

PhysTEC Noyce Scholarship Program Scholarship Agreement & Promissory Note

DIRECTIONS: Students selected to receive a PhysTEC Noyce Scholarship must read this agreement and promissory note, and provide the required information and signature. A copy of this agreement and promissory note is to be retained by the scholarship recipient and the original form is to be sent by the recipient to Dr. Monica Plisch, Assistant Director of Education, American Physical Society, One Physics Ellipse, College Park, MD 20740.

Students selected to receive the PhysTEC Noyce Scholarship must comply with all program requirements. Receipt of this scholarship is contingent upon meeting all eligibility requirements and execution of this agreement and promissory note. Read and carefully consider the commitments explained before signing this document.

I. SCHOLARSHIP AGREEMENT

- A. If I am applying for a scholarship to support my undergraduate education, I verify that I am enrolled in a program of study as a physics major or minor (or equivalent, as defined by the PhysTEC Noyce site leader at my institution) leading to a bachelor's degree in a science, technology, mathematics or engineering discipline, and that I will have attained at least junior status during the year(s) I am supported by the scholarship.

If I am applying for a scholarship to support my post-graduate education, I verify that I am enrolled in a program that leads to certification or licensure to teach high school physics (grades 9 - 12) AND I have completed a bachelor's degree in a science, technology, mathematics or engineering discipline, including a physics major or minor (or equivalent, as defined by the PhysTEC Noyce site leader at my institution).

I understand that this scholarship assistance will end if I cease to be enrolled in an eligible physics teacher education program. I further understand that I must maintain satisfactory academic progress as determined by my institution, and that scholarship assistance will end if I do not make satisfactory progress during any term of my enrollment.

- B. I agree that, within eight years of receipt of my degree and certification, I will fulfill all requirements to obtain certification to teach high school physics in the state in which I plan to teach AND I will complete two years of full-time teaching as a secondary science and/or mathematics teacher (grades 7 - 12) for every year of Noyce scholarship support. This teaching must be done in a school district that falls into at least one of the following three high need categories:
1. A school district that has at least one school in which 50 percent or more of the enrolled students are eligible for participation in the free and reduced price

lunch program established by the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 I.S.C. 1751 et seq.)

2. A school district that 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.
3. A school district that has at least one school whose teacher attrition rate has been 15 percent or more over the last three school years.

A list of high-need school districts near each PhysTEC Noyce institution is available at www.PhysTEC.org/noyce. PhysTEC Noyce site leaders can help identify other qualifying districts.

- C. I agree to provide APS with written verification of employment in a high-need school district at the end of each academic year of service through a letter of verification from each school district employer to APS (a letter template will be available on www.PhysTEC.org/noyce), AND to notify APS at such time as I am not in compliance with any of the requirements.
- D. I agree to inform APS within 60 days of any change in my name, permanent address, or other personal information disclosed in the “Student Information Section” of this agreement, AND if my employment in a high-needs school district (as defined above) ceases before I have fulfilled my full teaching obligation.

II. PROMISSORY NOTE

I agree that if I fail to meet the conditions described in Item I titled “Scholarship Agreement,” or if I have ceased to pursue a course of study in physics teacher education at a PhysTEC Noyce institution¹, I will repay either the full amount of the scholarship received or an amount prorated by the fraction of teaching employment obligation not completed plus applicable interest and fees (see below).

A. Repayment:

1. I agree to begin repaying my scholarship on the first day of the first month after the earliest to occur of any of the following:

¹ The six institutions involved in the PhysTEC Noyce program are University of Arkansas – Fayetteville, Ball State University, Cornell University, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, Seattle Pacific University, and Western Michigan University.

- (i) Six months after I have ceased to be enrolled in a physics teacher education program, without having completed the program;
 - (ii) I inform APS that I do not plan to fulfill my teaching employment obligation; OR
 - (iii) The latest date on which I must have begun teaching employment in order to fulfill my teaching obligation within eight years of completing the program for which the scholarship was awarded, as determined by APS.
2. I agree to make monthly payments to APS which cover outstanding principal and interest at the maximum legal prevailing rate, in accordance with P.L. 107-368 and any incurred reasonable collection costs, including, but not limited to, attorney fees and collection fees, according to a schedule established by APS. I must complete repayment within five years of entering repayment status (except as provided in Items II.B and II.C below). I understand that if I do not make the monthly payments as required by the schedule established by APS, APS will engage in collection efforts, including notification of credit bureaus concerning my default and litigation, similar to the collection efforts which are used by lenders and guarantee agencies in the guaranteed student loan program, and that those collection procedures are generally described in [34 CFR Part 682](#).

- B. Deferment: I understand that I will not be considered in violation of the repayment schedule during the time that I am:
1. Enrolled in a full time course of study in physics teacher education at a PhysTEC Noyce institution.
 2. Serving, not in excess of three (3) years, on active duty as a member of armed services of the United States.
 3. Temporarily disabled, for a period not to exceed three (3) years, as established by sworn affidavit of a qualified physician.
 4. Unable to secure employment for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months by reason of the care required by a spouse who is disabled.
 5. Seeking and unable to find employment for a single period not to exceed twenty-four (24) months; or
 6. Unable to satisfy the terms of the repayment schedule established by APS (as described in Item II.B [1]) and am also seeking and unable to find employment as a full or part time secondary science and/or mathematics teacher for a single period not to exceed twenty-four (24) months.

During the time I qualify for any of the exceptions described in this Item II.B, I do not need to make the scholarship repayments described in Item II.A. In order to qualify for any of these exceptions, I must promptly notify APS of my claim and provide supporting documentation acceptable to APS. If my deferment status changes at any time, I must notify APS within 60 days.

APS shall extend the five-year scholarship repayment period described in Item II.A(2) by a period equal to the length of time I meet any of the conditions in Item II.B, or if I am

unable to complete the scholarship repayments within this five-year period because of my financial condition, provided it has been established to the satisfaction of APS, and on which basis APS has granted to me a reduced schedule of repayments reflecting my financial condition.

C. Cancellation: APS shall cancel my repayment if:

1. I am unable to work as a teacher because of an impairment that is expected to continue indefinitely or results in death, on the basis of a sworn affidavit of a qualified physician.
2. I have become totally and permanently disabled as established by a sworn affidavit of a qualified physician.
3. I die, as established by a death certificate or other evidence of death that is conclusive under Maryland law.
4. Circumstances have occurred that APS considers as a compelling reason to excuse repayment.

D. I understand that I may appeal any determination made by APS that I am not in compliance with any of the requirements of the program. Appeals must be made in writing to Monica Plisch (address below) within 60 days of receipt of communication from APS that I am in non-compliance.

Please indicate your acceptance of these terms and conditions by signing the following page and returning it to:

Dr. Monica Plisch
Assistant Director of Education
American Physical Society
One Physics Ellipse
College Park, MD 20740

STUDENT INFORMATION SECTION:

Recipients of the PhysTEC Noyce Scholarship are required to provide the following information to the American Physical Society (APS) and inform APS if any of the below identifier information changes.

Name

(first) (middle) (last)

Permanent Address (street, city, state, zip code)

Current Address (if different from above – street, city, state, zip code)

E-mail address: _____

Telephone Number (_____) _____ (home/mobile – circle one)

Student ID No. _____

Social Security Number _____

Date of Birth _____

Anticipated Graduation Date _____ (month/year)

Student Signature: My signature below certifies that I have read and agree to the commitments presented in this agreement and promissory note.

Signature

Date