Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program Application 2021-2022

Department of Teacher Education and Licensure
Virginia Department of Education
P. O. Box 2120
Richmond, Virginia 23218-2120

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P. O. BOX 2120
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23218-2120

2021-2022 APPLICATION FOR A VIRGINIA TEACHING SCHOLARSHIP LOAN

PART I: SCHOLARSHIP LOAN INFORMATION, ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, APPLICATION PROCEDURES, AND PROMISSORY NOTE

AMOUNT OF SCHOLARSHIP LOANS

The 2021 Virginia General Assembly appropriated $708,000 in support of the Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program (VTSLP). Subject to available funding, scholarship amounts will be based on $10,000 per academic year for full-time students and shall be prorated for part-time students based on the number of credit hours.

2021-2022 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Subject to available funding, these scholarship loans are for teacher candidates, including graduate students and paraprofessionals from Virginia school divisions enrolled in an approved teacher education program at an accredited Virginia public or private four-year institution of higher education in the Commonwealth. Candidates must (i) be enrolled full-time or part-time in an approved undergraduate or graduate teacher education program or are participants in another approved teacher education program; (ii) have maintained a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.7 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent; and (iii) be nominated for such scholarship by the institution where they are enrolled and meet the criteria and qualifications, pursuant to *§ 22.1-290.01, Code of Virginia*, except as provided herein. Awards shall be made to candidates who are enrolled full-time or part-time in an approved undergraduate or graduate teacher education programs in one of the top ten critical teacher shortage disciplines; however, a minority teacher candidates may be enrolled in any content area for teacher preparation. **Teacher candidates who previously received funding through the Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program are not eligible.**

"Minority student candidate" is defined as Black (includes Jamaican, Bahamians and other Caribbeans of African descent), Hispanic (includes person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Central or South American or other Spanish origin or culture), Asian and Asian American (includes Pakistanis, Indians, and Pacific Islanders), and American Indians (includes Alaskans).

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Nominees must submit a complete application for a Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan directly to the regionally accredited public or private four-year Virginia college or university with a state-approved teacher education program. Students must complete all sections of the application and sign each page of the application. Applications for teaching scholarship loans **must be submitted to the dean/chair, director or other authorized designee of the teacher education program** in accordance with the procedures established by the student's home institution. The college or university will submit completed applications to the Virginia Department of Education**. Incomplete applications may not be considered.** Those students selected for the scholarship will be notified by the Virginia Department of Education. The selected students will be required to submit a signed, notarized Promissory Note to the Virginia Department of Education. **Please sign the bottom of each page of the application in blue ink**.

PROMISSORY NOTE AND METHOD OF PAYMENT

When a scholarship loan has been approved by the Virginia Department of Education, the recipient must sign a Promissory Note for the proper amount to be awarded and have the Note **endorsed** by a responsible adult who is a **resident of Virginia**. **The Promissory Note must then be notarized with a seal by a Notary Public who is legally empowered to witness and certify the document.** Please note that the actual Promissory Note (to be completed by the student) will be forwarded to selected students along with the Virginia Department of Education award notification letter. When the notarized Promissory Note is returned to the Virginia Department of Education, a check, payable to the institution of higher education, is sent to the institution for the full amount of the scholarship loan. This check will be credited to the student's account by the college or university finance office.

In the event the student withdraws from the program or the student's status changes from full-time to part-time, the student and the college or university must immediately notify the Office of Teacher Education, Virginia Department of Education in writing. The college or university then must send the remaining amount or full refund directly to:

Virginia Department of Education
Office of Finance
P. O. Box 2120
Richmond, Virginia 23218-2120.

The check must be made payable to the Treasurer of Virginia.

PLEASE READ EACH PAGE CAREFULLY.

CANCELLATION OF PROMISSORY NOTE

A student must agree to sign and execute a Promissory Note payable to the Commonwealth of Virginia for the amount of the loan received.

1. If the teaching obligation is not satisfied as specified in #2 of the Note, the loan recipient specifically agrees to repay the above principal, plus simple interest on the unpaid balance at the prime interest rate per annum from the date the loan recipient of the Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program application was due to the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), with the first payment due on the first day of the September following program completion (as specified in #3 of this Note), or 90 days following the date of my resignation or termination from a qualifying teaching position after the loan recipient have completed the first year of the loan recipient's teaching obligation (as specified in #4 of this Note), or the first day of the semester following withdrawal from an approved teacher education program (as specified in #5 of this Note), or the first day of the September following my return from active duty or deployment (as specified in #6 of this Note). Should the loan recipient fail to make any payment by the payment due date, additional interest will accrue. Should the loan recipient fail to make any payment by the tenth of the month following the payment due date, the Commonwealth or its counsel may immediately accelerate the maturity of the installments thereafter to become due, in which event the unpaid balance of this Note plus any accrued interest shall become immediately due and payable without demand or notice.

2. Upon program completion, the loan recipient will begin teaching in the public schools of the Commonwealth in the first full academic year after becoming eligible for a renewable teaching license, and shall fulfill the teaching obligation in accordance with the Note by teaching full-time under contract continuously in Virginia for at least two years in a school division (i) in one of the critical teacher shortage disciplines as established by the Board of Education; or (ii) in a Virginia public school with 50 percent or more of the students eligible for free or reduced price lunch; or (iii) in a school division designated critical shortage subject area, as defined in the Board of Education's Regulations Governing the Determination of Critical Teacher Shortage Areas.

3. The loan recipient if, in the first full academic year after becoming eligible for a renewable teaching license, fails to teach full-time under contract in the public schools of Virginia in a school division (i) in one of the critical teacher shortage disciplines as established by the Board of Education; or (ii) in a Virginia public school with 50 percent or more of the students eligible for free or reduced price lunch; or (iii) in a school division designated critical shortage subject area, as defined in the Board of Education's Regulations Governing the Determination of Critical Teacher Shortage Areas, **the sum specified in the Note that was advanced to the loan recipient as a Virginia Teaching Scholarship plus any accrued interest shall immediately become due and payable.**

4. If the loan recipient satisfies the first year of teaching obligation as specified in #3 of the Note but does not satisfy the second year of the two-year obligation to teach full-time under contract in the public schools of Virginia in a school division (i) in one of the critical teacher shortage disciplines as established by the Board of Education; or (ii) in a Virginia public school with 50 percent or more of the students eligible for free or reduced price lunch; or (iii) in a school division designated critical

shortage subject area, as defined in the Board of Education's Regulations Governing the Determination of Critical Teacher Shortage Areas, **one-half the sum specified in the Note that was advanced to the loan recipient as a Virginia Teaching Scholarship plus any accrued interest shall immediately become due and payable.**

5. If the loan recipient leaves a regionally accredited public or private four-year Virginia college or university prior to program completion and does not enroll the next semester in an approved education program (designed to qualify me for a renewable teaching license) at another regionally accredited public or private four-year Virginia college, or discontinues full-time/part-time studies in an approved teacher education program, **the Note plus any accrued interest shall immediately become due and payable.**

6. If the loan recipient is activated for military service for a period of 30 days or more, repayment of the uncanceled Note may be deferred to the first full academic year following the recipient's return from active duty or deployment. To request a deferment for the period of active duty, a copy of orders to report for such service must be sent to the Office of Teacher Education, Virginia Department of Education, at least ten (10) days prior to the beginning of such service and written notification must be sent after return from active duty or deployment.

7. If it becomes necessary to place this Note in the hands of the Virginia Division of Debt Collection or an agency or attorney for collection, the loan recipient agrees to pay a charge for the attorney or collection agency fees, in addition to the amount due on the Note at the time of collection. Such charge, for court costs and attorneys' fees shall be thirty percent (30%) of the outstanding principal balance and any penalty at the time of referral. Interest shall continue to accrue until all outstanding amounts are paid. In further consideration of the Commonwealth's forbearance in instituting or continuing suit, the recipient expressly waives any statute of limitations or other defenses which could be plead by the recipient as a defense to the above collection claim by the Commonwealth and agrees that the venue of any lawsuit brought against me shall be in the City of Richmond, Virginia. The loan recipient hereby intends to legally bind themselves and their heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns.

8. Failure to pay the Note in full at the time payment is due and/or when billed will result in the imposition of interest at the current rate per month on the unpaid balance.

9. According to the Code of Virginia, Section 2.2-4800, the Commonwealth shall take all appropriate and cost-effective actions, including debt set-off, to collect all accounts receivable.

10. The loan recipient is responsible for informing the Office of Teacher Education, Virginia Department of Education, in writing, of their status including any change of address, date of program completion, military service, and the name of the school or schools in which teaching service is rendered until the total obligation is satisfied.

11. The loan recipient waives presentment, demand, protest and notices of honor and protest and the benefit of homestead exemption and all other exemptions or protections which legally may be waived, except those for which the recipient may be eligible under the Service members Civil Relief Act, 50a U.S.C. 501, et seq., with regard to the obligation evidenced by the Note.

12. All references herein to the Commonwealth shall include any subsequent holder or assignee of this Note.

13. The Promissory Note shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Part II: NOTICE OF THE USE OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS

Public Law 93-579, referred to as the Federal Privacy Act, as amended, became effective September 27, 1975. Section 7(b) of this law requires that any federal, state, or local agency that requests an individual to disclose his/her social security number inform the individual whether the disclosure is mandatory or voluntary, the statutory or other authority for requesting the number, and what uses will be made of it. The Virginia Department of Education's request for each applicant of student aid programs to submit a social security number is mandatory. See *Code of Virginia* 2.2-4807 and 58.1-520-535.

The Virginia Department of Education uses a student's social security number for the following purposes:

1. To serve as a unique number identifying the applicant and recipient in processing forms used in the application and collating of data;
2. To report awards to educational institutions on enrollment rosters;
3. To report the number of awards to the comptroller who issues the checks;
4. To claim the tax refund and other applicable state refunds and payments on any maker or co-maker of a default student loan; and
5. For debtor information and skip-tracing.

I attest to the fact that all the information furnished in this application is true and accurate. I understand that any funds awarded to me by this program are considered a student resource and may affect any other need-based student financial aid.

I authorize the college or university I attend to act as my agent to receive and hold for me any Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program funds until such time as I employ the funds for authorized educational expenses. In addition, I agree to furnish the Virginia Department of Education with supporting documentation related to my application, if requested to do so.

Part III: *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel*

An individual whose Virginia teaching license is revoked, suspended, cancelled, or denied for reasons listed in sections 8VAC20-23-720, 8VAC20-23-740, and 8VAC20-23-750 of the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel* would be immediately required to repay all awards plus interest.

By authority under the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel* (8VAC20-23-720), a teaching license may be revoked for the following reasons:

1. Obtaining or attempting to obtain such license by fraudulent means or through misrepresentation of material facts;
2. Falsification of school records, documents, statistics, or reports;
3. Conviction of any felony;
4. Conviction of any misdemeanor involving moral turpitude;
5. Conviction of any misdemeanor involving a student or minor;
6. Conviction of any misdemeanor involving drugs (not alcohol);
7. Conduct with direct and detrimental effect on the health, welfare, discipline, or morale of students;
8. Misapplication of or failure to account for school funds or other school properties with which the licensee has been entrusted;
9. Acts related to secure mandatory tests as specified in §22.1-292.1 of the *Code of Virginia*;
10. Knowingly and willfully with the intent to compromise the outcome of an athletic competition procures, sells, or administers anabolic steroids or causes such drugs to be procured, sold, or administered to a student who is a member of a school athletic team, or fails to report the use of such drugs by a student to the school principal and division superintendent as required by §22.1-279.3:1 of the *Code of Virginia*. Any person whose administrative or teaching license is suspended or revoked by the board pursuant to this section shall be ineligible for three school years for employment in the public schools of the Commonwealth;
11. Revocation, suspension, surrender, cancellation, invalidation, or denial of, or other adverse action against, a teaching, administrator, pupil personnel services, or other education-related certificate or license by another state, territory, or country; or denial of an application for any such certificate or license;
12. Founded case of child abuse or neglect after all administrative appeals have been exhausted;
13. Notification of dismissal or resignation pursuant to subsection F of § 22.1-313 of the Code of Virginia; or
14. Other good and just cause in the best interest of the public schools of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

By authority under the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel* (8VAC20-23-740), a teaching license may be suspended for the following reasons:

1. Physical, mental, or emotional incapacity as shown by a competent medical authority;
2. Incompetence or neglect of duty;
3. Failure or refusal to comply with school laws and regulations, including willful violation of contractual obligations;
4. Acts related to secure mandatory tests as specified in §22.1-292.1 of the *Code of Virginia*;

5. Knowingly and willfully with the intent to compromise the outcome of an athletic competition procure, sell, or administer anabolic steroids or cause such drugs to be procured, sold, or administered to a student who is a member of a school athletic team, or fail to report the use of such drugs by a student to the school principal and division superintendent as required by clause (iii) of subsection A of §22.1-279.3:1 of the *Code of Virginia*. Any person whose license is suspended or revoked by the board pursuant to this section shall be ineligible for three school years for employment in the public schools of the Commonwealth; or
6. Other good and just cause of a similar nature in the best interest of the public schools of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

By authority under the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel* (8VAC20-23-750), a teaching license may be denied for the following reasons:

1. Attempting to obtain such license by fraudulent means or through misrepresentation of material facts;
2. Falsification of records or documents;
3. Conviction of any felony;
4. Conviction of any misdemeanor involving moral turpitude;
5. Conviction of any misdemeanor involving a student or minor;
6. Conviction of any misdemeanor involving drugs (not alcohol);
7. Conduct with direct and detrimental effect on the health, welfare, discipline, or morale of a student or minor;
8. Revocation, suspension, surrender, cancellation, invalidation, or denial of, or other adverse action against, a teaching, administrator, pupil personnel services, or other education-related certificate or license by another state, territory, or country, or denial of an application for any such certificate or license;
9. Founded case of child abuse or neglect, after all administrative appeals have been exhausted; or
10. Other good and just cause in the best interest of the public schools of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

By my signature, I certify that I understand that a Virginia teaching license may be revoked, suspended, cancelled, or denied for reasons set forth in sections 8VAC20-23-720, 8VAC20-23-740, and 8VAC20-23-750 of the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel* and that if I am denied a license or have a license revoked, cancelled, or suspended, I understand that the Note plus any accrued interest shall immediately become due and payable.

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PART IV: APPLICANT'S PERSONAL INFORMATION

Please complete (Type or Print):

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
Social Security Number*	Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year) / /	Gender (Select one) ☐Male ☐Female
Race (for statistical purposes only - check all that apply) ☐ 1. Black (Not of Hispanic Origin) ☐ 2. Hispanic ☐ 3. Asian ☐ 4. Asian American ☐ 5. American Indians ☐ 6. White (Not of Hispanic Origin) ☐7. Other		
Permanent Address (Street Address, P. O. Box) **Must be a domiciliary Virginia resident. Address must be in Virginia.**		
City	State Virginia	Zip Code
Summer Address (Street Address, P. O. Box) **Only include an address for the month of August if different from one listed above.**		
City	State	Zip Code
Telephone Numbers		
Work ( )	Home ( )	Mobile ( )
Email Address		
Name of Parent or Legal Guardian (if applicable)		
Address of Parent or Legal Guardian (Street Address, P. O. Box)		
City	State	Zip Code

**Please refer to page 5 of the application and page 3 of the Virginia Teaching Scholarship/Loan Program Promissory Note for an explanation on the use of social security numbers.*

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Name of College/University Currently Enrolled			
Name of Approved Education Endorsement Program			
Are you enrolled in a five year program? ☐ Yes ■ No			
College Level (Please check one of the following :)			
☐ Sophomore	☐ Junior	☐ Senior	☐ Graduate Student
Current Status (Please check one of the following)			
☐ Full-Time Student		☐ Part-Time Student Number of semester credit hours enrolled:	

Please check the program endorsement area in which you are enrolled and plan to teach:

Special Education (Specify area)

- ☐ Early Childhood Special Education (Birth through Age 5)
- ☐ General Curriculum K-12
- ☐ Adapted Curriculum K-12
- ☐ Visual Impairment PreK-12
- ☐ Hearing Impairment PreK-12

Elementary Education (Specify area)

- ☐ Early/Primary Education PreK-3
- ☐ Elementary Education PreK-6

Middle Education 6-8 (Specify area)

- ☐ English
- ☐ History and Social Science
- ☐ Mathematics
- ☐ Science

Career and Technical Education (Specify area)

- ☐ Agricultural Education
- ☐ Business and Information Technology
- ☐ Marketing Education
- ☐ Technology Education
- ☐ Family and Consumer Science

☐ Mathematics (Grades 6-12) including Algebra I

Science (Secondary) (Specify area)

- ☐ Biology
- ☐ Chemistry
- ☐ Earth Science
- ☐ Physics

Foreign Language PreK-12(Specify area)

- ☐ Arabic
- ☐ Chinese
- ☐ French
- ☐ German
- ☐ Italian
- ☐ Japanese
- ☐ Korean
- ☐ Spanish
- ☐ Russian
- ☐ Latin

☐ English (Secondary)

☐ Library Media PreK-12

☐ Health and Physical Education

Other (Specify endorsement area)

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Please complete the following:

A minority student may be enrolled in any teacher endorsement area. Are you applying for the scholarship loan based on this criterion? Please check one.

☐ Yes ■ No

If applicable, anticipated graduation date for undergraduate degree:

If applicable, anticipated graduation date for graduate degree:

Have you ever been a recipient of the Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan? ☐ Yes ■ No

If yes, list the year(s) you received the award (e.g., 2009-2010)
Please note: Candidates who previously received funding through the Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program are not eligible.

Current Cumulative Grade Point Average on a 4.0 scale or equivalent:

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Part V: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Have you ever been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or no contest to, a felony? (If yes, please attach a letter of explanation and a copy of the court documents indicating judgment and disposition of the case from the court.)	☐ **Yes**	☐ **No**
2. Have you ever been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or no contest to, a criminal offense in another country? (If yes, please attach a letter of explanation and a copy of the court documents indicating judgment and disposition of the case from the court.)	☐ **Yes**	☐ **No**
3. Have you ever been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or no contest to, a misdemeanor involving a child (minor) or a student? (If yes, please attach a letter of explanation and a copy of the court documents indicating judgment and disposition of the case from the court.)	☐ **Yes**	☐ **No**
4. Have you ever been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or no contest to, a misdemeanor involving drugs (not alcohol)? (If yes, please attach a letter of explanation and a copy of the court documents indicating judgment and disposition of the case from the court.)	☐ **Yes**	☐ **No**
5. Have you ever been the subject of a founded complaint of child abuse or neglect by a child protection agency? (If yes, please attach a letter giving full details and official documentation of the founded complaint.)	☐ **Yes**	☐ **No**
6. Have you ever had a teaching, administrator, pupil personnel services, or other education-related certificate or license revoked, suspended, invalidated, cancelled, or denied by another state, territory, or country; surrendered such a license or the right to apply for such a license; or had any other adverse action taken against such a license? Please note: This includes a reprimand, warning, or reproval and any order denying the right to apply or reapply for a license. (If yes, please attach a letter giving full details and official documentation of the action taken.)	☐ **Yes**	☐ **No**
7. Are you currently the subject of any review, inquiry, investigation, or appeal of alleged misconduct that could warrant discipline or termination by a school division or other education-related employer or an adverse action against a teaching, administrator, pupil personnel services, or other education-related license or certificate? Please note: This includes any open investigation by or pending proceeding with a child protection agency and any pending criminal charges. (If yes, please attach a letter giving full details and any official documentation available regarding the matter.)	☐ **Yes**	☐ **No**
8. Have you ever left any education- or school-related employment, voluntarily or involuntarily, under any of the following circumstances: (1) while the subject of a review, inquiry, investigation, or appeal of alleged misconduct; (2) when you had reason to believe a review, inquiry, investigation, or appeal of alleged misconduct was under way or imminent; or (3) while any administrative or judicial proceeding involving an allegation of misconduct was pending, eligible for appeal, or under appeal? Please note: This includes any open investigation by or pending proceeding with a child protection agency and any pending criminal charges. (If yes, please attach a letter giving full details and any official documentation available regarding the matter.)	☐ **Yes**	☐ **No**

Part VI: TEACHING FULFILLMENT REQUIREMENTS

By my signature, I certify that I understand that to be considered as a recipient for the Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program, upon program completion, I shall begin teaching in the public schools of the Commonwealth in the first full academic year after becoming eligible for a renewable teaching license, and shall fulfill the teaching obligation in accordance with the Note by teaching full-time under contract continuously in Virginia for at least two years in a school division (i) in one of the critical teacher shortage disciplines as established by the Board of Education; or (ii) in a Virginia public school with 50 percent or more of the students eligible for free or reduced price lunch; or (iii) in a school division designated critical shortage subject area, as defined in the Board of Education's Regulations Governing the Determination of Critical Teacher Shortage Areas. If I complete only one year of the teaching obligation, I shall be forgiven for one-half of the scholarship loan amount. I further certify that if I do not meet the teaching requirement, the Note plus any accrued interest shall immediately become due and payable.

Part VII: FINAL AGREEMENT AND UNDERSTANDING STATEMENT

By my signature, I certify that all information on this application is accurate and complete. I further certify that I have read and agree to all criteria, terms and conditions of this application. I certify that I understand that a Virginia teaching license may be revoked, suspended, cancelled, or denied for reasons set forth in Part VII, sections 8VAC20-23-720, 8VAC20-23-740 and 8VAC20-23-750 of the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel*, and that if I am denied a license or have a license revoked, cancelled, or suspended, I understand that the Note plus any accrued interest shall immediately become due and payable. I further certify that I am a domiciliary Virginia resident and am enrolled in a Virginia approved teacher education program the current academic year as an undergraduate student at or beyond the sophomore year in college, or am enrolled as a student at the graduate level, and meet the other eligibility conditions set forth in this "Application for a Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan." I have read and agree to the requirements of "Cancellation of Promissory Notes" for Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan recipients. I will notify the Office of Teacher Education, Virginia Department of Education, in writing, immediately if I have any change in my status, including any change of residence or mailing address, graduation date, withdrawal from the institution, enrollment at another institution, enlistment in the military service, and the names(s) of the schools(s) in which teaching service is rendered until the total obligation under this Note is satisfied.

_____ _____

Signature **Date**

_____

Print Name