

## **Teacher Eligibility: First-Time Applicants**

A. To be eligible for an Education Lottery Teaching Scholarship Grant, the applicant must:

- (1) Be a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident who meets the definition of an eligible non-citizen under State Residency Statutes;
- (2) Be a South Carolina Resident as set forth by 59-112-10;
- (3) Hold a “professional” or “initial” teaching certificate as defined and conferred by the State Department of Education; and
- (4) Be under contract as a teacher in a SC public school;

B. Eligible applicants must also meet one of the two following criteria regarding course of study:

- (1) Be accepted as a degree-seeking graduate student in the teaching field (core content area, early childhood, middle level, secondary, special education, but not education administration, guidance counselor, or media specialist) at the Master’s level and be enrolled in good standing at an eligible institution, with appropriate documentation provided; or
- (2) Be enrolled for graduate or undergraduate courses in current teaching field or in teaching field in which add-on certification is being sought, with appropriate documentation provided.

C. In addition to the above requirements, applicants must also:

- (1) For each \$1,000 scholarship received, sign a commitment to teach in South Carolina public schools for at least one year following completion of the scholarship grant year and to refund the scholarship amount if the one-year teaching commitment is not honored; and
- (2) Be able to demonstrate, if a continuing graduate student, a 3.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale.

D. The applicant must also certify that he/she has not defaulted and does not owe refunds on any Federal or State financial aid.

E. The applicant must submit the Education Lottery Teaching Scholarship Grants Program application by the stipulated deadline and comply with all the directions contained therein.

## **V. Teacher Eligibility: Previously Awarded Applicants**

A. In order to continue eligibility for additional Education Lottery Teaching Scholarship grant funds in subsequent years, the applicant must comply with the following provisions:

- (1) The student must have earned at least a B average (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) for prior courses taken with grant funds; or
  - (2) If the student is a continuing graduate student, he/she must maintain at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale.
  - (3) The student must have complied with all rules and regulations associated with the Education Lottery Teaching Scholarship Grant program and met all initial eligibility requirements.
  - (4) The student must sign a commitment to teach in South Carolina public schools for at least one year following completion of the scholarship grant year and agree to refund the scholarship amount if the one year teaching commitment is not honored.
- B. The applicant must submit the application for another Education Lottery Teaching Scholarship Grant by the stipulated deadline and comply with all the provisions contained therein.