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Stanford, California

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TEACH Grant Recipient

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Student Profile:

Last year I was deciding between teaching on a temporary credential and getting a Masters in education. The temporary credential was monumentally cheaper. It was easier to get. But with it, I would never have become the best teacher I can be. Teaching is a job where “good enough” will not suffice. To ask my students to give their best, I know that I must reciprocate. At various stages in my life, giving my best has looked like planning lessons at 2 am after leaving my second job. It has looked like using my own income to buy classroom supplies. This year, it has meant educating myself about teaching.

Even after I made the decision to get a Masters in Education, I worried that my loan payments would be too onerous to allow me to take jobs in high-need districts. The Teach Grant allowed me to take out fewer loans, making it financially possible to teach in high-need communities after graduation even though those jobs pay less. Thanks to the Teach Grant, I can make post-graduation decisions based on service rather than necessity, allowing me to teach the students who I am best qualified to serve.