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2015-2016 Teacher Shortage Areas and Loan Forgiveness Programs

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August 17, 2015

TO THE ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESSED:

SUBJECT: 2015-2016 Teacher Shortage Areas and Loan Forgiveness Programs

The United States Department of Education (USDE) has approved the 2015-2016 teacher shortage areas submitted by the Texas Education Agency (TEA).

The approved shortage areas for the 2015-2016 school year are:

1. Bilingual/English as a Second Language
2. Career and Technical Education
3. Computer Science
4. English as a Second Language
5. Mathematics
6. Science
7. Special Education – Elementary and Secondary Levels

The approved shortage areas give administrators the ability to recruit and retain qualified teachers and to help reward teachers for their hard work using the loan forgiveness opportunities. School principals can certify that a teacher has met the minimum qualifications required for certain loan forgiveness programs.

The federal, state, and public service loan forgiveness programs are available to teachers. All school personnel can take advantage of the public service program.

More information about eligibility for each of the programs and application forms can be found on the TEA website at: [http://tea.texas.gov/Texas Educators/Educator Initiatives and Performance/Federal Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program/](http://tea.texas.gov/Texas_Educators/Educator_Initiatives_and_Performance/Federal_Teacher_Loan_Forgiveness_Program/).

For additional information about loan forgiveness opportunities, please contact James Golsan in the Department of Educator Leadership and Quality at james.golsan@tea.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

Ryan Franklin
Associate Commissioner
Educator Leadership and Quality

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