



<b>Current Employer - To be completed by Chief Personnel Officer</b>	
Name of School	School District
Address	
City/State/Zip	Telephone Number (     )

I certify that the applicant was

- a) contracted, after June 1, 2001, to teach for the **first year** in one or more of the “qualified positions” in a Colorado public elementary or secondary school, OR
- b) contracted on or after June 1, 2004, to teach one or more of the “qualified positions” for the **first time** in a Colorado public elementary or secondary school, OR
- c) contracted on or after June 1, 2005, to teach in a high-poverty school that is a Colorado public elementary school or facility school that is in a rural school district.

This applicant’s contract is from \_\_\_\_\_(mm/dd/yyyy) to \_\_\_\_\_(mm/dd/yyyy).

The applicant is teaching at least 50% of a full-time teaching assignment in a high-poverty Colorado public elementary school or facility school in a rural school district or full-time in one or more of the “qualified positions.” The teaching assignment being filled by this applicant is \_\_\_\_\_. To the best of my knowledge, this applicant has not taught in one of the “qualified position(s)” at another public elementary or secondary school in Colorado, including facility schools prior to June 1, 2001.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature - Chief Personnel Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

**Questions**

The applicant or employer may contact CollegeInvest for assistance:

Toll Free: 1-800-448-2424  
Local: 303-376-8800

**Mail Application To:**

CollegeInvest/LIFT  
1560 Broadway  
Suite 1700  
Denver, CO 80202

<b>CollegeInvest Use Only</b>	
License Type: _____	
College/University: _____	
Completion Date: _____	
Endorsement: _____	
License Number: _____	
_____	_____
Name	Date



## GENERAL INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

Loan Incentive For Teachers (LIFT) is designed to encourage individuals to enter and continue in the teaching profession. Under this program, individuals who teach a full-time assignment in mathematics, science, or linguistically diverse education or who teach at least half-time in an elementary school in a high poverty, rural school district and meet other requirements may be eligible for loan forgiveness benefits. For complete eligibility requirements see information below. The loan forgiveness benefit may be up to \$2,000 per year for four years of consecutive eligible employment. For example, an individual with a monthly payment of \$123.00 will receive 12 months of benefits for a total \$1,476.00 per year.

Eligible teachers will receive 12 months of benefits for each academic year of teaching. An academic year is a 9-month teaching period between July 1 and June 30 of each year. Benefits will be prorated for teachers teaching less than one academic year.

- The Chief Personnel Officer for your school district must complete the Current Employer section of the application. In the absence of a Chief Personnel Officer, the Chief Administrative Officer (superintendent) should complete the information. If you are employed by more than one school district you may need to complete an application for each district.
- Applications must be complete and postmarked by October 1, 2008, to be considered on time. Applications received after the priority deadline will be considered based on available funding.
- Type or print information on this application. For assistance contact CollegeInvest at 1-800-448-2424 or 303-376-8800.
- Mail applications to: CollegeInvest/LIFT, 1560 Broadway, Suite 1700, Denver, CO 80202.
- All applicants will be notified of eligibility. If you are making monthly payments on your student loans, it is your responsibility to continue payments until notified of eligibility.
- Annual certification will be required for renewal.

## APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

### Applicant Information

Please provide the information as requested in this section.

### Applicant Certification

To be considered for LIFT you must meet each of the following criteria. Please read and initial each item on the application verifying that you meet the specific criteria.

- You must have completed a program of study for teacher preparation approved by the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) from a Colorado college or university. Alternative Licensure, Teacher In Residence Programs or other teacher development programs are not approved programs of study by CCHE and do not qualify for LIFT.
- You must have entered into a contract,
  - a) on or after June 1, 2001, for your **first year** of teaching in mathematics, science, special education or linguistically diverse education or
  - b) on or after June 1, 2004, to teach for the **first time** in mathematics, science, special education or linguistically diverse education or
  - c) on or after June 1, 2005, to teach in a high-poverty school that is a Colorado public elementary school or facility school that is in a rural school district.

- You must have a current license from the Colorado Department of Education. Your teaching license must be either provisional or professional. You do not qualify for this program if you are a substitute teacher or hold an emergency or other temporary authorization to teach.
- To qualify for teaching in a high-poverty Colorado public elementary school or facility school that is in a rural school district, you must be teaching at least half-time. Otherwise, you must be teaching a full-time assignment in mathematics, science, special education or linguistically diverse education. Full-time assignment is defined by the school district for which you are employed. You could be teaching at two different schools in mathematics, science, special education or linguistically diverse education and be eligible for the loan benefits. Your employer will also certify that you meet this minimum requirement. If you take an approved leave of absence you may qualify for loan repayment benefits upon returning to teaching.

“High-poverty school” means a public school at which the number of pupils enrolled who are eligible for free lunch pursuant to the provisions of the federal “National School Lunch Act”, 42 U.S.C. § 1751 et seq., is at least equal to or greater than 28% of the school’s student enrollment.

“Rural school district” means a school district that does not include within its geographic boundaries a municipality exceeding 1,000 persons and that is characterized by sparse, widespread populations.

The Colorado Department of Education shall annually identify the public schools and facility schools in the state that qualify as high-poverty elementary schools in rural school districts.

Charter and facility schools are also included as eligible Colorado elementary and secondary schools.

### **Applicant Loan Information**

To be considered for loan forgiveness your loans must be owned by CollegenInvest or be originated and eligible for purchase by one of the participating lenders. The participating lenders are US Bank, ASAP/Union Bank & Trust and Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU). Please be specific as to which loans you want CollegenInvest to purchase by listing the loan numbers. Eligible loans include Federal Family Education Loans (FFELP) which includes Federal Stafford Loans, Supplemental Loans to Students (SLS) and Federal Consolidation Loans.

Additional loan requirements and information:

- Your loan(s) cannot be greater than 29 days delinquent at time of initial application, approval and annual renewal. The payment benefits will cease if your loans are in default or bankruptcy.
- Only loans you secured for completing a CCHE approved program of preparation are eligible for forgiveness.
- Any borrower benefits offered by your current lender may not be extended under LIFT.

The application provides for two lenders. If you have more than two lenders, please list on a separate sheet and attach to your application.

If you cannot locate all your loans, try using the following web sites:

<http://www.studentclearinghouse.org>

Click on the “Students” icon and then click on the “LoanLocator” icon.

<http://www.nsls.ed.gov/>

Click on the “Financial Aid Review” icon.

### **Applicant Signature and Attestation**

Your signature certifies that all information is correct and accurate. Furthermore, you are to advise CollegenInvest of any changes in employment, status of your student loans or any other matter that may impact your eligibility for participation in LIFT. Failure to inform CollegenInvest of any changes may result in required repayment of funds received.

### **Current Employer**

The Chief Personnel Officer for your school district must complete this section, thereby certifying employment before submitting the application. In the absence of a Chief Personnel Officer, the Chief Administrative Officer should complete the application.

The Chief Personnel Officer must certify employment of the applicant. The applicant need not be a first time teacher but must have entered into a contract on or after June 1, 2001, to teach for the **first year** or must have entered into a contract on or after June 1, 2004, to teach mathematics, science, special education or linguistically diverse education for the **first time** at a public elementary or secondary school in Colorado or must have entered into a contract on or after June 1, 2005, to teach in a high-poverty school that is a Colorado public elementary school or facility school that is in a rural school district.

The applicant must be teaching a full-time assignment if seeking eligibility for a “qualified position” that includes mathematics, science, linguistically-diverse or special education. Educators teaching in economically-disadvantaged rural elementary schools must teach within their discipline at least half-time. The dates of the applicant’s contract are necessary to determine student loan benefits. Full-time assignment is defined by your school district.

## **ABOUT COLLEGEINVEST**

CollegenInvest is a not-for-profit division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. As such, we strive to help families break down the financial barriers to college. We focus on providing expert information, simple planning tools, scholarships, savings plans and low-cost student and parent loans to take education dollars as far as they can go.

**1-800-448-2424**  
**[www.collegeninvest.org](http://www.collegeninvest.org)**

A Division of



Department of Higher Education