

You may qualify for student loan assistance

Montana's Quality Educator Loan Assistance Program

Our union, MEA-MFT, knows that many Montana teachers and licensed professionals—our members—graduate with heavy student loan debts.

Plus, many areas of Montana have trouble finding and keeping qualified educators.

That's why MEA-MFT worked hard to get a loan assistance program passed in the Montana Legislature: to help our members and the Montana children and communities who need them.

Here's how it works:

With support from MEA-MFT, the Montana Legislature has authorized a Quality Educator Loan Assistance Program for K-12 educators and licensed professionals.

The program provides for the direct repayment of student loans. The total loan repayment assistance may not exceed \$3,000 per year for up to four years.

Qualified applicants will be ranked based on a scoring system that takes into account the impacted schools and academic areas.

To qualify for loan assistance, you must be:

- A full-time educator holding a valid educator license or a licensed professional providing services to students in a school district, an education cooperative, the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind, the Montana Youth Challenge Program or a state youth correctional facility.
- Teaching in an impacted school. These are more rural, have a higher percentage of economically disadvantaged students, and/or have greater challenges in closing the achievement gap.
- Teaching in an academic area impacted by critical educator shortages.

To apply for loan assistance through Montana's Educator Loan Assistance Program:

Visit this web site - <http://www.mgslp.org/repayment-options/discharge-and-forgiveness/quality-educator-loan-assistance-program>

Got questions?

If you have questions regarding the program and application process, contact the Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program at 800.537.7508. Or contact MEA-MFT Public Policy Director Marco Ferro at 800.398.0826, 406.442.4250, or mferro@mea-mft.org.