Teach for Texas Loan Repayment Assistance Program Frequently Asked Questions

I am unable to print the online application. How can I get an application sent to me? Can I fax my application? What parts of the application do I return? Do I need to submit a copy of my promissory note(s) with my application? Which SBEC date should I provide, the date when I first got my certification or the date when I last renewed my certification? The name on my certification is different from my current name. Which name do I use on my application? Is an application considered late if it is postmarked by June 15th deadline? How are eligible applicants prioritized? Are awards first-come, first-served? Can I apply for repayment assistance for teaching service provided during previous years? Is my campus a shortage campus? Are consolidated loans eligible for repayment? Are loans I borrowed (or cosigned) for my child or spouse eligible for repayment? Are loans my parent took out for my education eligible for repayment? I just began teaching in January of this year. Will I be eligible for repayment? What kinds of service do not qualify for repayment through this program? I do not teach at a shortage campus but do teach in an eligible shortage field with a Generalist teaching certification. Am I eligible for the TFTLRAP? How do I update my contact information? I received a check. What do I do with it?

I am unable to print the online application. How can I get an application sent to me?

Please submit your request to us via <u>email</u>. Be sure to select "Loan Forgiveness/Repayment Programs" as the subject from the drop down menu and also include a phone number that we may use to contact you if we have any questions.

Can I fax my application?

No. Original signatures are required so faxed applications are not accepted.

What parts of the application do I return?

Pages 2 through 4 with sections A, B, C, and D completed must be returned to our office. Please do *not* send page 4 to your lender. Our office will send the Loan and Lender Information form to your lender for completion of section E when needed.

Do I need to submit a copy of my promissory note(s) with my application?

No. Our office will verify your loan information with your lender and notify you if additional documentation is needed.

Which SBEC date should I provide, the date when I first got my certification or the date when I last renewed my certification?

Either one is fine.

The name on my certification is different from my current name. Which name do I use on my application?

On page 3, Section B, there is a line to provide the name your certification is under if different from your current name.

Is an application considered late if it is postmarked by June 15th deadline?

Only applications *received in our office* on or before June 15th will be eligible for awards. Since the number of eligible applicants far exceeds the number of awards available, late applications are not considered.

How are eligible applicants prioritized? Are awards first-come, first-served?

Awards are *not* first-come, first-served. Applications received from eligible teachers before the June 15th deadline are ranked using the following criteria: (a) Renewal applicants are given priority over first-time applicants unless a break in service periods has occurred (b) Financial need as evidenced by the total amount of student loan indebtedness, and (c) Severity of shortage of teachers in the community or teaching field.

Can I apply for repayment assistance for teaching service provided during previous years?

No. Awards are made for service provided during the current school year only. Each year the number of eligible applicants exceeds the funding available so all funds are expended annually.

Is my campus a shortage campus?

Please click <u>here</u> to look up your campus information. Shortage campus designation is determined annually based on information provided by Texas Education Agency. The federal Title I designation is not used to determine campus eligibility for this program.

Are consolidated loans eligible for repayment?

Consolidated loans may be eligible for repayment if:

- 1. The original promissory notes for all of the loans included in the consolidation explicitly required that the proceeds be used to pay the costs incurred by attending a public or private institution of higher education
- 2. There is an outstanding balance that is not currently being repaid through another loan repayment program
- 3. The loans are not in default.

Loans included in a spousal consolidation will only be considered eligible if satisfactory documentation verifying each spouse's portion of the total loan amount is provided.

Are loans I borrowed (or cosigned) for my child or spouse eligible for repayment?

No. Only loans made to the applicant for the applicant's education are eligible for repayment.

Are loans my parent took out for my education eligible for repayment?

No. Only loans made to the applicant for the applicant's education are eligible for repayment.

I just began teaching in January of this year. Will I be eligible for repayment?

No. A full year of teaching must be completed to be eligible for this program.

What kind of service does not qualify for repayment through this program?

- Teaching under an emergency permit, probationary certificate, nonrenewable permit, or any type of temporary teacher certificate
- Teaching service provided as a student, during a teaching internship, or prior to the applicant's SBEC certification
- Service as an administrative staff member, school librarian, guidance counselor, speech pathologist, teacher's assistant or aide
- Volunteer activities

I do not teach at a shortage campus but do teach in an eligible shortage field with a Generalist teaching certification. Am I eligible for the TFTLRAP?

No. To qualify for TFTLRAP, the applicant must be teaching in a designated critical shortage field and also be fully certified in that specific field. An individual with a Generalist certificate is qualified to teach math, science, social studies and language arts at the designated grade levels but is not specializing in any particular subject area and is not considered "certified" in a critical field.

How do I update my contact information?

Please submit your new contact information to us via <u>email</u>. Be sure to select "Loan Forgiveness/Repayment Programs" as the subject from the drop down menu and provide a phone number that we may use to contact you if we have any questions.

I received a check. What do I do with it?

Endorse the check, write your loan account number on the front of the check, and mail to your lender or servicer to be applied to your loan(s).