

Arkansas Department of Higher Education

114 East Capitol Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72201-3818
(501) 371-2050 or (800) 547-8839

Minority Teacher Scholars Program

Application Deadline: **June 1, 2009**

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Minority Teacher Scholars Program (MTSP) provides forgivable loans to African-American, Asian American, Native American, and Hispanic students attending Arkansas higher education institutions with approved teacher education programs.

Recipients who maintain eligibility may receive the loan for a maximum of four (4) semesters or until they have completed licensure requirements, whichever comes first. MTSP scholars may receive a maximum of \$5,000 per academic year, with a maximum lifetime award of \$10,000.

MTSP scholars must commit to teaching in an Arkansas public school for five (5) years after completing teacher licensure requirements. The teaching requirement will be reduced to three (3) years for teaching in one of the 42 counties in Arkansas designated as the Delta Region or for teaching a subject declared to be a critical subject shortage area by the Arkansas Department of Education.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

An applicant must:

- be an African-American, Hispanic, Asian American or Native American;
- be an Arkansas resident for at least six months prior to the application deadline;
- be a citizen of the United States or permanent resident alien;
- be enrolled full-time (minimum of 12 semester credit hours or its equivalent) in a public or independent 4-year institution located in Arkansas;
- have a minimum 2.50 cumulative grade point average on a 4.00 scale (or its equivalent);
- be at least a junior (completed 60 semester credit hours)
- have been admitted to an approved program resulting in teacher licensure and/or passed the Praxis 1 examination.

For **continued eligibility**, the recipient must complete a new MTSP application and:

- meet the above eligibility requirements, AND
- complete 24 semester credit hours (or the equivalent) during the previous academic year.

MTSP SCHOLAR'S TEACHING OBLIGATION

MTSP scholars must teach full time in an Arkansas public school for five (5) full years after completing licensure requirements. The teaching requirement will be reduced to three (3) years for the following:

1) Teaching in one of the 42 counties in Arkansas designated as the Delta Region (Arkansas, Ashley, Baxter, Bradley, Calhoun, Chicot, Clay, Cleveland, Craighead, Crittenden, Cross, Dallas, Desha, Drew, Fulton, Grant, Greene, Independence, Izard, Jackson, Jefferson, Lawrence, Lee, Lincoln, Lonoke, Marion, Mississippi, Monroe, Ouachita, Phillips, Poinsett, Prairie, Pulaski, Randolph, St. Francis, Searcy, Sharp, Stone, Union, Van Buren, White, and Woodruff).

2) Teaching a subject declared to be a critical subject shortage area by the Arkansas Department of Education. The 2009-10 shortage list includes: Art (K-12); Foreign Language (French, German, Spanish); Mathematics (secondary); Middle Childhood (4-8 mathematics/science, 4-8 English/language arts/social studies); Science (secondary life/Earth, secondary physical/Earth); Special Education (deaf education/visually impaired/special education instructional specialist).

3) Minority males teaching at the elementary level.

The MTSP forgivable loan must be repaid if the recipient does not enroll as a full time college student, fails to complete an approved teacher licensure program, or does not fulfill the required teaching obligation. MTSP does not guarantee recipient's employment.

Acts 1310 of 1995 and 1313 of 1997

On and after July 1, 1996, each first-time applicant for a license issued by the State Board of Education shall be required to apply to the Identification Bureau of the Arkansas State Police for state and nationwide criminal records check, to be conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The check shall conform to the applicable federal standards and shall include the taking of fingerprints. Such applicant shall sign a release of information to the State Department of Education and shall be responsible to the Arkansas State Police for the payment of any fee associated with the criminal records check.

From Act 1313 of 1997: No person shall be eligible to receive or hold a license issued by the State Board of Education if that person has pleaded guilty, *nolo contendere*, or been found guilty of any of the following offenses by any court in the State of Arkansas or of any similar offense by a court in another state:

- (1) **Capital murder;**
- (2) **Murder in the first and second degrees;**
- (3) **Manslaughter;**
- (4) **Battery in the first and second degrees;**
- (5) **Aggravated assault;**
- (6) **Terroristic threatening in the first degree;**
- (7) **Kidnapping;**
- (8) **Rape and carnal abuse in the first and second degrees;**
- (9) **Sexual abuse in the first and second degrees;**
- (10) **Violation of a minor in the first and second degrees;**
- (11) **Incest;**
- (12) **Engaging children in sexually explicit conduct for use in visual or print media transportation of minors for prohibited sexual conduct, or use of a child or consent to use a child in a sexual performance by producing, directing, or promoting a sexual performance by a child;**
- (13) **Distribution to minors;**
- (14) **Manufacture, deliver or possess with intent to manufacture or deliver any controlled substance;**
- (15) **Criminal attempt, criminal solicitation, or criminal conspiracy;**
- (16) **Carnal abuse in the third degree;**
- (17) **Sexual solicitation of a child;**
- (18) **Endangering the welfare of a minor in the first degree;**
- (19) **Pandering or possessing visual or print medium depicting sexually explicit conduct involving a child;**
- (20) **False imprisonment in the first degree;**
- (21) **Permanent detention or restraint;**
- (22) **Permitting child abuse;**
- (23) **Negligent homicide;**
- (24) **Assault in the first degree;**
- (25) **Coercion;**
- (26) **Sexual misconduct;**
- (27) **Public sexual indecency;**
- (28) **Indecent exposure; and,**
- (29) **Endangering the welfare of a minor in the second degree.**

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

The Arkansas Department of Higher Education must receive the completed application and **ALL** official college transcripts (all colleges attended) by **JUNE 1, 2009**. Applicants will be notified of award status in August 2009.

SUBMIT APPLICATION AND ALL TRANSCRIPT(S) TO: **Arkansas Department of Higher Education
Attn: MTSP
114 East Capitol Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72201-3818**

Arkansas Department of Higher Education

114 East Capitol Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72201-3818
(501) 371-2050 or (800) 547-8839

Minority Teacher Scholars Program

Application Deadline: June 1, 2009

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

1. _____
Name (Last, First, Middle)
2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____
(Social Security #) (Date of Birth) (Daytime Phone)
5. _____
Mailing Address (Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)
6. Are you an Arkansas Resident (for at least 6 months)? Yes No
7. Citizenship Status: U.S. Citizen Permanent Resident Alien* Other
*If permanent resident alien, you must attach form I-151, I-551 or other documents may be accepted.
8. (Optional) Sex: Male Female
9. Race: African-American Caucasian Native American or Alaskan Native
 Asian or Pacific Islander Hispanic Other _____

-
10. Institution to be attended in Fall 2009 and Spring 2010: _____
 11. Indicate what teacher licensure you are seeking: _____
 12. Classification as of Fall 2009: Junior Senior (check one)
 13. Do you already have a degree in education? YES NO
 14. Do you hold a valid Teacher's License? YES NO
 15. What is your expected graduation date? _____
 16. Have you previously received a forgivable loan from the Arkansas Department of Higher Education?
 MTSP STAR None

Minority Teacher Scholars Program

Student Name: _____ **SSN:** _____

17. References: List at least two (2) persons who will be in permanent contact with you.

Spouse's Name	Address & Phone #	Employer
---------------	-------------------	----------

Parent's Name	Address & Phone #	Employer
---------------	-------------------	----------

Friend or Other Relative's Name	Address & Phone #	Employer
---------------------------------	-------------------	----------

18. Student's Certification

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the information submitted on this application is accurate to the best of my knowledge. It is my intent to complete a program of study leading to teacher licensure. To complete this application, I must submit official transcripts from all colleges I have attended. I understand that if I receive an MTSP forgivable loan, I must repay funds received if I do not fulfill the required teaching obligation, do not complete my program of study, or if I do not attend college on a full-time basis. The loan will accrue interest at a simple per annum rate, not to exceed five (5) percentage points above the Federal Reserve Discount rate at the time of the contract. Awards are subject to the availability of funds.

Student's Signature

Date

**MAIL THIS APPLICATION AND ALL OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS (all colleges attended) TO
THE ADDRESS BELOW**

**Arkansas Department of Higher Education
Attn: MTSP
114 East Capitol Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72201-3818**

DEADLINE TO APPLY IS JUNE 1, 2009.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The MTSP award, as for all financial aid programs administered by the ADHE, is dependent on the availability of funds. While it is not anticipated, it is possible that a reduction in state revenues could reduce the funds available for this program. In the event of such a situation, the ADHE will determine the most equitable means of reducing funding, and all individuals affected will be notified immediately. When submitting documentation to the ADHE, please keep evidence of mailing, such as a return receipt requested, certified mail receipt, document tracking form, etc.