

**MHEC**

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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** June 19, 2013

**TO:** Renee Spence  
Maryland State Department of Education

**Cc:** Monica Wheatley, Program Manager/MHEC  
Terica Prater, Program Manager/MHEC  
Dawn Costigan, Program Administrator/MHEC

**FROM:** Pete Tyrrel   
Director, Office of Student Financial Assistance/MHEC

**SUBJECT:** New Loan Assistance Repayment Program – The Nancy Grasmick Teacher Award

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The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) is pleased to announce the availability of the Nancy Grasmick Teacher Award, a new loan assistance repayment program available to select Maryland teachers.

The Nancy Grasmick Teacher Award was created by the Maryland General Assembly as part of the 2012 Session. The program provides loan repayment assistance to those teachers that have student loan debt, have taught in Maryland for at least 2 years, and meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Teach in science, technology, engineering, or math subjects; OR teaches in a school in which at least 75% of the students are enrolled in the free and reduced meal program in the state for 2 years.
- Have received the highest performance evaluation rating for the most recent year available in the county in which the teacher has taught.

Due to limited availability of funds, priority will be given to those eligible applicants that:

- Graduated from an institution of higher education in the last 3 years.
- Are residents of the State of Maryland.
- Are employed on a full-time basis.

Additional information, including the on-line application, will be available on our website on July 1, 2013. Staff members are also available to answer any questions you may have and can be reached at 717-767-3300, or toll-free at 1-800-974-0203. Our hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.