



February 14, 2017

Keith Goeckner
Illinois State Board of Education
Data Analysis
100 N. First St.
Springfield, IL 62777

Dear Keith Goeckner:

Thank you for submitting a report of your State's proposed teacher shortage areas, and providing the appropriate supporting information. The U.S. Department of Education (Department) has evaluated your proposed teacher shortage areas pursuant to specific provisions addressed in regulations concerning Federal student financial aid programs. In particular, 34 CFR Sec. 682.210(q)(6) and 682.210(q)(7) address the prescribed and alternative methodologies to calculate the proposed designated teacher shortage areas as well as the supporting documentation and assurances that must accompany the requested shortage areas.

In response to your submission, the Department has designated the following academic disciplines or subject matter (noted at specific grade levels, if provided) and geographic regions (if reported) as teacher shortage areas during the 2017-2018 school year:

Statewide Academic Disciplines or Subject Matter

Adult Education	Mathematics
At-Risk (Pre-K)	Algebra
Art	Basic/General
Bilingual Education	Geometry
Career and Technical Educator (CTE)	Math - Other
Computer Literacy/Technology Teacher	Music
Computer Programming	Music (K-8)
Driver Education	Instrumental
Elementary - Standard Teacher	Vocal
English	Physical Education
Language Arts	Elementary Physical Ed. (K-8)
English - Other	Physical Education (9-12)
Reading	Resource Teacher
English as a Second Language	Elementary
Foreign Language - Spanish	Foreign Language (6-12)
Gifted Education	Math
Health Education	Reading (6-12)

Reading Specialist
Science General
Biology
Chemistry
Science - Other
Physics
Social Science
Special Education
Bilingual Special Education
Hearing Impairment
Learning Behavior Specialist I

Learning Behavior Specialist II
Special Education - Other
Speech and Language Impaired Teacher
Title I - Remedial Reading
Voc Tech
Agriculture
Family and Consumer Sciences
Business, Marketing, Management
Health Occupations
Industrial Occupations
Miscellaneous

Geographic Shortage Areas

Chicago Citywide Resource Teacher CPS
Area One
Area Two
Area Three
Area Four
Area Five
Area Six

For your information, the Department's approval of the proposed shortage areas in your State may benefit student grant and loan recipients who are qualified to teach in the academic disciplines, grade levels, and/or geographic regions in your State where the designated teacher shortages currently occur.

These benefits to student financial aid recipients, such as loan cancellations, are indicated in the following regulatory provisions:

- 34 CFR 682.210(b)(5)(ii), (b)(7), (q), and (s) enable a borrower who had no outstanding Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program loan on July 1, 1987, but who had an outstanding FFEL Program loan on July 1, 1993, to qualify for deferment of loan repayment under the Stafford Loan Program anytime within the life of the borrower's loan(s) for up to three years of service as a full-time teacher in a private elementary or secondary school in a teacher shortage area designated by the Department, and as certified by the chief administrative officer of the particular school in which the borrower is teaching;
- 34 CFR 674.53(c) enables Federal Perkins Loan borrowers who are full-time teachers of mathematics, science, foreign languages, bilingual education, **or any other field of expertise where the State educational agency determined there is a shortage of qualified teachers** to qualify for cancellation of up to 100% of the outstanding balance on the borrower's Federal Perkins loans; and
- 34 CFR 686.12(d) enables grant recipients to fulfill their teaching obligation under the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education

(TEACH) Grant Program (regarding the requirement to serve at least four academic years, within eight years of graduation) by teaching in a “high-need field,” which includes academic disciplines/subject areas identified as teacher shortage areas at the time the grant recipient begins teaching in that field.

Please refer Stafford Loan and Supplemental Loans for Students (SLS) borrowers who have questions concerning their loans, including the teacher shortage area deferment, to the Federal Student Aid Hotline at 1-800-4FED-AID. Refer Federal Perkins Loan borrowers to the school where they received the loan.

If you have any questions regarding the Department’s designation of your State’s teacher shortage areas in specific academic disciplines, please contact Freddie Cross by telephone (202) 453-7224 or e-mail at freddie.cross@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gail McLarnon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G".

Gail McLarnon

Senior Director, Policy Development,
Analysis, and Accreditation