Northwestern State University Natchitoches, Louisiana

Institution Contact Information:

First Name:KimberlyLast Name:McAlisterTitle:Head, Department of Teaching, Leadership, & CounselingEmail:mcalisterk@nsula.edu

TEACH Grant Recipient

First Name: Emily Last Name: Leone

Student Profile:

I have many teachers in my family, and for a long time, I rebelled against the idea of teaching. I just wanted to do something different from what everyone expected of me. Now that I am a third-generation education major, I cannot imagine myself doing anything else because I know that there is no other career that is as fulfilling and as meaningful. Receiving the TEACH Grant has eliminated the need for student loans and a job in my undergraduate program. Because I have been able to focus solely on my course work, I have maintained a 4.0 GPA, and I have gained many enriching experiences by observing in secondary classrooms. Another benefit is that I have been able to cover the extra costs of taking additional courses each semester, and I will therefore complete the program a semester early. I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of the investment that the government makes in teachers that serve in critical areas of education.