# Short Guide to the Teacher Education Scholarship



#### **About**

This guide was developed to help you apply for the Teacher Education Scholarship.

Bermuda's public education is currently being reformed, "to provide the people of Bermuda with an education system that they can trust and believe in, and that enables students to achieve great learning and life outcomes." 1

Therefore, the Ministry of Education, in conjunction with the Department of Education and the Education Reform Unit, are seeking talented, passionate and committed persons who aspire not only to teach, but to help improve achievement for young people. You can learn more about education reform at: https://www.learningfirstbda.com/about-education-reform.

This award provides funding to persons on track to achieve teaching certification in subject areas of need in Bermuda Public Schools. Successful recipients are required to teach in Bermuda Public Schools for the same period of time as their scholarship. For example, a 2-year scholarship would require you to teach in Bermuda Public Schools for 2 years.

Recipients of this scholarship must complete their studies and become qualified to teach and be prepared to start employment in Bermuda Public Schools within 3 years of the scholarship award. This includes the successful completion of a practicum and registration with the Bermuda Educators Council.

## Value

This award is valued at up to \$20,000.

# Term

This scholarship is tenable for up to 3 years.

## **Application Requirements**

Please carefully review scholarships and awards for eligibility and application requirements. To be considered, you must follow the application instructions and ensure that your application is complete and submitted by the deadline of April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024. All applications must be submitted on <a href="https://www.Bermudascholarships.com">www.Bermudascholarships.com</a>. Should you experience challenges with uploading documents, please refer to the HELP feature on the Bermuda Scholarships website. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Ministry/Scholarships 2023

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.learningfirstbda.com/about-education-reform

# Eligibility

In order to apply, you must:

- i. Have applied to a programme of initial teacher training (i.e. a Bachelor or Master of Education) in one of the identified content or specialist teaching areas of need in Bermuda Public Schools\*
- ii. Be able to graduate with teaching qualifications in at least two consecutive stages, e.g. Lower Secondary/Upper Secondary or Key Stages 3 and 4 or Intermediate/Senior
- iii. Complete your studies and become qualified to teach and be prepared to start employment in Bermuda Public Schools within 3 years of the scholarship award. This includes the successful completion of a practicum and registration with the Bermuda Educators Council.
- iv. Demonstrate strong academic performance and have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
- v. Have sophomore standing
- vi. Demonstrate ongoing service and contributions to their school and/or the community
- vii. Demonstrate evidence of leadership experience
- viii. Be a Bermudian
- ix. Have been educated in Bermuda for at least 5 years, and
- x. Be able to effect a bond signed by two guarantors, both of whom must be Bermudian, over the age of 21 and not over the age of 70, and only one of whom may be a parent of the recipient

# Teaching Areas of Need in Bermuda Public Schools\*

The content and specialist teaching areas identified are:

# Primary School (P1 to P8 Years)

- Special Education
  - o Mild to moderate exceptionalities
  - Moderate to severe exceptionalities
- Music
- Reading
- Physical Education
- Mathematics
- Information Technology
- Design and Technology
- Science
- Modern Foreign Languages/Bilingual Education

# Middle and Senior School

- Science
  - o General
  - o Physics
  - o Chemistry
  - o Animal/Veterinarian Sciences
  - Marine Sciences
- Advanced Mathematics

Ministry/Scholarships 2023

- Music
- Special Education
  - Mild to moderate exceptionalities
  - o Moderate to severe exceptionalities
- Special Education, with a minor in a specialist subject area, e.g. English Language Arts, Mathematics and/or Science
- English Language Arts
- Social Studies
- Geography
- History
- Modern Foreign Languages
  - o Spanish
  - o French
- Design and Technology
  - o Carpentry
  - o Automotive Studies
  - o Personal Care/Cosmetology/Esthetician-focused
- Special Education
  - o Mild to moderate exceptionalities
  - o Moderate to severe exceptionalities
- Special Education, with a minor in a specialist subject area, e.g. English Language Arts, Mathematics and/or Science

# **Application Checklist**

Required Documents
Transcripts
Personal reference letter (signed and dated no more than two years prior to 2024)
Academic reference letter (signed and dated no more than two years prior to 2024)
Official letter or certificate evidencing extra-curricular or service activities in school and/or the
community
Proof of Bermuda status
Proof of 5 years of education in Bermuda
Completed essay questions
Acceptance letter
Completed financial need form (if demonstrating financial need)**
Estimated costs of tuition and accommodation from College or University
Resume

<sup>\*\*</sup>Applications will be accepted from applicants with and without financial need. Applicants demonstrating financial need are required to upload the financial need form under 'additional documents' on www.Bermudascholarships.com.

Ministry/Scholarships 2023

In its discretion, the Scholarships and Awards Committee or a representative of the Ministry of Education may ask you for additional documents to help support your application. If you do not submit the required documents by the time requested, you will be disqualified from consideration.

# Where to Find Scholarships and Awards

Apply online <u>here</u> Or use the search word 'Ministry' on <u>www.bermudascholarships.com</u> to find detailed descriptions and application requirements for all of our scholarships and awards.

## Teacher Education Scholarship Application Questions

#### Instructions

- 1. Please read the instructions and the questions carefully.
- 2. Your answers must be typed in a single Word document and uploaded as part of your application on Bermudascholarships.com.
- 3. Each answer should be no more than 400 words in length.
- 4. Ensure that your full name and the date are typed at the top of the page of your answers.
- 5. Please type each question and type each answer immediately below each question.

## Questions

- 1. Why do you want to be a teacher?
- 2. What does comprehensive education mean to you?
- 3. What contribution would you make to the Bermuda Public School System?

## **Application Tips**

You should:

- Begin your application as soon as possible. Don't wait until the last minute in case you have problems getting all of the documents or have computer problems.
- Ask for help so that someone else can help you review and proofread your application. They can ensure that you have all of the needed documents and read over your answers.
- Ask people who will write good letters to be your references. Ask early enough to give them time to write strong letters of recommendation.
- Read and reread the questions asked so that you understand what is being asked.
- Ensure that you answer the application questions asked, rather than submit a personal essay.
- Reflect on the questions, including why you want to be a teacher, the value of education for all children, and the kind of teacher you think you will be. Think about your experiences, accomplishments, and any relevant challenges you have faced.
- Carefully review your own application. Ensure that you edit your answers so that they are clear and don't have any mistakes. Be sure to check that you have all of the documents needed for your application.

# Questions

If you have any questions, contact the Ministry of Education at <a href="mailto:scholarships@moed.bm">scholarships@moed.bm</a> or 278-3300.

Ministry/Scholarships 2023 4