NYS Math and Science Teaching Incentive Program

New York State Math & Science Teaching Incentive program awards are being offered to increase the number of secondary school educators in the mathematics and science fields. This program provides awards to students attending school at the undergraduate and/or master's degree level in exchange for five years of full-time employment as secondary education math and science teachers.

Eligibility

To be eligible for a New York State Math & Science Teaching Incentive grant, a student must:

- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
- Matriculate in an approved undergraduate or graduate program at a degree-granting institution that leads to a career as a math or science teacher in secondary education.
- Have a cumulative college grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher.
- Not have a service obligation under another program.
- Not be in default on a student loan guaranteed by HESC.

How to Apply

Complete and return the New York State Math & Science Teaching Incentive Program Supplement. Read the entire supplement and provide the required documentation according to the instructions. The supplement should be available on the HESC web site in January 2007.

New York State Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC) will grant awards on a competitive basis with priority given to returning students. Ties will be resolved by random lottery.

Students seeking this award must also complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the TAP Application by May 1 of each academic year in which they seek payment under this program. FAFSA and TAP applications and instructions are available online at www.hesc.org.

Deadline

New York State Math & Science Teaching Incentive Program Supplements must be postmarked by the deadline. The deadline for the first competition will be announced in January 2007.

Service Agreement

Successful applicants will be required to complete a service agreement in which they agree to teach on a full-time basis (continuous 10 months) for five years in the field of math or science in a New York State secondary school (grades 7-12) recognized by the Board of Regents or the State University of New York.

Awardees must also agree to repay the amounts disbursed plus interest pursuant to the terms of their service agreement if they:

- fail to fulfill their service obligation; or
- fail to complete the degree program qualifying them as secondary education math or science teachers; or
- fail to acquire or maintain their teaching certificate or license in New York State; or
- fail to respond to all requests by HESC for a report of their academic and professional progress: or
- breach any other terms of the service agreement.
Award Amounts

Recipients shall receive an annual award for full-time study equal to the annual tuition charged to state resident students attending an undergraduate program at the State University of New York, or actual tuition charged, whichever is less. The maximum annual award for the 2006-2007 academic year is $4,350.

Duration

Recipients shall be entitled to an annual award for not more than four academic years of undergraduate study and one academic year of full-time graduate study while matriculated in an approved program leading to permanent certification as a secondary education teach in mathematics or science.

Award Payment

Awards will be made directly to the schools on behalf of students upon verification of the successful completion of each academic year.

At the end of any academic year the applicant must:

- have been in full-time attendance.
- have earned at least 27 credit hours or the equivalent in a course of study leading to a teaching degree in the fields of math or science.
- have a minimum GPA of 2.5 for the academic year.

The student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher for all academic years of undergraduate and graduate study.

NOTE: Applicants may complete fewer than 27 credit hours if they are in their last term and if fewer than 27 credit hours are necessary to complete their course of study.