



Teacher Education Loan and Currently Practicing Teacher (CPT) Grant Programs Summary

The Association of Waldorf Schools of North America (AWSNA) is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to strengthen and support member Waldorf schools and teacher education institutes throughout North America. One aspect of this is providing financial assistance to people training to be teachers in AWSNA-member institutes in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. These programs are made possible by contributions to AWSNA from member schools, and by grants from various foundations.

We are pleased to be able to offer two programs for this purpose:

1. **Teacher Education Loan Program.**

This loan is for individuals interested in teaching in an AWSNA or Waldorf Early Childhood Association of North America (WECAN)-member, and is applicable for teacher training courses, not foundation courses. Loans are distributed on a yearly basis.

In exchange for receiving the loan, applicants must agree to the following:

- a. You must be hired as a three-quarter to full-time teacher in an AWSNA or WECAN member school for a total of at least three consecutive academic years within three years after you graduate from the program. For each consecutive year that you teach three-quarter to full-time at an AWSNA or WECAN member school, the loan will be converted to a scholarship by AWSNA, up to the entire loan balance. Any scholarship funds may be taxable income, and the student may wish to consult with an accountant or tax professional. Applicants who begin teaching prior to graduation may have these years of teaching retroactively applied towards the three years of service, as long as one of the three years occurs in the year immediately following graduation.
- b. Loans are interest-free during study and while teaching in an AWSNA or WECAN member school. If you do not meet the requirements of 1.a., as stated above, or should you fail to complete the teacher training, the loan you received must be repaid in full at 1% interest per month as described in the Teacher Education Fund loan contract. ***For this reason, you must be in a secure financial position to receive an AWSNA loan should you have to repay it.***



ASSOCIATION OF WALDORF SCHOOLS OF NORTH AMERICA*

2. **Currently Practicing Teacher (CPT) Matching Grant Program.**

This grant is for individuals already teaching in AWSNA or WECAN member or schools as they pursue their training. AWSNA provides outright grants that are matched by the school at which the applicant is teaching. Grants are distributed on a yearly basis. Where the combined total of AWSNA and school matching grants does not reach 100% of tuition, applicants may also apply for a teacher education loan with the approval of the teacher education institute.

How to Apply for the Loan and Grant Programs

- Applicants apply for the loan and/or grant program directly through the educational institute they are attending. Please contact the registrar or financial officer for the link to an online application. Your application will be reviewed by the institute and submitted along with other applications for the funds allocated to that institution.
- For CPT grants, the application must be accompanied by a letter from the school where the applicant teaches, specifying the maximum amount of matching funds the school will commit.
- Application deadlines are set by the institute, but are generally set in late May for summer and fall enrollment. Consult your institute for exact dates for application and award notification. Funds are distributed directly to the institute as tuition payments.
- Amount of the loan and grant varies each year and depends on the funding available.