

## **North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program**

The North Carolina Teaching Fellows program is designed to identify academically talented students who are U.S. citizens and legal residents of N.C., who have leadership potential, and who are pursuing a career in education. It will help students become teachers by awarding scholarship loans of \$6,500 each year for four years of undergraduate study, repayable by teaching for four out of seven years in North Carolina public schools, following college graduation.

The 2007 class of Teaching Fellows had an average SAT score over 1180, a high school grade point average of 4.3 on a weighted scale and a class ranking in the top 8 percent of their senior class.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q: May any North Carolina senior apply?**

**A: Only current NC high school seniors or qualifying juniors who are U.S. citizens and legal residents of the state may apply.**

**Q: How many awards will there be?**

**A: The General Assembly has provided funding for 500 Teaching Fellows awards each year.**

**Q: Are applicants guaranteed their first choice institution?**

**A: As much as possible, students will be able to attend their first choice institution. However, no more than 45 (or Commission- or campus-imposed cap) Teaching Fellows will be assigned to an individual campus. As a result, some students may be assigned to their second, third or fourth, choice institution. Students signing Early Agreement Contracts will be limited to their first choice campus.**

**Q: Does receiving a Teaching Fellows award mean automatic acceptance to the institution of choice?**

**A: No. Teaching Fellows award winners must apply and be accepted by the institutions as any other student would. Applicants should apply early to at least their first three choices.**

**Q: What are the "payback" provisions in the program?**

**A: For each year a teaching fellow teaches in a North Carolina public school following graduation from college/university, one-fourth of the award is forgiven. Therefore, the award is considered "repaid" after four years of teaching. Each Teaching Fellow has seven years following graduation to satisfy the four-year requirement.**

If a Teaching Fellow does not meet this requirement, he/she is obligated to repay the appropriate portion of the award with interest. Also, if a Teaching Fellow does not maintain his/her grades during college/university, drops out before graduation, or graduates without eligibility for a license to teach, he/she is obligated to repay the total award made to that point, beginning 180 days after notification. Law requires this payback, whether or not the student is attending the college/university.

For further information on the Teaching Fellows Program, please contact Meredith Sherrill in the Myers Park counseling department at:

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