

## **Federal TEACH Grant suspension**

Students who receive a Federal TEACH Grant must commit to teaching four years in a high-need area in a school serving low-income students. If you receive a TEACH Grant, you must complete this teaching obligation within eight years of finishing your TEACH Grant-eligible program. **If you do not fulfill your teaching obligation within eight years, your TEACH Grants will be converted to a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan, with accrued interest from the date your grants were disbursed.** Approximately 80% of students who receive a TEACH Grant will be unable to fulfill this obligation and will have their grants converted to loans.

You may be able to extend the eight-year deadline for completing your teaching service if you:

- Enroll in a program of study eligible to receive the TEACH Grant (e.g. you return to school for your master's or additional certification.)
- Receive a call or order to qualifying active duty status of more than 30 days.
- Experience a condition covered under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), such as:
  - birth and subsequent care of a child.
  - adoption of a child or provision of foster care.
  - caring for a spouse, child, or parent who has a serious health condition.
  - you have a serious health condition.

## **Requesting a suspension**

- Apply in writing to the U.S. Department of Education within six months of completing or terminating enrollment in a TEACH Grant-eligible program.
- If you have already begun teaching service, apply in writing within six months of the date you stop teaching or no longer meet the teaching requirements.
- Be sure to include your home address and telephone number and any documents that will support your request.

## **Time period for suspensions**

- A total of three years.
- Granted in one-year increments.
- Ends upon completion of qualifying military service.