



SCHOOL BOARD OF POLK COUNTY

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January 4, 2008

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Senior Directors, Principals, Assistant Principals and Principals' Secretaries

FROM: Linda Searcy, Director of Personnel

SUBJECT: Critical Teacher Shortage Loan Forgiveness and Critical Teacher Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Program Application Information for 2007-2008

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) has made available the Florida Financial Aid Application for Teachers and information regarding Critical Teacher Shortage Student Loan Forgiveness and the Critical Teacher Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Programs; awards are for the 2007-2008 academic school years.

To be eligible for the **Critical Teacher Shortage Loan Forgiveness Program** a teacher will be FDOE certified or Florida Department of Health licensed and teaching for the first time in a critical shortage subject area in a publicly-funded school for the 2007-08 academic school years. **Application deadline is July 15, 2008.**

To be eligible for the **Critical Teacher Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Program** a teacher must be FDOE certified or Florida Department of Health licensed and have taken classes leading toward a certification in a critical teacher shortage subject area from fall 2007 through summer 2008. **Application deadline is September 15, 2008.**

2007-2008 Approved Critical Teacher Shortage Subject Areas for the Critical Teacher Shortage Loan Forgiveness Program: Foreign Languages, Middle and High School Level Mathematics, Middle and High School Level Science, Reading, School Psychology, Technology Education – Industrial Arts, Exceptional Student Education Programs (ESE) This certification area also includes: Autism, Emotionally Handicapped, Hearing Impaired, Mentally Handicapped, Physically Impaired, Specific Learning Disabled, Speech and Language Impaired, Varying Exceptionalities, and Visually Impaired. **Endorsements are not eligible.**

2007-2008 Approved Critical Teacher Shortage Areas for the Critical Teacher Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Program: Foreign Languages, Middle and High School Level Mathematics, Middle and High School Level Science, Reading, School Psychology, Technology Education – Industrial Arts, Exceptional Student Education Programs (ESE). This certification area also includes: Autism, Emotionally Handicapped, Hearing Impaired, Mentally Handicapped, Physically Impaired, Specific Learn Disabled, Speech and Language Impaired, Varying Exceptionalities, and Visually Impaired. **Endorsement Areas for CTS Tuition Reimbursement: Autism, English for Speakers of Other Languages, Gifted, Orientation and Mobility, Prekindergarten Disabilities, Reading, Severe or Profound Handicapped/Disabilities, and American Sign Language.**

Apply online at [www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org]. On the Homepage select Grants, Scholarships & Applications>Apply Here>Initial Teacher Application. Be sure to read all the information provided to avoid any errors when you fill out the application.

*Polk County Schools -
an equal opportunity
institution for education
and employment*

*The Mission of Polk County Public Schools is to ensure rigorous, relevant learning experiences
that result in high achievement for our students.*