lauren.mcelroy_walls@okstate.edu</a>	(405) 945-6785
Redlands Community College	Debbie	Newberry	<a href="mailto:debbie.newberry@redlandsc.edu">debbie.newberry@redlandsc.edu</a>	(405) 423-6202
Rose State College	Joetta	Gatliff	<a href="mailto:jgatliff@rose.edu">jgatliff@rose.edu</a>	(405) 736-0323
Seminole State College	Melissa	Bryant	<a href="mailto:m.bryant@sscok.edu">m.bryant@sscok.edu</a>	(405) 382-9742
Seminole State College	Emily	Carpenter	<a href="mailto:e.carpenter@sscok.edu">e.carpenter@sscok.edu</a>	(405) 382-9234
Seminole State College	Amanda	Estey	<a href="mailto:a.estey@sscok.edu">a.estey@sscok.edu</a>	(405) 382-9513
Tulsa Community College	Hailey	Rogers	<a href="mailto:hailey.rogers1@tulsacc.edu">hailey.rogers1@tulsacc.edu</a>	
Western Oklahoma State College	Rachel	Beckner	<a href="mailto:rach.beckner@wosc.edu">rach.beckner@wosc.edu</a>	(580) 477-7702
Western Oklahoma State College	Kristin	Shelby	<a href="mailto:kristin.shelby@wosc.edu">kristin.shelby@wosc.edu</a>	



**INSPIRED TO TEACH**  
OKLAHOMA FUTURE TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP  
& EMPLOYMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM

## INSPIRED TO TEACH COORDINATOR LIST - 4 YEAR

Institution	I2T Coordinator First Name	I2T Coordinator Last Name	Email	Telephone
Bacone University	Diana	Goodwin	goodwind@bacone.edu	(918) 617-1919
Cameron University	Christopher	Keller	ckeller@cameron.edu	(580) 581-2858
Cameron University	Stacie	Garrett	sgarrett@cameron.edu	(580) 581-2803
East Central University	Jo Anna	Owens	jownes@ecok.edu	(580) 559-5348
Langston University	Orlenthea	McGowen	orlenthea.mcgowan@langston.edu	(918) 877-8159
Mid-American Christian University	Vickie	Hinkle	vickie.hinkle@macu.edu	(405) 703-8239
Northeastern State University	Lisa	Bisogno	bisognol@nsuok.edu	(918) 444-3773
Northeastern State University	Kelli	Carney	carneyka@nsuok.edu	(918) 444-3773
Northwestern Oklahoma State University	Jennifer	Oswald	jdoswald@nwsu.edu	(580) 327-8451
Oklahoma Baptist University	Elizabeth	Justice	elizabeth.justice@okbu.edu	(405) 585-4256
Oklahoma Christian University	Celestia	Bennett	celestia.bennett@oc.edu	(405) 425-5430
Oklahoma City University	Heather	Sparks	hesparks@okcu.edu	(405) 208-0656
Oklahoma Panhandle State University	Charla	Lewis	charla.lewis@opsu.edu	(580) 349-1483
Oklahoma State University	Dillon	Graham	dillon.graham@okstate.edu	(405) 744-9214
Oklahoma State University	Shelbie	Witte	shelbie.witte@okstate.edu	(405) 744-9214
Oklahoma Wesleyan University	Kelley	Sells	ksells@okwu.edu	(918) 335-6293
Oral Roberts University	Jarred	Johnston	jjohnston@oru.edu	(918) 495-7085
Oral Roberts University	Kim	Boyd	kboyd@oru.edu	(918) 495-7108
Randall University	Beth	Harper	bharper@ru.edu	(405) 912-9037
Randall University	Michael	Harris	mharris@ru.edu	(580) 649-8348
Rogers State University	Brian	Andrews	bandrews@rsu.edu	(918) 343-7684
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	Jennifer	Arnold	jarnold@se.edu	(580) 745-2652
Southern Nazarene University	Ron	Titus	rtitus@mail.snu.edu	(405) 491-8179
Southwestern Christian University	Kathren	Stehno	Kathren.stehno@swcu.edu	(405) 301-4561
Southwestern Oklahoma State University	Ed	Klein	ed.klein@swosu.edu	(580) 819-0830
The University of Tulsa	Diane	Beals	diane-beals@utulsa.edu	(918) 631-2000
University of Central Oklahoma	Jennifer	Burris	jburris@uco.edu	(405) 974-3474
University of Central Oklahoma	Cindy	Howard	choward7@uco.edu	(405) 974-5432
University of Oklahoma	Sherry	Cox	scox@ou.edu	(405) 325-2238
University of Oklahoma	Daveda D.	Mason	dmason@ou.edu	(405) 325-2238
University of Oklahoma	Aiyana	Henry	ahenry@ou.edu	
University of Science & Arts of Oklahoma	Sarah	Layman	slayman@usao.edu	(405) 574-1253