

ASPIRING TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP

The Aspiring Teacher Scholarship was established for California State University (CSU) students enrolled in post-baccalaureate teacher education programs interested in teaching in bilingual classrooms or working with English learners and/or students who are bilingual. It is for multiple subject, single subject, and education specialist credential students. The scholarship recognizes students in these groups who demonstrate a financial need and have attributes of merit including excellent academic performance, significant personal achievements, and community service. All potentially eligible post-bac teacher education students are encouraged to apply.

It is planned that a total of 50 scholarships will be awarded at participating CSUs (Bakersfield, Fresno, and Stanislaus). Scholarships will be \$10,000. Applicants must:

- Have an interest in teaching in bilingual classrooms and/or working with English learners
- Demonstrate financial need as determined by the campus Financial Aid Office
- Be currently enrolled in a full-time equivalent post-baccalaureate program and must remain a full-time equivalent CSU student during the academic year
- Be in good academic standing
- Be in a Multiple Subject, Single Subject, PK-3 or Education Specialist program at Fresno State

Please note: Past recipients are not eligible to reapply.

Apply through the online application below by October 31, 2025:

[SSO Application Link](#)

Complete and submit the 2025-26 Aspiring Teacher Scholarship application via the link above, which includes:

Personal Statement Essays (300-word limit for each question)

1. Why are you interested in becoming a teacher? What motivates you to become a teacher?
2. Why are you interested in teaching English Learner students—those for whom English was not their first language? Why?
3. Are you, or do you want to become bilingual? Why? What would being bilingual help you do as a teacher?
4. Describe community service, extracurricular activities, volunteer experience and/or previous academic honors or awards.
5. Do you have financial needs that a scholarship will help you address? Please describe.

One Letter of Reference

One letter of reference from any individual within an organization the candidate has worked with or from a former students or former mentee of the candidate.

Financial Aid will review applicants to ensure they meet all requirements. Scholarship recipients are required to provide a note of appreciation prior to fund distribution.

Please reach out to Heather McDowell with any questions at hmcowell@mail.fresnostate.edu or 559.278.0244