

WSAC Update for WACTE

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Presentation Outline

- Staffing update
- Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant preliminary application cycle results
- Full portfolio of state financial aid programs supporting future and current teachers
- Pipeline for Paraeducators Conditional Scholarship program
- Smarter Balanced Digital Library



Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant

- Provides financial aid to preparation program candidates who commit to teaching in designated shortage areas
- Minimum qualifications:
 - Prep program enrollment in AY 2017-18
 - Unmet financial need
 - Addressing a shortage area need
 - Commit to two-year teaching service obligation
 - Other



Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant

Minimum Qualifications: Enrollment and Need

- 2017-18 enrollment in eligible teacher preparation program
 - Enrolled at least half-time
 - Meeting satisfactory academic progress
- Unmet financial need
 - Completed FAFSA or WASFA by May 19, 2017
 - Financial aid certification

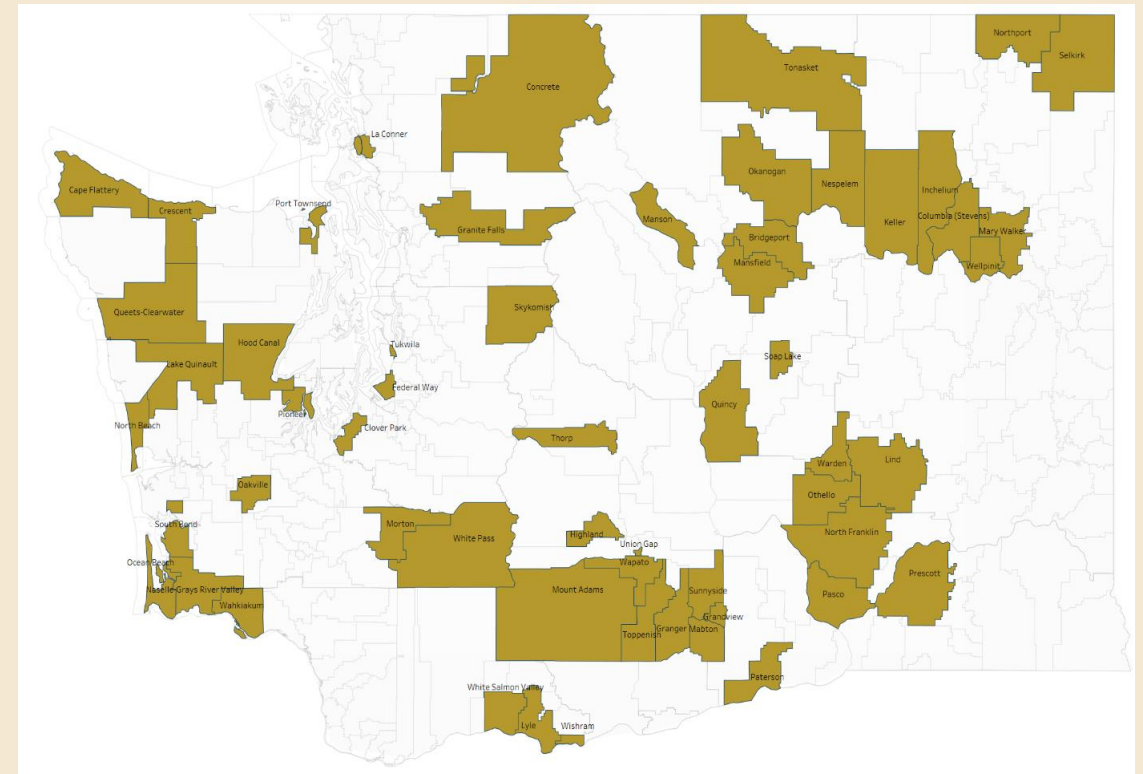


Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant

Minimum Qualifications: Addressing Shortage

Address at least one shortage area need:

- Pursue an endorsement that is listed on the **statewide endorsement shortage list**
- Express intention to fulfill a **geographic shortage need** by teaching in a priority district
 - Brief written explanation
- Express intention to fulfill a **unique local need**
 - Verification of need from sponsor district
 - Commitment to hire





Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant

Minimum Qualifications: Commit to Obligation

- Two full-time school years for each year of funding received
- Earn service credit at double the rate for teaching in shortage area, thereby fulfilling the obligation in half the time (one school year)
 - Can be any of the listed areas, not just what they applied under
- Acceptable positions:
 - Must be at a Washington preK-12 public school
 - Classroom teacher, substitute teacher, or other instructional positions as pre-approved by WSAC
 - Part-time positions receive prorated service credit as long as they meet minimum of 40 days



Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant

Minimum Qualifications: Commit to Obligation

- Grant converts to a loan if recipient fails to fulfill teaching service obligation
 - Grace period and potential deferments described in promissory note
- Amount due proportionate to the unsatisfied portion of the teaching service obligation, plus interest and fees



Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant

Minimum Qualifications: Other

- No unsatisfied Washington State service obligations
- Not owe a repayment to any state or federal grant or scholarship
- Not be in default on a state or federal student loan
- Not pursue a degree in theology



Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant Awarding Priorities

- Traditionally underrepresented groups among the teacher workforce
 - Includes consideration of demographic underrepresentation, first-generation college student (or foster care student), and multilingual skills
- Financial need
- Enrollment in an alternative route teacher certification program
- School district commitment to hire
 - Required of applicants addressing unique local need
 - Optional for other applicants
- Experience working with children or youth



Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant Award Amounts

- Maximum of \$10,000 for AY 2017-18
 - Depending on financial need and funds available
 - Customized to fit the individual's financial aid package
 - Comes after other state and federal grant aid
 - Prorated for part-time enrollment and based on number of terms enrolled
- The majority of awardees (about two-thirds) qualified for the maximum amount
- Payments sent to institutions at the beginning of each term



Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant Timeline

- Application window: *May 2017*
- Initial selection, financial aid certification, award determinations
- Notifications of award status sent by end of June, fully committing the funds in FY17 for disbursement during the 2017-18 academic year
- Awardees could accept, decline, or request lower amount
- Those accepting signed promissory note
- Second round offers extended to alternates in fall 2017



Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant Application Cycle Results

Demand far exceeded available funding, with only six percent of qualified applicants being awarded

	<i>N</i>	%
Total number of applicants	885	100%
Applicants that met minimum qualifications	826	93%
Applicants offered grants (<i>first round</i>)	53	6%

Note: Results are preliminary



Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant Applicant Characteristics

	All applicants (N = 828-885)*	Awardees (N = 52-53)*
First generation college student	39%	98%
Students of color	25%	96%
Males	21%	31%
Multilingual	20%	96%
Median family income	\$30,513	\$20,628

Note: Results are preliminary

**Sample size varies because some applicants chose to skip optional questions on the application*



Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant Program Providers

- All 24 eligible preparation program providers had applicants
- 13 providers have awardees (in bold have largest percentage)

CWU

City U

EWU

Gonzaga

Heritage

PLU

TESC

UW-Seattle

UW-Tacoma

WSU

WGU

WWU

Whitworth

Note: Results are preliminary



Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant Program Type

	All applicants (N = 885)	Awardees (N = 53)
Traditional Baccalaureate	58%	64%
Traditional Post-baccalaureate	3%	2%
Traditional Master's	28%	23%
Alternative Route	9%	9%
Other	1%	2%

Note: Results are preliminary



Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant Endorsement Shortage Areas

- 97% of all applicants and 100% of awardees were pursuing an endorsement in a statewide shortage area

Bilingual Education*

Biology

Chemistry

Early Childhood Education

Early Childhood Special Ed.

Earth and Space Science

Elementary Education*

English Language Learner*

Mathematics

Middle Level Mathematics

Middle Level Science

Physics

Science

Special Education

***Most popular among awardees**



Teacher Workforce Financial Aid Programs

Early Pipeline

- **Pipeline for Paraeducators Conditional Scholarship**
(Est. 2007, reinstated)

Pre-Service

- **Future Teachers Conditional Scholarship**
(Est. 1987, suspended)
- **Alternative Routes Conditional Scholarship**
(Est. 2001, current)
- **Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant**
(Est. 2016, suspended)
- **Student Teaching Grant**
(Est. 2016, suspended)

In-Service

- **Future Teachers Loan Repayment**
(Est. 2004, suspended)
- **Educator Retooling Conditional Scholarship**
(Est. 2007, current)



Pipeline for Paraeducators Conditional Scholarship

- Reinstated by proviso
- For paraeducators with at least three years of classroom experience who want to become teachers
- Up to \$4,000 scholarship per year to complete AA
- Obligated to continue on to earn residency teacher certificate and teach for two years for each year of funding



Pipeline for Paraeducators Conditional Scholarship

- Apply through PESB at:
<http://pathway.pesb.wa.gov/future-educators/parapipeline>
- **Application deadlines:**
 - October 31, 2017
 - March 6, 2018



Smarter Balanced Digital Library

- WSAC has been helping education faculty register for free Digital Library access
- Information about the Digital Library is available at:
<http://www.k12.wa.us/SMARTER/DigitalLibrary.aspx>



Continue the Conversation



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