



Noyce- FRESno TEaching Fellows (FRETEF) Program

It is estimated that the nation's schools will need to hire 2.2 million teachers, including 240,000 middle and high school mathematics and science teachers, in the next decade due to projected enrollment increases, anticipated retirements, and the attrition of new teachers (National Commission on Mathematics and Science Teaching for the 21st Century, 2000). Research on effective teachers has shown persistent correlations between student performance and teacher quality (Sanders and Rivers, 1996; Jordan Mendro, and Weerasinghe, 1997). Teacher's content knowledge, particularly in science and mathematics, is an important factor in determining student achievement (Goldhaber and Brewer, 1996, National Research Council, 2000). A large percentage of science and mathematics teachers lack even a minor in their teaching field, with 56% of public secondary students receiving instruction in the physical sciences from teachers without a major or minor in the physical sciences and 27% of students receiving mathematics instruction in classes taught by teachers lacking a minor in mathematics. Although the problem of out-of-field teaching is widespread, students in high-poverty schools are 77% more likely to be taught by an out-of-field teacher than students in low poverty schools (Ingersoll, 1999, 2002). As many as 50% of new teachers in urban school districts leave the teaching profession within their first three years, further exacerbating shortages and misassignment of teachers. A survey of urban school districts conducted by the Council of the Great City Schools and Recruiting New Teachers, Inc., in 1998-99, indicated that 95% of responding urban school districts had an immediate demand for high school science and mathematics teachers. Eighty percent reported a need for middle school science and mathematics teachers (Urban Teacher Collaborative, 2000).

The Robert Noyce Scholarship program, authorized under the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-368), responds to the critical need for K-12 teachers of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics by encouraging talented science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) students and STEM professionals to pursue teaching careers in elementary and secondary schools. In addition to Noyce Scholarships and Stipends, the program also funds institutions of higher education to provide fellowships and programmatic support to STEM majors and STEM professionals entering and completing teacher-credentialing programs in conjunction with a Master of Arts or Science in Science or Mathematics related areas. Noyce Teaching Fellowship recipients are required, with substantial financial support, to complete four years of teaching in a high need school district. The program seeks to increase the number of K-12 teachers with strong STEM content knowledge.

Fellowships for STEM Majors

A FRESTEF Fellowship provides one year of financial support as students complete their academic program for a credential and Master of Arts or Sciences. Recipients must commit to completion of four years of service as mathematics or science teachers in order to continue to receive full support. Service must be performed within 6 years after graduation, and it must be performed in a high need local educational agency that meets one or more of the following criteria:

- (A) It has at least one school in which 50 percent or more of the enrolled students are eligible for participation in the free or reduced price lunch program established by the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C.1751 et seq.) or **where the API scores are at or below the 50th percentile.**
- (B) It has at least one school in which: (i) more than 34 percent of the academic classroom teachers at the secondary level (across all academic subjects) do not have an undergraduate degree with a major or minor in, or a graduate degree in the academic field in which they teach the largest percentage of their classes; or (ii) more than 34 percent of the teachers in two of the academic departments do not have an undergraduate degree with a major or minor in, or a graduate degree in, the academic field in which they teach the largest percentage of their classes.
- (C) It has at least one school whose teacher attrition rate has been 15 percent or more over the last three school years.

Please note: it is also expected that students will maintain full-time, uninterrupted progress toward completion of the science or mathematics teaching credential and of a disciplinary master's degree in a science discipline or in mathematics field.

Forfeiture or Default

Noyce Teaching Fellows who fail to meet program requirements and/or the completion of the service requirement will be considered in default resulting in forfeiture of the stipend or scholarship with repayments pro-rated accordingly to reflect partial service completed. The institution is responsible for collecting the repayment amounts in accordance with P. L. 107-368 SEC. 10 (g). All forfeited scholarship or stipend funds, less grantee administrative costs associated with the collection of the repayment not to exceed 5% of the forfeited amount, will be returned to the United States Treasury.

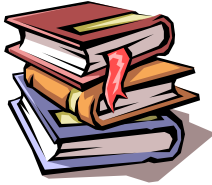
California State University Fresno
Science and Mathematics Education Center (SMEC)
FRESno Teaching Fellows (FRESTEF) Program

Funded under the NSF Robert C. Noyce Scholarship programs



Conditions of Award

- **US Citizenship**
- **Completion of application and successful interview**
- **Full-time enrollment in a M.A. or M.S in Science or Mathematics degree program and in the Single Subject Science or Mathematics Credential Program at California State University Fresno**
- **GPA of approximately 3.0 – 3.2 (*maintenance of required GPA while funded as Noyce Scholar is expected*)**
- **Commitment to teach science or mathematics in a high need school for four years**
- **Agree to participate in all support programs; these may include summer institutes, summer research internships, special academic year support programs; and an Early Field Experience (EFE) program**
To assure that you will be successful in a “high need” school the EFE will be required when students are not completing their student teaching phase. More exposure to “high need” schools will only increase the likelihood of success.
- **Complete both Credential and Masters Degree requirements within approximately two years.**
- **Sign an obligatory legal Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) binding the individual to the conditions of the Noyce Fellows Scholarship program**



FRESTEF

Fresno Teaching Fellows Program

Application

Name (Mr. Ms.) _____ Year in School _____

Last

First

Address _____

Street

City

State

Zip

Phone # _____ E-mail Address _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth _____

Current GPA _____ Gender _____

Ethnicity _____ Soc. Sec. # _____

Years Attended CSUF _____ or Other _____ Years _____

Are you an undergraduate , credential , or graduate student? _____

Major/Area _____

What is your anticipated graduation date or date that you will complete your credential? _____

What is your anticipated graduation date for the completion of your Masters? _____

Are you the first to attend a college or university? Yes _____ No _____

How many in your family have attended a college or university? _____

Are you the first to graduate from a college or university? Yes _____ No _____ Will be _____

What highest grade level did your parents complete?

Mother _____ Father _____

Did they graduate from their class? Yes _____ No _____

How many siblings do you have? _____

Do you have a degree(s)? Yes_____ No_____ Please list your degree(s)_____

If you completed a bachelor's degree, in what professional field(s) have you worked?

How did you find out about the FRESTEF Program?

- Friend
- CSUF Professor _____
Name of Professor
- CC Instructor _____
Name of Instructor
- Other _____

On a separate sheet of paper, please write a brief essay (not to exceed 500 words) explaining why you are interested in participating in the FRESTEF program.

If accepted, I agree to fully fulfill all the requirements of the Noyce - FRESTEF program.

Signature

Date

Please return this application, your essay, three letters of recommendation and your academic transcript(s) as soon as possible to:

Jaime Arvizu, SMEC Associate Director
California State University, Fresno
Science and Mathematics Education Center
2555 E. San Ramon Ave. M/S SB 73.
Fresno, CA 93740
Phone: (559) 278-5173
FAX: (559) 278-5200
jaimea@csufresno.edu
www.csufresno.edu/smec

OFFICE USE ONLY			
Approved:		Date of Acceptance:	
Notes:			

Noyce FRESTEF Program: NSF Grant# DUE-
Request for a Letter of Recommendation
Background Information

The National Science Foundation's FRESno State TEaching Fellows Program (FRESTEF) is a highly prestigious program designed to provide both programmatic and financial support for students, pursuing both a credential and masters, who are planning to teach at the secondary school level. The Noyce FRESTEF program, one of very few funded in the nation, is being administered through Science and Mathematics Education Center (SMEC) located in the College of Science and Mathematics. The program requires each applicant to secure letters of recommendation from three faculty members (one may be a Mentor Teacher) who have familiarity with the candidate. Letters should address the candidate's commitment to becoming a teacher of science or mathematics; the candidate's academic scholarship and potential for leadership; the candidate's potential for success as a science or mathematics teacher; and of key importance,; the candidate's overall integrity.

FRESTEF Fellows are awarded a Fellowship for one year while they are completing course requirements for both a credential and a M.A or M.S. in Science or Mathematics. While serving as Fellows under this program and provided funding and programmatic support, there is the expectation that each FRESTEF Fellow will teach four years in a high need school as defined by one or more of the following:

- At least 30% of students attending the school are from families below the poverty line,or
- The school is in the top quartile of schools in the district ranked according to percentage of "out-of-field" teachers, percentage of teacher turnover, percentage of uncertified teachers, and/or percentage of teacher vacancies in mathematics and/or science, or
- The school is identified as a low performing school according to district or state student performance data

Once Fellows have completed both the credential and masters program, they will receive an annual salary augmentation from the project of \$13,000 annually for four years.

FRESTEF Fellows have up to 6 years to complete this obligation after program completion for which the scholarship or stipend was awarded, and it is expected that each Fellow will maintain steady, uninterrupted progress toward completing the teacher preparation program and meeting the Noyce obligation.

Please comment on this candidate's likely success as a science or mathematics teacher in a high need school. What kinds of attributes and skills or traits do you feel the candidate may possess that will help him or her be successful under the guidelines and expectations of this program?

Thank you for your time and attention to this very important request.

Sincerely,

David M. Andrews, PI

Science & Mathematics Education Center's FRESTEF Program

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