



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

November 19, 2009

Honorable Deborah A. Gist
Commissioner of Education
Rhode Island Department of Education
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903-3400

Dear Commissioner Gist:

The Department of Education has evaluated your proposed teacher shortage areas pursuant to Section 428 (b)(4)(B) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

The federal designation of teacher shortage areas in your state under:

- 34 CFR 682.210(q) enables a borrower *who had no outstanding Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program loan on July 1, 1987 but who had an outstanding FFEL Program loan on July 1, 1993* to qualify for deferment of loan repayment under the Federal Stafford Program *anytime within the life of the borrower's loan(s)*;
- 34 CFR 674.53(c) enables Federal Perkins Loan borrowers who are full time teachers of mathematics, science, foreign languages, bilingual education **or any other field of expertise where the State educational agency determined there is a shortage of qualified teachers** to qualify for cancellation of up to 100% of their loan;
- 34 CFR 686.12(d) enables grant recipients to fulfill their teaching obligation under the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program; and
- 34 CFR 653.50(a)(2)(ii) enables scholars to qualify for the reduction of teaching obligation under the Paul Douglas Teacher Scholarship Program.

In response to your submission, the Department has designated the following areas as teacher shortage areas during the 2010-11 school year.

Bilingual Spanish (Pre-K – 12)
Chemistry (7-12)
Early Childhood (Pre-K – 2)
English as a Second Language
General Science (7-12)

History (7-12)
Home Economics
Mathematics (7-12)
Physics (7-12)
School Nurse Teacher

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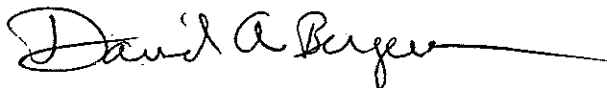
Special Education—
Special Educator – Early Childhood
Special Educator – Elementary/Middle
Special Educator – Middle/Secondary

Special Educator – Severe Profound
Support Professionals—
Reading Specialist Consultant
Vocational, Career, & Technology

Please refer Federal Stafford/SLS borrowers who have questions concerning their loans, including the teacher shortage area deferment, to the Federal Student Aid Hotline at 1-800-4FED-AID; refer Federal Perkins Loan borrowers to the school where they received the loan; and refer Douglas Scholars to the State agency that awarded the scholarship.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary A. Miller at (202) 502-7824 or via e-mail at mary.miller@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David A. Bergeron". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

David A. Bergeron
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Policy, Planning, & Innovation

cc: David V. Abbott
Charlotte Diffendale