

Dear Aspiring Teachers,

We are excited to announce that Valley State University has received a grant from the Department of Public Instruction to assist individuals pursuing a degree in teacher education. The assistance will provide two scholarships up to \$3,500 in the areas of **Elementary, Business, English, History, Mathematics, Physical Education, Spanish, Social Science, or Technology Education**. Teacher candidates pursuing a teaching degree with a specific endorsement aligned to the grant criteria will have preference and be eligible for additional scholarships (see table below).

Scholarship Criteria \$3,500 for a semester	Scholarship Amount Per Semester	Semesters Eligible	Total Scholarship per Student
Scholarships for online students seeking a K-12 Special Education, Early Childhood, or Kindergarten Endorsements - Incentive for Hard-to-Fill Endorsement Areas (minimum of 6 credits summer and 9 credits fall and spring)	Covering tuition and fees up to \$3,500 per semester	4	Up to \$14,000
Scholarships for online students seeking a K-12 ELL Endorsement - Incentive for Hard-to-Fill Endorsement Areas (minimum of 6 credits summer and 9 credits fall and spring)	Covering tuition and fees up to \$3,500 per semester	3	Up to \$10,500
Scholarships for online students enrolled or electing to enroll in the VCSU Teacher Education Program (minimum of 6 credits summer and 9 credits fall and spring)	Covering tuition and fees up to \$3,500 per semester	2	Up to \$7,000

### Additional Scholarship Guidelines

- Scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis aligned to grant criteria and performance standards in the VCSU Teacher Education Program. All students applying for the scholarships must be employed as a part-time paraprofessional or a part-time substitute teacher in a North Dakota school.  
*Part-time paraprofessional is defined as a minimum of 10 hours per week. A part-time substitute teacher is defined as a minimum of four days per month and must have a valid North Dakota substitute license. Additional details are provided in the application.*
- For new students, an Associate Degree is preferred but we will consider candidates who have met a minimum of 30 general education post-secondary credits counting towards their teaching degree.
- Students who are currently admitted into the VCSU Teacher Education Program will have initial preference. Additional preference will be considered for individuals seeking an endorsement in Special Education, Early Childhood, Kindergarten, or ELL. All other scholarships for new or existing online students will be awarded equally based on the VCSU Teacher Education performance standards.

### Scholarship Application Timelines

- March 20, 2023 – Deadline for all Applications
- April 1, 2023 – Notification of Scholarships Awarded

### Application Process

For all individuals interested in applying for the scholarships, please complete:

- The [Scholarship Application Link](#) by or before application deadlines listed above.
- The [Recommendation Form](#) by or before the application deadlines listed above.

### For Additional Questions

Please call 701-845-7189 or email [amber1.olson@vcsu.edu](mailto:amber1.olson@vcsu.edu)