

Local Solutions to the Shortage of Special Education Teachers Grant Opportunity (2019-20 school year)

Purpose: to address countywide shortage of Special Education Teachers by providing tuition assistance to current Education Specialist Credential students and student debt relief to recently-credentialed Special Educators

Eligibility: current/aspiring special education teachers in Santa Barbara County

Application Deadline: May 1, 2020 for the 2019-20 school year (current program set to run through the end of the 2022-23 school year) – eligibility requires submission of completed application form and all supporting materials

Grant Award: to be based on applicant pool and not to exceed \$20,000 for any one individual (disbursement of funds to be determined by Governance Team)

Program Description: The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) established the **Local Solutions to the Shortage of Special Education Teachers** grant program, awarded to local education agencies based on their level of need, in order to help address the statewide shortage of fully-credentialed Special Educators.

The Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO) was selected to be a recipient of grant funds. Awards will be made at the end of each school year through 2022-23. Individuals may apply for grant funding if they are: 1) *actively enrolled in a university program for an Education Specialist Instruction Credential*, or 2) *currently working as special educators in Santa Barbara County public schools and completed their Education Specialist Credential program after June 30, 2014*.

The sole purpose of grants funds awarded shall be payment of current tuition expenses for Education Specialist Credential students in Santa Barbara County or payment of verified student debt incurred during the course of obtaining an Education Specialist Credential. All grant recipients shall immediately make reasonable efforts to teach as special educators in Santa Barbara County for a minimum of four of the five years following receipt of grant funding (see authorizing legislation information on the application for more details on recipient obligations.)

II. Return Information

A full set of completed, original application materials is required in order to be considered to receive grant funds. Mail your complete set of original documents to:

Santa Barbara County Education Office

ATTN: Credentials Services

PO Box 6307

Santa Barbara, CA 93160-6307

Originals required: Scanned, faxed, or photocopied documents will not be considered.

III. Statement of Commitment

By signing this statement, I attest under penalty of perjury that I am the individual named on the attached application. Further, I attest to the best of my understanding that I meet all requirements for receipt of Local Solutions Grant funds and agree to adhere to all conditions as described in the enclosed information.

Applicant Full Legal Name: _____

Applicant Signature: _____

Today's Date: _____

Authorizing Legislation Information

Section 39: Article 16. Teacher Recruitment, Retention, and Support Grant Programs

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(2) (A) A teacher participant who receives a teacher service scholarship, signing bonus, or student debt payment shall agree to teach at a school within the jurisdiction of the grant recipient and work as an education specialist serving a caseload of pupils who receive special education services in a special education setting for four years, and the teacher participant shall have five years to meet that obligation. (B) A teacher participant who fails to complete the service obligation described in subparagraph (A) shall reimburse the sponsoring grant recipient the amount of grant funding received as a teacher service scholarship, signing bonus, or student debt payment. The amount to be reimbursed shall be adjusted proportionately to reflect the service provided if the teacher participant taught at least one year, but less than the required four years, at the sponsoring grant recipient. (C) If a teacher participant is unable to complete a school year of teaching, that school year may still be counted toward the required four complete school years if any of the following occur: (i) The teacher participant has completed at least one-half of the school year. (ii) The employer deems the teacher participant to have fulfilled his or her contractual requirements for the school year for the purposes of salary increases, probationary or permanent status, and retirement. (iii) The teacher participant was not able to teach due to the financial circumstances of the sponsoring grant recipient, including a decision to not reelect the employee for the next succeeding school year. (iv) The teacher participant has a condition covered under the federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. Sec. 2061 et seq.) or similar state law. (v) The teacher participant was called or ordered to active duty status for more than 30 days as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States.



Santa Barbara County Education Office

4400 Cathedral Oaks Rd, PO Box 6307, Santa Barbara, CA 93160-6307
Telephone: (805) 964-4711 • FAX: (805) 964-4712 • sbceo.org

Susan C. Salcido, Superintendent of Schools

Local Solutions to the Shortage of Special Education Teachers Certification for Reimbursement

For 2019-20 School Year - due at SBCEO with required application materials by 5/1/20

Escape PO# 13R _____ - _____ (for internal use – leave blank)

Grant Applicant – please print your name

Mailing Address - where you want payment sent

\$ _____
Tuition / student debt expenses.

Note: this form is solely for use by individuals applying for funding from the SBCEO Local Solutions to the shortage of special education teachers grant program. Eligible applicants must submit complete applications with all required supporting documentation in order to be considered for funding.

By signing this Certification for Reimbursement document, I attest and affirm that I am a current special education teacher at a public school agency in Santa Barbara County, or that I am actively enrolled in a university program for an Education Specialist Instruction Credential. Further, by signing I verify that the attached proof of payment is for expenses incurred while actively enrolled in a program for an Education Specialist Instruction Credential.

Signature of individual seeking grant funding - original signature required for payment processing.

Reminder: by accepting this grant funding, your teaching commitment must be consistent with the terms of this grant program.

This reimbursement is approved in Escape via electronic approval. Contact Tom Heiduk, Human Resources, (805) 964-4711, ext 5266

Fiscal Use:

\$ _____
Grand Total of Reimbursement