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TEACH GRANT SERVICE OBLIGATION SUSPENSION REQUEST: RESIDING OR BEING EMPLOYED IN A FEDERALLY DECLARED MAJOR DISASTER AREA

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

OMB No. 1845-0158

Form Under Review

Exp. Date XX/XX/XXXX

WARNING: Any person who knowingly makes a false statement or misrepresentation on this form or on any accompanying document is subject to penalties that may include fines, imprisonment, or both, under the U.S. Criminal Code and 20 U.S.C. 1097.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

NOTE: Throughout this form, the words “we,” “us,” and “our” refer to the U.S. Department of Education or to your TEACH Grant servicer. The word “Agreement” refers to the Agreement to Serve or Repay that you signed before you received your TEACH Grants.

How do I use this form?

As explained in your Agreement, you can request a suspension of the 8-year period for completing your TEACH Grant service obligation if you are temporarily unable to teach due to certain qualifying conditions. You may use this form to request a suspension of the 8-year period for completing your service obligation if you are temporarily unable to teach because you are residing in or are employed in a federally declared major disaster area. See Section 4 of the form for specific eligibility requirements.

How do I complete the form?

- Before you begin, carefully read the entire form. Print using dark ink.
- Your name, address, and other information may be preprinted in Section 1. If any of this information is not shown, or if any of the preprinted information is incorrect, enter or correct the information on the right side of Section 1. If any of your information has changed since the last time you reported it to us, check the box in Section 1 to indicate this.
- Complete Section 2. Check the box or boxes to identify the condition that qualifies you for a temporary suspension of the 8-year period for completing your TEACH Grant service obligation, and for each box that you check enter the location of the federally-declared major disaster area where you are/were residing or are/were employed.
- Complete Section 3:
 - Enter the beginning and ending dates (month and year only) of the school year for which you are requesting a suspension of the 8-year service obligation period. For example, if you are requesting a suspension to cover a school year that begins in August 2024 and ends in June 2025, you would enter “0 8 - 20 2 4” as the beginning date and “0 6 - 20 2 5” as the ending date.
 - **Sign and date the form.** Enter the date as month-day-year. For example, if you signed the form on August 25, 2024, you would enter “0 8 - 2 5 - 20 2 4”.
- **Make sure that all sections are complete**, then send us the completed form by one of the following means:
 - Mail the form and any required documentation to the following address:
U.S. Department of Education
MOHELA
633 Spirit Drive
Chesterfield, MO 63005-1243
 - Fax the form to 1-866-222-7060.
 - Upload the form online at mohela.com.

Who can I contact if I have questions?

The U.S. Department of Education uses a servicer to monitor your progress toward completing your TEACH Grant service obligation, and to answer any questions you may have about your service obligation. If you change your address, email address, or telephone number, it is very important to make sure that your TEACH Grant servicer has your current contact information. If you need help completing this form, or if you have questions about the status of your suspension request after you have submitted the form, contact your TEACH Grant servicer:

MOHELA
1-888-866-4352
International: 636-532-0600
mohela.com

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SECTION 1: GRANT RECIPIENT INFORMATION

See the instructions on page 1.

SSN _____ - _____ - _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone – Primary (_____) _____ - _____

Telephone – Alternate (_____) _____ - _____

Email (optional) _____

Check this box if you are changing any preprinted information.

SECTION 2: DOCUMENTATION OF YOUR QUALIFYING SUSPENSION REASON

Check the appropriate box or boxes to identify the condition that qualifies you for a temporary suspension of the 8-year period for completing your TEACH Grant service obligation and for each box that you check enter the location (county or other designated area) of the federally-declared major disaster area where you are/were residing or are/were employed. You can search for federally declared major disasters at <https://www.fema.gov/disasters/>.

I am/was **residing in** the following federally declared major disaster area:

I am/was **employed in** the following federally declared major disaster area:

SECTION 3: YOUR SUSPENSION REQUEST, UNDERSTANDINGS, AND CERTIFICATIONS

I **request** that the U.S. Department of Education (ED) grant a temporary suspension of the period for completing my TEACH Grant service obligation during the **full elementary or secondary school year** beginning ____ - 20 ____ and ending ____ - 20 _____. I am/was unable to teach during this school year for the reason I indicated in Section 2.

I **understand** that:

1. If I qualify for a suspension, I will receive a suspension for a consecutive 12-month period. If I continue to qualify for a suspension at the end of one suspension period, I may reapply for another 12-month suspension, but I may not receive a total of more than 3 years of suspension based on residing in or being employed in a federally declared major disaster area.
2. My TEACH Grant servicer must receive my suspension request before my TEACH Grants are converted to Direct Unsubsidized Loans. As explained in my Agreement, my TEACH Grants will be converted to Direct Unsubsidized Loans if I do not begin teaching or do not continue to perform qualifying teaching service within a timeframe that would allow me to complete my required 4 years of teaching within my 8-year service obligation period.
3. ED will not approve my suspension request unless this form is complete and I have provided any required documentation.

I **certify** that **(1)** the information I have provided on this form is true and correct; **(2)** I have read, understand, and meet the eligibility requirements of the suspension that I have requested, as explained in Sections 2 and 4; and **(3)** upon request, I will provide additional documentation to my TEACH Grant servicer to support my suspension request.

Grant Recipient's Signature _____ **Date** ____ - ____ - 20 ____

SECTION 4: SUSPENSION ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, DEFINITIONS, AND MAXIMUM SUSPENSION PERIOD

Suspension eligibility requirements

You may qualify for a temporary suspension of the 8-year period for completing your TEACH Grant service obligation if you are/were temporarily unable to teach because you are/were residing in or are/were employed in a federally declared major disaster area as defined in the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122(2)). If you qualify for a suspension, your TEACH Grant servicer must receive your suspension request before your TEACH Grants are converted to Direct Unsubsidized Loans. Refer to your Agreement or contact us (see "Who can I contact if I have questions?" on page 1) for more information about the conditions under which your TEACH Grants may be converted to loans.

Definitions

A **federally declared major disaster** is any natural catastrophe (including a hurricane, tornado, storm, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, drought, or health emergency), or, regardless of cause, any fire, flood, or explosion, in any part of the United States, which in the determination of the President causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant major disaster assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to supplement the efforts and available resources of States, local governments, and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused by the natural catastrophe, fire, flood, or explosion. You can search for federally declared major disasters at <https://www.fema.gov/disasters/>.

United States means the fifty States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. **State** means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Maximum suspension period

If you meet the requirements described in this section, you will receive a temporary suspension of the 8-year period for completing your TEACH Grant service obligation for a consecutive 12-month period covering the school year during which you are temporarily unable to teach. If you continue to qualify for a suspension at the end of one suspension period, you may reapply for another 12-month suspension. However, there is a maximum 3-year limit on the period of time for which you may receive a suspension of the 8-year service obligation period based on residing in or being employed in a federally declared major disaster area.

SECTION 5: IMPORTANT NOTICES

PRIVACY ACT NOTICE

The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) requires that the following notice be provided to you:

The authorities for collecting the requested information from and about you are §420L *et seq.* and §451 *et seq.* of the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965, as amended (20 U.S.C. 1070g *et seq.* and 20 U.S.C. 1087a *et seq.*) and the authorities for collecting and using your social security number (SSN) are §484(a)(4) of the HEA (20 U.S.C. 1091(a)(4)) and §31001(i)(1) of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (31 U.S.C. 7701(c)). Participating in the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program and/or the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program and giving us your SSN are voluntary, but you must provide the requested information, including your SSN, to participate.

The principal purposes for collecting the information on this form, including your SSN, are to verify your identity, to determine your eligibility to receive a TEACH Grant, and, if a TEACH Grant that you receive is converted to a Direct Unsubsidized Loan, to determine your eligibility to receive a benefit on the loan (such as deferment, forbearance, discharge, or forgiveness), to permit the servicing of your loan(s), and, if it becomes necessary, to locate you and to collect and report on your loan(s) if your loan(s) become delinquent or in default. We also use your SSN as an account identifier and to permit you to access your account information electronically.

The information in your file may be disclosed, on a case-by-case basis or under a computer matching program, to third parties as authorized under routine uses in the appropriate systems of records notices.

The routine uses of the information that we collect about you, if your TEACH Grant has not been converted to a Direct Unsubsidized Loan, include, but are not limited to, its disclosure to federal, state, or local agencies, to institutions of higher education, and to third party servicers to determine your eligibility to receive a TEACH Grant, to investigate possible fraud, and to verify compliance with federal student financial aid program regulations.

In the event of litigation, we may send records to the Department of Justice, a court, adjudicative body, counsel, party, or witness if the disclosure is relevant and necessary to the litigation. If this information, either alone or with other information, indicates a potential violation of law, we may send it to the appropriate authority for action. We may send information to members of Congress if you ask them to help you with federal student aid questions. In circumstances involving employment complaints, grievances, or disciplinary actions, we may disclose relevant records to adjudicate or investigate the issues. If provided for by a collective bargaining agreement, we may disclose records to a labor organization recognized under 5 U.S.C. Chapter 71. Disclosures may be made to our contractors for the purpose of performing any programmatic function that requires disclosure of records. Before making any such disclosure, we will require the contractor to maintain Privacy Act safeguards. Disclosures may also be made to qualified researchers under Privacy Act safeguards.

SECTION 5: IMPORTANT NOTICES (CONTINUED)

If your TEACH Grant has been converted to a Direct Unsubsidized Loan, the routine uses of this information also include, but are not limited to, its disclosure to federal, state, or local agencies, to private parties such as relatives, present and former employers, business and personal associates, to creditors, to financial and educational institutions, and to guaranty agencies to verify your identity, to determine your program eligibility and benefits, to permit making, servicing, assigning, collecting, adjusting or discharging your loan(s), to enforce the terms of the loan(s), to investigate possible fraud and to verify compliance with federal student financial aid program regulations, to locate you if you become delinquent in your loan payments or if you default, or to verify whether your debt qualifies for discharge or cancellation. To provide default rate calculations, disclosures may be made to guaranty agencies, to financial and educational institutions, or to federal, state or local agencies. To provide financial aid history information, disclosures may be made to educational institutions. To assist program administrators with tracking refunds and cancellations, disclosures may be made to guaranty agencies, to financial and educational institutions, or to federal or state agencies.

To provide a standardized method for educational institutions to efficiently submit student enrollment status, disclosures may be made to guaranty agencies or to financial and educational institutions. To counsel you in repayment efforts, disclosures may be made to guaranty agencies, to financial and educational institutions, or to federal, state, or local agencies.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION NOTICE

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1845-0158. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 20 minutes (0.33 hours) per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data resources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with 34 CFR 686.41(b).

If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write to:

U.S. Department of Education
MOHELA
633 Spirit Drive
Chesterfield, MO 63005-1243