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# Minority Teacher Education Scholars Program Florida Fund for Minority Teachers, Inc.

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[Section 1009.60, Florida Statutes](#)

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## Program Description

The Minority Teacher Education Scholars (MTES) program is a collaborative performance-based scholarship program for African-American, Hispanic-American, Asian-American, and Native American students administered by the Florida Fund for Minority Teachers, Inc. (FFMT).

The participating institutions include Florida College System institutions and public and private universities that have teacher education programs. A listing of eligible institutions and contact information is available at [Florida Fund for Minority Teachers](#).

## Applying for an Award

Applications are available on the [FFMT website](#). The application deadline for the fall semester is July 1 and for the spring semester is November 1. A 100-300 word essay is required with the application.

## Requirements to Receive Funding

The student will:

- Be a Florida resident and a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen. A student's residency and citizenship status are determined by the postsecondary institution. Questions regarding such status should be directed to the financial aid office or admissions office of the institution the student plans to attend.
- Have not earned more than 18 hours of upper-division-level courses in education at the time of application.
- Belong to one of the following racial groups: African American/Black, Hispanic/Latino, Asian American/Pacific Islander, or American Indian/Alaskan native.
- Be admitted into a teacher education program at any of the program's eligible participating [postsecondary institutions](#).

## Student Award Renewal

- A renewal application is not required. A recipient is automatically considered for a renewal award each semester (fall and spring).
- Students receiving the scholarship must attend the Annual Teacher Recruitment and Retention Symposiums and maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average.
- Eligibility for renewal is determined at the end of each semester (fall and spring). Renewal details can be found on the [FFMT website](#).

## Award Procedures

- The FFMT will determine applicant eligibility.
- The annual award is set per Section 1009.60(3), Florida Statutes.

## Award Disbursement

The postsecondary institution will disburse awards to eligible students each term. Awards are not available for the summer term.

## Terms of Eligibility

- A student is eligible to receive an award for a maximum of 3 years if the student remains full-time in the program to receive certification (if funding is available) at an eligible institution.
- An award may be used to pursue a graduate degree in education, leading to initial certification.

## Student Obligation

- Upon graduation, a recipient is required to teach one year in a Florida public school for each year the scholarship (\$4,000) was received.
- If a recipient does not graduate within the 3 years of receiving scholarship funding (unless deferment is requested and approved), or if a recipient does not teach in a Florida public school, the recipient will be required to repay the total amount of the scholarship received at an annual interest rate of eight percent (8%), paid within 10 years. Conditions of payment must be established with the FFMT.

- Repayments for required teaching experience may be made in cash (scholarship plus interest), paid within 10 years.
- Conditions of repayment must be established with FFMT. Late payments will subject the recipient to penalty charges.
- If a recipient does not repay the scholarship, legal action may be taken to force the recipient to pay.
- Complete required forms for documented circumstances, teaching service, and repayment.

**Note:** MTES recipients should refer to their promissory notes for information on required forms, deferments, penalties, and other detailed scholarship information.

### Institutional Appeal Process

An applicant who believes financial aid has been wrongly denied has certain rights to appeal. If aid is denied for failure to meet state academic progress requirements, an applicant may appeal the denial to the institution by providing proof of illness or other emergency beyond the applicant's control. An institutional academic progress appeal is to be filed within 30 days of the denial letter or by the date established by the institution's financial aid office, whichever is later.

### Updating Information

A recipient must submit to the FFMT, Form Attachment D, Status Update Form (available on the FFMT website), when any of the following circumstances occur before the scholarship is repaid:

- Graduation from the approved program;
- Change in name;
- Change in address;
- Change of college or university; and
- Termination of full-time enrollment.

A recipient must also request the school to notify the FFMT in writing of expected date of graduation changes.

- Mail FFMT correspondence to: FFMT, Inc., G415 Norman Hall, P. O. Box 117045, 618 SW 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Gainesville, FL 32611-7045
- Call FFMT at 352-392-9196 for assistance.

## Use of an Applicant's Social Security Number/Non-discrimination Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 requires state agencies to inform applicants of the reasons for requesting their Social Security Numbers (SSN). The FDOE requests an SSN on all applications for student financial assistance in order to correctly identify applicants, match each applicant's financial aid record with the student record at the postsecondary institution the applicant attends, and help coordinate state student aid programs with federal student aid programs.

An applicant will not be denied financial assistance for failure to disclose the SSN. Without an SSN, correct identification of an applicant's record cannot be assured and may result in an error in the award amount or a delay in the disbursement of an award.

Pursuant to Section 1000.05, Florida Statutes, state student financial assistance is provided to eligible applicants without discriminating on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, disability, or marital status. Minority status will be considered when required by law as a condition of eligibility or selection.

## Contact Information

**Address:**

Florida Fund for Minority Teachers, Inc.  
G415 Norman Hall  
P.O. Box 117045  
618 SW 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Gainesville, Florida 32611-7045

**Phone:**

1-352-392-9196  
1-352-846-3011 (Fax)