

Oklahoma Future Teacher Scholarship and Employment Incentive Program ("Inspired to Teach" Program)

PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT

You must submit the completed Participant Agreement to the Oklahoma Future Teacher Scholarship and Employment Incentive Program ("Inspired to Teach") Coordinator at your Institution to verify eligibility and enroll in the Program.

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME
SSN	DATE OF BIRTH

"Inspired to Teach" is a program to support the teacher pipeline and the preparation of public-school teachers for prekindergarten through 12th grade. As legislatively appropriated funding is available, the Program provides a scholarship to eligible students majoring in teacher education at an accredited teacher preparation program at an Oklahoma public or private university OR a student majoring in a pre-teacher education program at an Oklahoma community college that has an approved "Inspired to Teach" Program articulation agreement with an accredited Oklahoma university teacher preparation program (separate agreement form required), and incentivizes those individuals to enter the workforce as Oklahoma public school teachers for at least five (5) consecutive years upon graduation.

Section I – Requirements

In order to satisfy the requirements of the "Inspired to Teach" Program, I must:

- ▶ Graduate from an Oklahoma high school.
- ▶ Meet higher education admission standards at 1) a public or private Oklahoma university with an accredited Oklahoma teacher education program or 2) a community college with an approved articulation agreement with an accredited Oklahoma university teacher education program.
- ▶ Declare a major in an accredited Oklahoma university teacher education program with a degree leading to a standard teaching certificate or declare a major at a community college with an approved "Inspired to Teach" Program articulation agreement with an accredited Oklahoma teacher education program leading to a standard Oklahoma teaching certificate.
- ▶ Be enrolled as a full-time (12 credit hours per semester) undergraduate student each semester of scholarship eligibility until degree is obtained.
- ▶ Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and a minimum 2.5 GPA throughout matriculation.
- ▶ Prior to entry into the "Inspired to Teach" Program, the student shall agree to complete the Oklahoma teacher preparation education program and agree to teach in an Oklahoma public prekindergarten through 12th grade (PK-12) school for a minimum of five (5) consecutive years upon graduation and certification as a teacher.

Section II – Cash Incentive Benefits

To the extent legislatively appropriated funding is available, the following scholarships shall be awarded to eligible participants:

- ▶ One thousand dollars (\$1,000) per academic year for up to three (3) academic years for full-time students who have earned less than 90 credit hours.
- ▶ Two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) for the final academic year for full-time students who have earned 90 or more credit hours.

Benefit to Program participants who are employed as traditionally prepared and certified teachers in Oklahoma public prekindergarten through 12th grade schools following graduation:

- ▶ Incentive payments may be awarded following each consecutive year of satisfactory service as documented by the employing school district for up to five (5) years of service to “Inspired to Teach” Program scholarship recipients upon graduation from an accredited Oklahoma teacher preparation degree program and certification to teach in Oklahoma.
- ▶ The maximum amount of employment incentive payments for any qualified participant shall be \$4,000 per year for up to five (5) years, not to exceed a total of \$20,000 per participant.
- ▶ If sufficient funds are not available for employment incentive payment to qualified participants during any fiscal year, the Chancellor may make reductions in the payments made to qualified participants.

Section III – Disqualification

The following conditions shall subject the participant to disqualification from the “Inspired to Teach” Program:

- ▶ Failing to maintain a 2.5 grade point average.
- ▶ Changing major to an ineligible area of study.
- ▶ Failing to meet SAP standards.
- ▶ Dropping below full-time enrollment, withdrawing, or otherwise leaving the higher education institution.
- ▶ Failing to meet requirements for licensure and certification to teach as established by Oklahoma state law, or failing to teach for five (5) consecutive years in an Oklahoma public school upon graduation and certification as a teacher.

Section IV – Additional Requirements

I must:

- ▶ Respond to all official communications and requests from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) within the time indicated (by email, telephone call, or U.S. mail, etc.).
- ▶ **Provide written notification to OSRHE (futureteachers@osrhe.edu) within 10 days of any change in my contact information or status which affects my “Inspired to Teach” Program eligibility.**
- ▶ Comply with any procedures deemed necessary and appropriate by OSRHE, all conditions cited in this Participant Agreement, and all Program laws, regulations and guidelines, **understanding that some aspects of this Program are still subject to further policy amendments as the Program is implemented.** If I fail to comply, I will be subject to disqualification from the “Inspired to Teach” Program.

By my signature, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the above information:

SIGNATURE		DATE	
ADDRESS		CITY/STATE	
TELEPHONE		ZIP CODE	
ALTERNATE NUMBER		PERMANENT EMAIL ADDRESS ONLY (NOT SCHOOL EMAIL)	
OKLAHOMA HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDED		DATE OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION	
COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY ATTENDING		COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY START DATE	
DESIGNATION: FRESHMAN SOPHOMORE JUNIOR SENIOR			

Optional Information: Check an ethnic group that describes you

AFRICAN AMERICAN

ASIAN

CAUCASIAN

NATIVE AMERICAN

PACIFIC ISLANDER

OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY) _____

Required Information: "Inspired to Teach" Program Coordinator Approval

This section to be completed by college or university "Inspired to Teach" Program Coordinator.

First Name

Last Name

Institution of Higher Education

Telephone

Email Address

Date

Please indicate the number of credit hours the student has successfully earned toward degree requirements (do not include credit hours of current enrollment): _____

Anticipated date of graduation (Mo/Yr): _____ Declared Major: _____

Cumulative GPA

"Inspired to Teach" Program Coordinator Signature

Please upload this completed "Inspired to Teach" Program Agreement (and completed "Inspired to Teach" Program approved Articulation Agreement for community college students, if applicable), into the OSRHE Secure Access File Exchange (O-SAFE) or mail to:

"Inspired to Teach" Program
c/o Dr. Goldie Thompson
Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
P.O. Box 108850
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73101-8850

This section is ONLY for current students enrolled in the Oklahoma Teacher Shortage Employment and Incentive Program (TSEIP) for math and science education majors.

With the passage of House Bill 3564, which created the Oklahoma Future Teacher Scholarship and Employment Incentive Program (“Inspired to Teach” Program), students enrolled in the TSEIP and still matriculating through their undergraduate teacher education program now have the option to choose to stay in the TSEIP program OR transition into the “Inspired to Teach” Program. Please note that students cannot be enrolled in both programs.

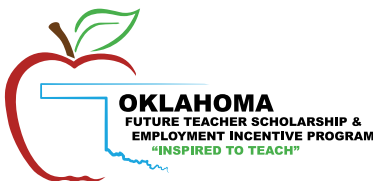
If you choose to transition to the new “Inspired to Teach” Program as outlined on the first page of this Program agreement, AND dissolve the program agreement you have on file for TSEIP, please complete this agreement, obtain appropriate signatures, and sign below reflecting your decision to switch programs. **You will not be able to switch back to TSEIP** and must meet all Program requirements outlined in this agreement for the “Inspired to Teach” Program, as well as subsequent paperwork and documentation required to verify your eligibility throughout the entire “Inspired to Teach” Program. If you have questions, please send an email to futureteachers@osrhe.edu.

By my signature, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the above information and understand I will no longer be enrolled in or be eligible for any benefits under the TSEIP. Additionally, I understand that I must meet all program requirement for the “Inspired to Teach” Program in which I am willfully and voluntarily enrolling.

Furthermore, my signature renders void any and all program and/or contractual agreements formally made with OSRHE for the TSEIP. I hold harmless and absolve OSRHE from any and all liability for my decision to make this programmatic change.

Signature

Date



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