



## TEACHER EDUCATION LOAN PROGRAM

### General Information

The Teacher Education Loan Program was established by the Alaska Legislature to encourage rural Alaska high school graduates to pursue teaching careers in rural elementary and secondary schools in the state. The maximum award is \$7,500 per academic year. The loan may be used for tuition, room and board, books and transportation costs.

In order to be eligible to apply for the Teacher Education Loan an applicant must:

1. be an Alaska high school graduate;
2. be enrolled or plan to enroll in a bachelor's degree program in elementary or secondary teacher education or in a teacher certification program.

Each year in January, rural school districts will nominate potential loan recipients based on high school academic performance and intent to enter a teaching career in a rural area of the state. The nomination forms must be submitted to the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) no later than **May 1, 2012** for the 2012-2013 nominations.

Loans may be awarded for a maximum of five years of undergraduate study. Full-time status (minimum of 12 credit hours per term) in an eligible degree program and satisfactory academic progress according to the institution's standards must be maintained for eligibility. Students cannot receive a Teacher Education Loan and an Alaska Supplemental Education Loan simultaneously.

The Teacher Education Loan borrower may be eligible for forgiveness benefits up to 100 percent of the total loan, if after graduation they are employed as teachers in a rural elementary or secondary school and meet loan program conditions.

ACPE will allocate new loan awards for Teacher Education Loans each January to school districts, giving preference to rural districts. "Rural" is defined as a community with a population of 5,500 or less that is not connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks or with a population of 1,500 or less that is connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks. The Commission will send Teacher Education Loan application forms by July 1, 2012 to nominated recipients. Applications are not available for general distribution.

For additional information contact your local school district or superintendent or:

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