

**Acknowledgement And Acceptance Of Service Obligation  
For Support From Project TEAMS**

Fed ID #H325K.....

Project TEAMS is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), to prepare school psychologists and speech-language pathologists who have shared expertise and skills to collaborate in the provision of classroom-based prevention and intervention services for English-learning students who are at-risk of high incidence disabilities in California's public schools. The funded traineeship includes stipends, registration fee allowances, and modest allowances for conference travel and professional development. In return for this scholarship, a two-year service obligation is required from Project TEAMS scholars for each academic year of support.

"Scholarship" refers to all types of financial assistance received from the project (e.g., stipends, allowances). The service requirement is based on the period for which the scholar receives assistance, not on the amount of assistance received.

The service obligation provisions of the federal regulations specify that the scholar must serve in a position in which the individual spends a majority of his or her time providing special education, related, or early intervention services in the schools. Part-time employment is accumulated toward meeting the equivalent of the full-time service obligation. Supervisors, researchers, and post-secondary faculty can qualify if they spend a majority of their time with employees, research, or students involved with providing special education, related, or early intervention services in the schools.

Federal regulations provide for an additional three years beyond the number of years required by the Act to complete the service obligation. Thus, a scholar with a two-year service obligation, for example, has five years to fulfill that requirement.

The full-time yearlong School Psychology Internship (or its part-time equivalent) may be applied as the first year of full-time service obligation if the intern does not receive a scholarship from the project during that internship.

The regulations apply to training program dropouts in the same manner as other scholarship recipients. Dropouts who received scholarship assistance and are not able to meet their service obligation (due to lack of qualifications) must payback their scholarships.

Exemption to the repayment requirement will be granted if the scholar (a) is unable to continue the course of study or fulfill the service obligation because of a disability that is expected to continue indefinitely or (b) has died.

Deferral of the service obligation and/or repayment requirement may be granted during the time the scholar (a) is engaging in a full-time course of study at an institution of higher education, (b) is serving, not in excess of three years, on active duty as a member of the armed services of the United States; (c) is serving as a volunteer under the Peace Corps Act; (d) is serving as a full-time volunteer under Title I of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973, (e) has a disability which prevents the individual from working for a period not to exceed three years; or (f) is unable to secure employment as required by the agreement for reason of the care provided to a disabled family member for a period not to exceed 12 months.

Scholars are required to notify the Project TEAMS office of changes in address, employment setting, or employment status throughout the duration of the service obligation and their progress toward meeting the work requirements.

If a scholar fails to meet the terms and conditions of this scholarship agreement, or to obtain a deferral or an exemption, the scholar must repay all or part of the scholarship assistance to the U.S. Secretary of Education as follows: Amount to be repaid is proportional to the service obligation not completed. The Secretary charges the scholar interest on the unpaid balance owed, and may impose reasonable collection costs. (1) Interest on the unpaid balance accrues from the date the scholar is determined to have entered repayment status; (2) any accrued interest is capitalized at the time the scholar's repayment schedule is established; (3) no interest is charged for the period of time the scholar's repayment schedule is established.

A scholar enters repayment status on the first day of the first calendar month after the earliest of the following dates, as applicable: (1) the date the scholar informs the Program that he or she does not plan to fulfill the service obligation under the agreement; (2) any date when the scholar's failure to begin or maintain employment makes it impossible for that individual to complete the service obligation within the number of years required; (3) any date on which the scholar discontinues enrollment in the course of study.

The scholar must make payments to the Secretary that cover principal, interest, and collection costs according to a schedule established by the Secretary.

*I hereby acknowledge a two-year service obligation in return for a traineeship-scholarship from Project TEAMS for one academic year. I understand and accept the terms of service obligation as well as the payback provision of this agreement. I will notify the Project TEAMS office of changes in address and employment setting/status throughout the service obligation period and will complete the annual follow-up forms to communicate my progress toward fulfilling the service obligation.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Number \_\_\_\_\_