



The Ozarks Teacher Corps program is made possible by the Chesley and Flora Lea Willis Trust, a \$1.7 million Community Foundation of the Ozarks Charitable fund.

The program launched in 2010 and is part of the Rural Schools Collaborative. The Ozarks Teacher Corps was created to develop a growing network of educator-activists who recognize the importance of rural education to a sustainable American society.

Drury University teacher candidates who are from rural communities and wish to return to rural communities to begin their teacher career are the target population for the Ozarks Teacher Corps program.

The Ozarks Teacher Corps scholarship is awarded on the basis of merit, financial need and academic record. Awards range from \$2,000--\$4,000 annually and may be renewed once.

Applications are due no later than Friday, September 17, 2021, via email to Dr. Natalie Precise (nprecise@drury.edu). The School of Education and Child Development Leadership Team will serve as the selection committee to determine scholarship recipients.

To receive the scholarship, a student must:

- be enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student with a sophomore or junior class status at the time of application; Postbaccalaureate students also eligible
- have a minimum overall undergraduate GPA of 3.0
- be from a rural community and wish to return to a rural community to teach for at least three years
- agree to attend placed based seminars on rural education issues provided by the Community Foundation of the Ozarks each fall and spring

The scholarship selection committee will collect and review the applicant's current Drury University transcript when considering applications.

Ozarks Teacher Corps Application

Name: _____ Date: _____

Drury Email: _____ Drury ID #: _____

Graduation year/month: _____

Hometown: _____ Certification Area/Major _____

GPA: _____ Have you been formally admitted into Drury's teacher education program? ___

I will submit the following with this application for the Ozarks Teacher Corps:

1. A 250 to 400 word essay on why rural schools are important to community sustainability as part of this application packet.
2. A 100 to 200 word statement of financial need.

If selected for an Ozarks Teacher Corps scholarship, I agree to the following:

1. I will attend place base seminars on rural education issues provided by the Community Foundation of the Ozarks each fall and spring
2. I will graduate and become certified by my projected date of graduation.
3. I will student-teach in my hometown or a similar rural district.
4. Upon graduation, I agree to return to my hometown (or similar rural community) to teach for at least three years, during which I will remain a member of the Ozarks Teacher Corps network.
5. I fully understand that if I do not honor the above obligations, that my scholarship will be revoked.

Signature _____ Date _____

DEADLINE: September 17, 2021

Please return your completed packet to:

Dr. Natalie Precise, Dean of the School of Education and Child Development

Email: nprecise@drury.edu Phone: 417-873-7874