

Teaching Scholarship Scheme

Information Sheet | 24 August 2010

Why is the Teaching Scholarship Scheme being offered?

The Teaching Scholarship Scheme is a recruitment initiative aimed at assisting schools who have had difficulty in attracting high quality graduate teachers.

What is the Teaching Scholarship Scheme?

Scholarship recipients receive:

- ongoing employment
- employment from 1 January for vacancies advertised for the start of the school year
- an up-front taxable payment between \$3000 and \$7000, which is centrally funded and paid shortly after you accept an employment offer. This payment must be refunded pro rata if you fail to complete at least two years employment (excluding approved unpaid leave) with the Department.

There is a four-tier scale of scholarship payments to reflect differing degrees of recruitment difficulty and Department teacher supply priorities:

Category	School and vacancy descriptor
Category 1 (\$7000 up-front plus \$4000 retention bonus)	Designated Priority Schools and Hard to Staff Subject Area
Category 2 (\$5000 up-front plus \$2000 retention bonus)	Designated Priority Schools and any other subject area OR Rural School and Hard to Staff Subject Area
Category 3 (\$4000 up-front - no retention bonus)	Rural School and any other subject area OR Designated outer metro growth area school and Hard to Staff Subject Area OR School in a Provincial Centre and Hard to Staff Subject Area

Category 4 (\$3000 up-front - no retention bonus)

A metropolitan school and a statewide priority subject area (currently Maths and Special Ed)
OR
Any other vacancy not falling into the above categories where the school can demonstrate recruitment difficulties.

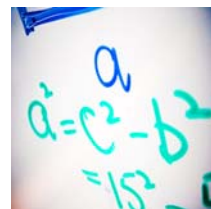
If you are a Category 1 or 2 scholarship recipient you are also eligible for a centrally funded Retention Bonus paid as a taxable lump sum after three years and two months (excluding approved unpaid leave) in the school to which you were originally appointed. The bonus is \$4000 for Category 1 scholarships and \$2000 for Category 2 scholarships.

Benefits available under the Teaching Scholarship are additional to the Commonwealth government HECS-HELP benefit offered to eligible graduates to reduce Higher Education Loan Program (HELP) repayments or debt.

Who is eligible for the Teaching Scholarship Scheme?

You are eligible to apply for the Teaching Scholarship Scheme if you are:

- a final-year student teacher in Victoria or other State who will complete your studies prior to the commencement date of the vacancy
- a teacher graduate who has completed your studies in an Australian university within the 12 months prior to the commencement date of the vacancy, provided that you are not already employed by the Department as a teacher as at the commencement date of the vacancy
- (for vacancies with a special education tag) a qualified teacher who is not employed by the Department as a teacher as at the commencement date of the vacancy, and either: (i) currently studying but will complete your special education qualification by the commencement date of the vacancy, or (ii) have gained a special education qualification in the 12



Every child, every opportunity



months preceding the commencement date of the vacancy.

Who can apply for the Teaching Scholarship Scheme?

Scholarships are only available to applicants who are Australian citizens or who have permanent resident status.

Appropriate merit-based selection procedures based on the advertised selection criteria will be implemented in filling all Department vacancies, including those linked with an offer of a scholarship.

Once you have submitted your online application in response to an advertised scholarship vacancy the school is responsible for all aspects of the selection process, including short-listing, interviewing, sending advice to unsuccessful applicants and making job offers.

Any offer of a Teaching Scholarship will be made at the discretion of the Department.

Are internationals eligible to apply?

No you must be an Australian citizen or have permanent resident status.

Where will I find Teaching Scholarship vacancies?

Scholarship vacancies will be advertised on Recruitment Online from August 2010 and possibly into Terms 1 and 2 of 2011.

When searching for vacancies it is recommended that you familiarise yourself with the four categories of scholarships on offer and the likely locations of scholarship vacancies, taking into account your subject area expertise and preferences.

You can search for scholarship vacancies on Recruitment Online in two ways:

- You can undertake a 'real time' search (i.e. a search for currently listed vacancies) through the Job Search link. Use the Advanced Search functionality and check 'Teacher' in the Job Categories section and select 'Teacher Scholarship Program' from the Job Classification preference link and entering other appropriate search criteria under Locations and Subjects/Duties that will identify any current scholarship vacancies that match your criteria.
- You can save the above Job Search criteria by clicking the 'Save Search' button. You will be prompted to give the search an appropriate name, then click on 'Use as Job Agent' box. You

will also need to provide a nominated email address then finally click 'Save Search'. This will alert you via an email message to any advertised scholarship vacancy that meets your criteria.

How do I apply for a Teaching Scholarship vacancy?

When you have identified a suitable scholarship vacancy you need to take the following steps:

- Read the job description to gain an understanding of job requirements.
- Save job.
- Prepare a statement addressing each of the key selection criteria as an attachment.
- Apply for the saved job and upload the key selection criteria attachment.
- Ensure that your resume is up to date before submitting.

Why would I lodge an online resume?

By lodging your resume on the Recruitment Online job seeker register (talent pool). Principals considering recruiting a new graduate for 2011 are able to search the job seeker register (talent pool) for suitable candidates online, prior to advertising a scholarship vacancy.

When will Teaching Scholarship interviews be held?

Interviews will be at the schools where the vacancy has been advertised.

When will 2011 Teaching Scholarship offers be made?

Teaching Scholarship offers will be made from October 2010 until all 150 scholarships are accepted.

Is the Teaching Scholarship conditional on working in a Victorian Government school?

Yes. The program is designed to assist government schools that have had difficulty in attracting suitability qualified teachers to fill vacancies.

Will I have to sign a contract if I am offered a Teaching Scholarship?

Successful applicants will be required to enter into a contact with the Principal of the school with the vacancy.

In this regard, the Department will require scholarship recipients to meet a range of conditions, including:

- meet course enrolment requirements and timelines;

- provide a progressive summary of results per semester;
- provide on completion of the course a full academic transcript stating the results achieved.

Can I defer the Teaching Scholarship?

No, Teaching Scholarship recipients will not be able to defer their participation.

What if I decide to resign for the Department?

Teaching Scholarship recipients who resign prior to completing 2 years service in a government school will be required to refund the some or all of the scholarship money.