



MATHEMATICS EDUCATION TRUST

Prospective PK-6 Elementary Teacher Course Work Scholarship

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this scholarship is to provide financial support to college or university students preparing for teaching elementary school with a content focus in mathematics.

SUPPORTED BY: Edward J. Brennan Fund

GRADES: Prospective PK-6 teachers

GRANT AMOUNT: Maximum of \$10,000 each

DEADLINE: May 1

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS:

- Persons currently completing their sophomore year of college or university, scheduling for full-time study at a four- or five-year college or university in the next academic year, and pursuing a career goal of becoming a certified teacher of elementary school with a content focus in mathematics. The applicant might also be pursuing a full-time graduate degree for the purpose of becoming a certified elementary school teacher with a specialty in mathematics.
- The applicant's college grade point average (GPA) must be at least 3.0 (out of 4.0) or equivalent.
- No person(s) may receive more than one award administered by the Mathematics Education trust in the same academic year.
- Past recipients of the Edward Brennan Scholarship and employees or immediate family members of employees of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics are not eligible to apply for this scholarship.

INDIVIDUAL AWARD OR ORGANIZATIONAL AWARD: Individual

Note: The Internal Revenue Service classifies scholarship payments in two ways: a non-taxable scholarship and a taxable scholarship. Awardees are responsible for reporting taxable scholarships and remitting any tax due with their personal income tax return. Additional information is available in IRS Publication 970, "Tax Benefits for Education" or from your tax professional.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT:

The applicant must be a current (on or before the application deadline) student member of NCTM.

GENERAL PROPOSAL INFORMATION:

- The proposal must include evidence of the applicant's past academic achievement in a college or university and the applicant's commitment to pursue a teaching career in elementary school.
- Applicants must identify the remaining two or three years of collegiate coursework in mathematics education required to earn certification; a detailed outline of the full-time study

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required to meet these requirements within two years of study, and the course titles and credits for mathematics and education courses already completed; and a budget to fund the plan.

- Coursework and graduation are to be completed within one to two years.

PROPOSAL COMPONENTS:

Use the components below to outline your proposal. See rubric for additional information.

I. Proposal (single-space, 12 font, 1 inch margin)

A. Essay (Two pages maximum)

- Explain why you have chosen to pursue a career as an elementary school teacher.
- Explain how mathematics should be taught to all learners.
- Explain why mathematics is important to know and understand.

B. Plan (One page maximum)

- Describe the steps and timeline, including the remaining one or two years of mathematics content or education coursework, for completing a degree to become a certified elementary school teacher.
- Provide descriptions for remaining courses in your plan.

II. Budget (Two pages maximum; table format)

- Include an itemized budget listing ALL expenses, presented in line-item table format.
- Be specific and indicate how you would allocate the funds from this scholarship, \$5000 for both the third year and the fourth year of full-time study. If a graduate student, be specific as to how you would allocate the \$10,000 to your program.
- Scholarship can be applied to tuition, fees, course materials, and other expenses directly related to the academic program of study.
- Acquisition of equipment must support the applicant's plan of study but not require more than 10% of the entire scholarship.
- List any other scholarship support currently being received.

III. Background and Experience

- Provide a one-page maximum vita, outline format preferred, that includes any educational, extracurricular activities, or professional activities that the applicant feels demonstrate his/her commitment to becoming an elementary teacher.
- Provide transcripts of completed coursework from an accredited college or university offering credits that are applicable to an elementary teaching degree with a content focus in mathematics. The applicant's college grade point average (GPA) must be at least 3.0 (out of 4.0) or equivalent to be considered for the scholarship.
- Provide verification from the certifying institution that you have been accepted if you are transferring to another institution to complete your degree program.
- Provide verification that the college or university offers a formal program in elementary education, and the program leads to full teacher certification.

IV. Letter of Support from Academic Advisor

- One-page maximum.
- A signed letter of recommendation on college or university letterhead indicating the advisor's assessment of both the viability of the plan and the applicant's commitment to pursue a career as an elementary school teacher.

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V. Letter of Support from an Academic/Professional Contact

- One-page maximum.
- A signed letter of recommendation from an academic or professional contact indicating the applicant's suitability for the scholarship and citing evidence of his/her commitment to pursue a career as a teacher.

VI. Letter of Support from a Personal Contact

- One-page maximum.
- A signed letter of recommendation from a personal contact indicating the relationship to the applicant and the applicant's character and promise to the teaching profession.

INTERIM AND FINAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS:

- Recipients will be required to submit an updated college transcript and a brief interim report (two single-spaced pages) at the end of their third year of full-time study indicating progress that has been made in their career pursuits. This should include not only classes completed, in progress, and planned, but also extracurricular activities and new pursuits reflecting their continued growth and commitment to this career.
- Recipients will be required to submit an updated college transcript and a brief final report (no more than two single-spaced pages) at the end of their fourth year of full-time study indicating progress that has been made in their career pursuits.

AWARD AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

- Award notification will be made by early July.
- The scholarship will be awarded in two phases, with \$5,000 for the recipient's third year of full-time study, and \$5,000 for the recipient's fourth year of full-time study. Graduate student awards based on the program plan and budget.