

South Carolina Teaching Fellows Program



Mission

The mission of the South Carolina Teaching Fellows Program is to recruit talented high school seniors into the teaching profession and help them develop leadership qualities.



Background

Each year, the program provides Fellowships for up to 230 high school seniors who have exhibited high academic achievement, a history of service to their school and community, and a desire to teach in South Carolina.



Preparation

Teaching Fellows participate in advanced enrichment programs at Teaching Fellows Institutions, have additional professional development opportunities, and are involved with communities and businesses throughout the state.



Fellowship

Teaching Fellows receive up to \$24,000 (up to \$6000 a year for four years) while they complete a degree leading to initial teacher certification*. Fellows agree to teach in a South Carolina public school one year for every year they receive the Fellowship**.

* Teaching Fellows must first obtain a degree that allows for teacher certification. They may then defer their service for up to three years while they pursue an advanced degree. **Graduates can receive loan forgiveness for service as a teacher, media specialist, occupational therapist, school counselor/mental health counselor, school psychologist, school social worker, or speech pathologist.

The logo consists of the letters 'TF' in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered within a white square that has rounded corners and is set against a dark orange background.

Teaching Fellows Institutions



Comprehensive Identification Process

- Anyone interested in teaching should apply.
- Application
 - Available on Oct. 1 - Tutorial at <https://www.cerra.org/teaching-fellows-application.html>
 - Interview/Presentation
 - Writing Sample



Application

- Eligibility

- U.S. Citizen – Not DACA
- Legal Resident of SC
- High School Senior or a Junior who is graduating early
- Applicants **do not** have to be Teacher Cadets

- Application

- Opens October 1, 2022
- Students apply on Kaleidoscope
 - Edit up until 12/1/22
 - Plan to teach - a “no” response will stop the process
- Follow directions!
- Transcript showing cumulative GPA **and class rank** (counselor uploads)
- ACT/SAT test scores (student uploads **all scores** - pdf or screenshot) – could help students exempt PRAXIS Core!
- Two References – current teacher and one other complete a reference survey

We superscore so students should upload all ACT and SAT scores. We strongly recommend that applicants take the ACT and/or SAT.

Interviews

- Up to 500 applicants are invited to participate in Teaching Fellows Interview Day

- Interview in front of a team of 3 educators

- Share a three minute presentation on a topic provided by CERRA



- Complete a writing prompt

Timeline

Important Dates

October 1–December 1 Application window

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December 7, 2022 - Supplemental materials due (transcripts, reference surveys)

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December 12-16, 2022 - Applications scored

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January, 9, 2023 - Letters mailed to all applicants; up to 500 students will be invited to participate in the second stage of the application process, the interview

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February, 25, 2023 - Interview Day at regional locations across the state or online

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The final number of students awarded a Teaching Fellowship is dependent upon the South Carolina FY 2023 budget, which is set by the General Assembly.

Award notifications will be made in early spring 2023.



Zoom Info Meetings

For Interested Seniors and Parents

September 29, 7:00 p.m.

October 4, 7:00 p.m.

November 14, 7:00 p.m.

I will send a Zoom link to you to give to students closer to each date.



Final Thoughts

Surety

Teaching Fellow awardees are required to identify a surety who is willing to cosign the promissory note.



Payback Provisions

Teaching Fellows agree to teach in a SC public school one year for every year they have accepted funds. Fellows have five years from graduation to complete this requirement. Students who do not graduate in good standing from the program or who do not teach in a SC public school are required to repay the amount they accepted plus interest.

TF

Help us help your students!

Please ask your IT department to ensure that emails from cerra@mykaleidoscope.com are not blocked by the district's firewall.



Just to recap!



- Window opens on October 1 and closes on December 1
- Any interested senior or junior graduating early may apply. This is not just for Teacher Cadets!
- identification process is comprehensive- more than just GPA, Class Rank, Test Scores
- Counselors must upload transcripts by December 7th- watch your email, check SPAM folders
- Students are responsible for downloading/printing/delivering to you a letter asking that transcript be uploaded.
- Students are responsible for uploading PDF or screenshot of ACT/SAT scores with name/score/test date visible.
- We will calculate scores using GPA, Class Rank, and/or test scores (similar to Life Scholarship). Strongly recommend students take both ACT and SAT.

Contacts

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