

Teacher Assistant Scholarship Fund
Executive Summary
January 31, 2006

In its fourth year of operation, the Teacher Assistant Scholarship Fund (TASF) funded 247 full-time teacher assistants in public schools across the state pursuing initial teacher licensure at North Carolina four-year institutions. The program received appropriations of \$964,174; of that amount, \$902,099 was expended.

Recipients attended 29 different colleges or universities and represent 80 North Carolina counties. Minorities comprise 33% of the recipients.

TASF funding is in high demand; unexpended funds are due to funds being returned too late in the academic year or after the conclusion of the year and thus could not be recycled at that date.

**Teacher Assistant Scholarship Fund
Annual Report
2004-05 Academic Year**

The Teacher Assistant Scholarship Fund (TASF) entered its fourth year in 2004-05. Grants were awarded to 247 full-time teacher assistants at public schools across the state pursuing initial teacher licensure at North Carolina four-year campuses offering teacher education programs.

The program funding for 2004-05 was \$964,174, and an additional \$28,800 was added to the initial allocation as a result of unused funds from the previous year becoming available. Thus, \$992,974 was available for the year after adjustments.

The State Education Assistance Authority (SEAA) accepted applications for the scholarship between December 2004 and February 2005, and announced scholarship recipients in April 2005. Priority consideration was afforded to previous TASF and Teacher Assistant Scholarship Loan (TASL) recipients who applied by the deadline and met all program requirements. Next priority went to new students applying for funds who met all program requirements and applied by the deadline, with those presenting the strongest academic records receiving priority consideration.

SEAA anticipates expending all available funds in the 2005-06 academic year and expects to receive even more applications from qualified teacher assistants for 2005-06 and beyond as awareness of this program increases.

Table I. Summary Application and Recipient Data

Number of applications	426
Number of recipients	247
Average award	\$3,652
Total awarded	\$902,099

Table II. Recipient Breakdown by Ethnicity

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Asian	1	0.4 %
African-American	64	25.9
Hispanic/Latino	3	1.2
Native American	6	2.4
White	166	67.2
Multi-racial	0	0.0
Other/not specified	<u>7</u>	<u>2.8</u>
Total	247	100 %

Table III. Recipient Breakdown by Institution

	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Percentage of total</u>
Appalachian State University	27	10.9 %
Barton College	8	3.2
Belmont Abbey College	4	1.6
Campbell University	1	0.4
East Carolina University	26	10.5
Elizabeth City State University	15	6.1
Fayetteville State University	17	6.6
Gardner-Webb University	3	1.2
Greensboro College	3	1.2
Guilford College	1	0.4
High Point University	8	3.2
Lees-McRae College	5	2.0
Mars Hill College	31	12.6
Methodist College	1	0.4
North Carolina A&T State University	4	1.6
North Carolina Central University	18	7.3
North Carolina State University	1	0.4
Pfeiffer University	5	2.0
Salem College	2	0.8
Shaw University	4	1.6
St. Andrew's College	6	2.4
St. Augustine's College	1	0.4
UNC at Asheville	1	0.4
UNC at Charlotte	14	5.7
UNC at Greensboro	3	1.2
UNC at Pembroke	14	5.7
UNC at Wilmington	11	4.5
Western Carolina University	10	4.0
Winston-Salem State University	<u>3</u>	<u>1.2</u>
Total	247	100 %

Recipients at 14 public institutions: 164 (66.4 %)

Recipients at 15 private institutions: 83 (33.6 %)

Table IV. Recipient Breakdown by County of Residence

Alamance	1	Graham	2	Pamlico	2
Alexander	4	Granville	1	Pasquotank	2
Alleghany	1	Guilford	6	Perquimans	3
Beaufort	4	Halifax	4	Pitt	1
Bertie	1	Harnett	1	Polk	1
Brunswick	1	Haywood	12	Randolph	3
Buncombe	6	Henderson	10	Richmond	3
Burke	3	Hertford	1	Robeson	5
Cabarrus	2	Hoke	2	Rockingham	4
Caldwell	3	Iredell	4	Rowan	1
Carteret	1	Jackson	1	Rutherford	3
Catawba	4	Johnston	8	Sampson	2
Chatham	2	Jones	1	Scotland	1
Clay	3	Lenoir	3	Stanly	3
Cleveland	5	Lincoln	5	Stokes	1
Columbus	2	Macon	1	Surry	1
Craven	2	Madison	1	Swain	2
Cumberland	15	Martin	1	Union	1
Dare	1	McDowell	2	Wake	11
Davidson	4	Mecklenburg	9	Washington	1
Duplin	5	Mitchell	1	Watauga	1
Durham	9	Montgomery	1	Wayne	2
Edgecombe	3	Moore	4	Wilkes	2
Forsyth	5	Nash	1	Wilson	3
Franklin	2	Northampton	1	Yadkin	3
Gaston	2	Onslow	6	Yancey	1
Gates	2	Orange	2		

Total = 247 representing 80 counties

§ 116-209.35. Teacher Assistant Scholarship Fund.

(a) There is established the Teacher Assistant Scholarship Fund. The purpose of the Fund is to provide scholarships to teacher assistants who are pursuing college degrees to become teachers. The State Education Assistance Authority shall administer the Fund.

(b) Criteria for awarding the scholarships shall be developed by the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina in consultation with the State Board of Education and the State Board of Community Colleges and shall include all of the following:

- (1) An applicant shall be employed full time as a teacher assistant in North Carolina.
- (2) An applicant shall be enrolled in an accredited bachelors degree program in an institution of higher education in North Carolina.
- (3) An applicant shall be a resident of North Carolina. For purposes of this section, residency shall be determined by the same standard as residency for tuition purposes pursuant to G.S. 116-143.1.
- (4) Any additional criteria that the Board of Governors considers necessary to administer the Fund effectively, including all of the following:
 - a. Consideration of the appropriate numbers of minority applicants and applicants from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds to receive scholarships pursuant to this section.
 - b. Consideration of the academic qualifications of the individuals applying to receive funds.
 - c. Consideration of the commitment an individual applying to receive funds demonstrates to the profession of teaching.

(c) The scholarships shall be available for part-time or full-time course work through all off-campus or distance education teacher education programs.

(d) The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, the State Board of Education, and the State Board of Community Colleges shall: (i) prepare a clear written explanation of the Teacher Assistant Scholarship Fund and the information regarding the availability and criteria for awarding the scholarships, and (ii) shall provide that information to the appropriate counselors in each local school system and shall charge those counselors to inform teacher assistants about the scholarships and to encourage teacher assistants to apply for the scholarships.

(e) The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall adopt rules to implement this section.

(f) The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by March 1 each year regarding the Fund and scholarships awarded from the Fund. (2001-424, s. 31.5(a).)