

Teach & Inspire Scholarship Program Application

Vision

The ABCTE Teach & Inspire Scholarship Program is designed to create a corps of determined education professionals committed to providing quality education for *every* child. By serving as instructors and role models for the youth of America, Teach & Inspire teachers represent the purpose of education—to provide each learner with the tools and inspiration to achieve their dreams. The program is supported by a U.S. Department of Education Transition to Teaching grant.

Program Overview

- Program participants receive a full scholarship to cover the cost of enrolling in the ABCTE certification program plus two additional exam retakes if necessary. This is a self-study, computer based program.
- Program participants also receive a \$1,000 stipend after completing the certification program and all required Teacher Development.
- Teach & Inspire teachers receive professional support which includes mentoring and an online support network.

Teach & Inspire participants will:

- Complete the ABCTE certification program
- Fulfill all Teacher Development requirements
- Complete necessary requirements for state licensure
- Commit to teaching in one of the designated Teach & Inspire districts in a high-need school for 3 years
- Participate in mentoring and online support network while teaching
- Complete all required follow-up surveys throughout the certification program and 3 year teaching commitment

Eligibility

Eligible applicants must:

- Have a bachelor's degree in any subject area from an accredited college*
- Hold U.S. citizenship or permanent residency
- Not have a renewable teacher licensure
- Not be currently enrolled in the ABCTE certification program

* If you received your bachelor's degree less than 3 years ago, you must have at least 15 credit hours in the subject area you wish to teach or significant, relevant work experience. Questions? Contact us.

Application Process

Please read this application carefully. Applicants must submit **complete** applications in order to be considered for the program. Incomplete application packets may jeopardize the eligibility of your application.

After submitting all materials by the given deadline, all components of the application are reviewed by the Teach & Inspire Selection Committee. After this initial review, qualified applicants are contacted to schedule a phone interview with staff. Accepted applicants will be given a final date to accept the scholarship offer. Applicants who choose to enroll will begin the ABCTE certification program immediately.

Application Deadline

The next application deadline is **August 14, 2009**. While applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, due to high volume of applications, we strongly encourage you to apply as soon as possible to expedite your path into the classroom.

Application Components

Applications must be submitted through postal mail in one complete package. Incomplete applications will not be evaluated until all components are received.

A complete package includes:

- Completed application forms (including your signature on final page)
- Two essays (maximum 1 page each)
- Recommendation form in a sealed signed envelope
- Official transcript from the university/college granting your bachelor's degree
- Unofficial transcripts from any other community college/university/college you attended to earn your bachelor's degree

Note: The official transcript is the only document that may be mailed separately from the application packet. We prefer for all components to arrive in one packet when possible. If you are a recent graduate, you must submit all transcripts for your bachelor's degree in order for your application to begin the review process.

Mailing Address

Please send all application documents to:

ABCTE :Teach & Inspire Scholarship Program
1225 19th Street NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20036

TEACH & INSPIRE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Note: ALL items are required unless otherwise noted.

Please type or print clearly. Illegible handwriting may lead to the dismissal of an application.

A. Applicant's Contact Information

1. Applicant's Full Legal Name

Prefix: _____ Legal First Name: _____ Middle Name: _____

Legal Last Name: _____ Maiden/Other Last Name (if applicable) _____

2. Gender _____ 3. Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY) ____/____/____

4. Telephone Number (____) ____ - ____ cell home work

Alternate Number (optional) (____) ____ - ____ cell home work

5. Email Address (required) _____

6. Mailing Address _____ Apt. # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

B. Applicant's Personal Information

1. Residency: U.S. Citizen Permanent Resident, Country of Citizenship _____

2. Race/Ethnicity (Please select all that apply)

- African American American Indian/Alaska Native
 Hispanic American Asian/Pacific Islander American
 Caucasian Other Please explain: _____

3. Do you hold a renewable teaching license? yes no

4. Do you hold an emergency, temporary, or one-year teaching license? yes no

5. Are you a: Recent college graduate* Career-changer

* received bachelor's degree between August 2006 to present

6. Have you already paid for the ABCTE certification program? yes no

7. Have you previously applied to Teach & Inspire? yes no

If yes, when did you apply? (month/year) _____

8. How did you learn about the Teach & Inspire Scholarship Program? (Please select all that apply)

- Attended an information session. If so, where/when? _____
 Local school district. If so, which one? _____
 Online T&I information session/Webinar. If so, when? _____
 Community group/association. If so, which one? _____
 Radio Ad Newspaper ad Radio news story TV coverage Flyer/Poster
 Postcard School District ABCTE website Google Ad

C. Location & Subject Area Preferences

Teach & Inspire participants must teach in a high-need school district and subject area in Mississippi, Florida, or South Carolina. Please follow directions below carefully.

Directions:

1. Select the **ONE** state for which you would like to earn your certification.

You may select only one state.

Florida

Mississippi

South Carolina

2. Review the subject areas offered in your preferred state only.

3. Place an "X" next to the **ONE** subject area you would most like to teach.

Because participants must pass a rigorous content knowledge exam, it is highly recommended that you select a subject area in which you are either formally trained or have substantial work experience. Please visit our website to find out more about the specific subjects and exam standards.

www.abcte.org/teach/exam-preparation/details

Florida

Subject Areas		
<input type="checkbox"/> Biology <i>(grades 6-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Chemistry <i>(grades 6-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> General Science <i>(grades 5-9)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Math <i>(grades 6-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Physics <i>(grades 6-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Education <i>(grades K-6)</i>

Mississippi

Subject Areas		
<input type="checkbox"/> Biology <i>(grades 6-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Chemistry <i>(grades 6-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> English Language Arts <i>(grades 6-12)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Math <i>(grades 6-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Physics <i>(grades 6-12)</i>	

South Carolina

Subject Areas		
<input type="checkbox"/> Biology <i>(grades 9-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Chemistry <i>(grades 9-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> English Language Arts <i>(grades 9-12)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> General Science <i>(grades 9-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Math <i>(grades 9-12)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Physics <i>(grades 9-12)</i>

4. Looking at the partner districts in your preferred state only, Rank your top 3 partner district preferences. (1= most desired, 3= least desired)

Teach & Inspire participants may only teach in the following high-need school districts. Marking your preferences below is non-binding. While ABCTE does not do direct job placement, this information will assist with district outreach efforts.

Florida Partner Districts	
<input type="checkbox"/> Broward	<input type="checkbox"/> DeSoto
<input type="checkbox"/> Duval	<input type="checkbox"/> Gadsden
<input type="checkbox"/> Hardee	<input type="checkbox"/> Hillsborough
<input type="checkbox"/> Miami-Dade	<input type="checkbox"/> Polk
<input type="checkbox"/> Volusia	

OR

Mississippi Partner Districts		
<input type="checkbox"/> Attala County	<input type="checkbox"/> Canton	<input type="checkbox"/> Choctaw County
<input type="checkbox"/> Clarksdale Municipal	<input type="checkbox"/> Cleveland	<input type="checkbox"/> Coahoma County
<input type="checkbox"/> Coffeerville	<input type="checkbox"/> Drew	<input type="checkbox"/> East Jasper
<input type="checkbox"/> Franklin County	<input type="checkbox"/> Greenville	<input type="checkbox"/> Hancock County
<input type="checkbox"/> Hattiesburg	<input type="checkbox"/> Holly Springs	<input type="checkbox"/> Holmes County
<input type="checkbox"/> Houston	<input type="checkbox"/> Indianola	<input type="checkbox"/> Jackson
<input type="checkbox"/> McComb	<input type="checkbox"/> Moss Point	<input type="checkbox"/> New Albany
<input type="checkbox"/> North Pike	<input type="checkbox"/> Noxubee	<input type="checkbox"/> Okolona
<input type="checkbox"/> Picayune	<input type="checkbox"/> Quitman County	<input type="checkbox"/> Senatobia
<input type="checkbox"/> South Panola	<input type="checkbox"/> South Pike	<input type="checkbox"/> West Bolivar
<input type="checkbox"/> West Point	<input type="checkbox"/> West Tallahatchie	

OR

South Carolina Partner Districts	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bamberg School District 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Dillon School District 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Marlboro County School District	<input type="checkbox"/> Sumter School District 17

D. Education History

* Must submit official transcript from the college/university granting your bachelor's degree. Must submit unofficial transcripts from all other colleges/universities you attended to earn your bachelor's degree.

Information on institution issuing your bachelor's degree:

College/University _____
Your name expected on transcript _____
Circle One: Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Science
Major/Minor _____
Cumulative G.P.A. _____ Begin Date (MM/YYYY) ____/____/____ End Date ____/____/____

All other universities or colleges attended:

College/University _____
Your name expected on transcript _____
Degree Earned (Bachelor's, Master's, etc.) _____ Major/Minor _____
Cumulative G.P.A. _____ Begin Date (MM/YYYY) ____/____/____ End Date ____/____/____
College/University _____
Your name expected on transcript _____
Degree Earned (Bachelor's, Master's, etc.) _____ Major/Minor _____
Cumulative G.P.A. _____ Begin Date (MM/YYYY) ____/____/____ End Date ____/____/____
College/University _____
Your name expected on transcript _____
Degree Earned (Bachelor's, Master's, etc.) _____ Major/Minor _____
Cumulative G.P.A. _____ Begin Date (MM/YYYY) ____/____/____ End Date ____/____/____

E. Work Experience

Current or most recent position:

Position Title: _____ **Employer** _____

Location: _____ Start Date(month/year) _____ End Date (month/year) _____

Job Description: *(Briefly describe roles, responsibilities & results)*

Relevant work experience that demonstrate skills applicable to teaching/subject area:

Position Title: _____ **Employer** _____

Location: _____ Start Date(month/year) _____ End Date (month/year) _____

Job Description: *(Briefly describe roles, responsibilities & results)*

Position Title: _____ **Employer** _____

Location: _____ Start Date(month/year) _____ End Date (month/year) _____

Job Description: *(Briefly describe roles, responsibilities & results)*

Position Title: _____ **Employer** _____

Location: _____ Start Date(month/year) _____ End Date (month/year) _____

Job Description: *(Briefly describe roles, responsibilities & results)*

F. Activities, Leadership, Volunteer Work

Use the space provided to highlight your activities, leadership, and/or volunteer work relevant to becoming a successful teacher.

Position Title/Role: _____ **Org.** (if applicable) _____

Description of responsibilities and/or accomplishments:

Position Title/Role: _____ **Org.** (if applicable) _____

Description of responsibilities and/or accomplishments:

Position Title/Role: _____ **Org.** (if applicable) _____

Description of responsibilities and/or accomplishments:

G. Previous/ current teaching licenses

List any previous or current teaching license you possess or previously obtained.

H. Skills

Language Ability

Are you a fluent speaker in any language other than English? If yes, which one(s)? _____

Are you literate in any language other than English? If yes, which one(s)? _____

Computer Skills

Please list all relevant computer skills.

I. Short Essays

Each applicant must submit an essay answering both questions below.

Each essay must meet the following criteria:

- Each essay printed on a separate sheet of paper.
- Typed, not to exceed 1 page per essay. It may be single or double spaced.
- Have your legal full name printed at the top of each essay.
- Have the essay title, “Teach & Inspire Essay # __,” at the top of each essay.
- Address every part of each essay question.

Essay #1

Across the country there are many examples of high-poverty, low-achieving schools serving diverse communities and facing difficult challenges. While improving these high-need schools is not a small task, it is possible. Education is often a path to new opportunities and exciting discoveries. With dedicated teachers, every student can have the opportunity to walk down that path.

Why do you want to teach in a high-need school? Your response must address: a) your interest in teaching in a high-need school, b) your strengths relevant to teaching in a high-need school and c) your motivation to foster change in high-poverty, low-achieving schools.

Essay #2

Which high-need subject area do you believe you are most qualified to effectively teach?

Your response must describe: a) the professional and/or collegiate academic experience you possess in this subject area and b) any additional experience you possess that is relevant to teaching.

J. Transcript

A complete application must include:

- a. An **official** transcript from the accredited university or college that granted your undergraduate degree
- b. Unofficial transcripts from any other community college/university/college you attended to earn your bachelor’s degree

The official transcript(s) must be mailed to Teach & Inspire Scholarship Program in an official sealed envelope with the registrar’s signature or school seal. This is the only document that may be mailed to our office separate from the rest of your application packet. All additional unofficial transcripts must be mailed *with* the complete application packet.

ABCTE accepts foreign-educated applicants. ABCTE requires that all international applicants submit a credential evaluation in addition to university transcripts. All applicants for certification must have the equivalent of a bachelor's degree or higher. For more information please read the application FAQ section or visit www.abcte.org/teach/teach-and-inspire/application-center

Note— If you qualify as a recent graduate, you must submit all transcripts for your bachelor’s degree in order for your application to begin the review process.

K. Recommendation Form

The recommendation form provides additional insight into your strengths and abilities from an outside perspective. The form may not be completed by family members. Possible sources of recommendation may include a professional supervisor, academic advisor, professor, religious leader, or volunteer coordinator.

This must be submitted in a **sealed envelope with the reference's signature along the envelope's seal.**

This form must be submitted with the rest of your application packet.

L. Authorizing Email Contact from ABCTE

Throughout your time as a Teach & Inspire applicant, ABCTE will need to keep you informed of program policies, progress reports, and other updates. We use email as our primary form of communication with applicants. Because we take spam policies very seriously, we do require that you opt-in to these communications.

By checking this box, I authorize ABCTE to add my email address to the Teach & Inspire applicant email list.

Please check the box to opt-in for our email communications (***required** for all Teach & Inspire applicants; you may opt out of the list if you are not accepted into the program and wish to be removed from the list.*)

M. Applicant Agreement & Signature

Acknowledgement of Application

I hereby certify that the information provided in this Teach & Inspire Scholarship Program application is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct. I have not knowingly withheld any facts or circumstances that could jeopardize consideration of my application. I am aware that any misstatement, false representation, or other inaccuracy could subject me to penalties, including payment of damages, to the extent permitted under law. In addition, I authorize the postsecondary institution(s) I have attended or will attend to release to ABCTE, my transcripts and other academic or financial information requested by ABCTE for the purposes described above. By submitting this application, I am giving ABCTE permission to verify information submitted.

Applicant Signature

_____ **DATE** _____

N. Application Checklist

- Completed application form (including your signature on final page)
- Two essays (maximum 1 page each)
- Recommendation form in sealed, signed envelope
- Official undergraduate transcript in sealed envelope
- Unofficial transcripts from all other community college/university/college(s) you attended to earn your bachelor's degree
- Completed Section L: Authorizing Email Contact from ABCTE
- Completed Section M: Applicant Agreement & Signature

O. Contact Us

Feel free to contact the ABCTE Teach & Inspire Scholarship Program regarding any questions or concerns. We can be reached by phone (1-877-669-2228, option 2) or visit our website (www.teachandinspire.org) to request more information.

P. Frequently Asked Questions

1. What kind of updates can I expect to receive from program staff regarding my application status?

After the deadline, we will send an email to all applicants confirming the receipt of their complete application. You may assume we received your official transcript directly from your university unless you receive an email from us stating otherwise. Please expect to be contacted by email with periodic updates on the process. Our evaluation process is quite involved and we thank you in advance for your patience.

2. What must I do if I earned my Bachelor's degree outside of the U.S.?

ABCTE requires that all degrees earned outside of the U.S. be evaluated by a third party. ABCTE requires that all foreign-educated applicants submit a credential evaluation in addition to university transcripts. All applicants for certification must have the equivalent of a bachelor's degree or higher

The process for submitting international credentials is outlined below:

1. Request that one original copy of your postsecondary academic records be forwarded to ABCTE directly from the issuing institution.
2. Apply for a course-by-course or general credential evaluation through a company listed on the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services or Association of International Credential Evaluators websites.

For more information visit: www.abcte.org/teach/teach-and-inspire/application-center

TEACH & INSPIRE PROFESSIONAL RECOMMENDATION FORM

To be completed by applicant:

Applicant's legal name _____

I hereby waive my right of access to this recommendation form and I understand that I will not be able to see it under any circumstances.

Signature

Reference's contact information:

Name of person offering reference _____

Phone number: _____

Email (if available): _____

Address: _____

To be completed by person offering reference:

The above named applicant has applied to the Teach & Inspire Scholarship Program and listed you as a professional reference. We appreciate your candid appraisal. **Please return to the applicant in a sealed, signed envelope.**

How long have you known this applicant? _____ In what capacity? _____

Please evaluate the applicant compared to others you know in a similar capacity in the categories below. 7 is superior, 3-5 is average, 1 is below average and N/A is not applicable or unable to judge.

	Low		Average			Superior		
Oral communication skills	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Written communication skills	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Problem solving skills	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Leadership ability	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Creativity	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Reliability	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Ability to teach others	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Organizational skills	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A

Please supply any additional comments you feel may be useful in evaluating this applicant. Use the back of this page if necessary:

Signature

Date