



Mathematics Education Scholarship Awards (MESA)

Description and Application Packet

**Colleges of Education and Arts and
Sciences**

Program Description and Rationale

MESA is a scholarship program designed to help bring capable, undergraduate students to EOU to pursue Bachelor's degrees in mathematics and to be prepared for entry into the Masters of Teaching/Teacher Licensure program in the College of Education. Eastern Oregon secondary schools need well trained teachers to offer the higher level math curriculum now required of all schools by the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics. EOU has the capacity to produce more teachers from its programs and the MESA scholarship program will help bring students into EOU mathematics and teacher education programs. Scholarship awards will range from \$2,000 to \$4,000 per year and may be renewed annually. Each year 5 to 10 MESA scholarships will be awarded.

Criteria for Awarding MESA Scholarships

To be eligible for the MESA scholarship, students must have a grade point average (GPA) of 3.25 or above from their high school (for Freshman applicants) or previous college. The following criteria will be used to rank eligible applicants:

1. Essay describing why student is pursuing a teaching career.
2. Math teacher recommendation(s)
3. Math coursework at prior school (high school and/or previous college)
4. Membership in underrepresented population in mathematics teaching (gender, social economic status, ethnicity, rural background).

MESA Review Committee

Decisions on MESA scholarship awards, retention, will be made by the MESA Review Committee. This committee will be comprised of three faculty members: one from mathematics education (College of Education) and two from mathematics (College of Arts and Sciences). Appointments to this committee will be made by the respective Deans of these colleges.

Application procedures:

1. MESA Application Form: The Application Form is in this packet. Fill it out completely and legibly. Please include current and summer contact information. Notify John Knudson-Martin (541-962-3521 or jknudson@eou.edu) if your contact information changes.
2. EOU Application Form: To be considered for a MESA scholarship ***you must have submitted an application for university admission to EOU's admissions department.*** Applications are located on the web at <http://www.eou.edu/admissions/>.
3. Applicant Essay: In a 500 word essay, describe why you want to pursue a career as a secondary school math teacher. Please include descriptions of experiences you had - as a student or while helping others learn math - that encouraged you to become a teacher.
4. Transcripts: Provide unofficial transcripts from the **Registrar's Office** of your high school and any college or university you have attended. **Official** transcripts from **all** of the schools you have attended are required for admission to EOU.
5. Letters of recommendation: Please obtain and submit letters of recommendation from math teachers from whom you have taken classes. The teachers writing these letters should comment on your math ability, your ability to work with others, and the qualities you possess that would make you a good secondary school math teacher. These letters should be placed in a sealed envelope by the recommending teacher and submitted unopened with this application packet.

When you have the required items completed, put them in a manila envelope and submit them to:

Eastern Oregon University
College of Education (Room 261)
Attn: John Knudson-Martin
One University Blvd.
La Grande, OR 97580.

To be considered in the first review of scholarship applications, MESA application materials must be received by the EOU College of Education office by April 15th.

If you have any additional questions please contact John Knudson-Martin at 541-962-3521 or jknudson@eou.edu

Scholarship Decisions:

The MESA review committee will meet after April 15th to consider applications and make awards. Applicants will be notified of award decisions by June 1st. Applications received after April 15th will be responded to within 45 days.

MESA Scholarship Application Form

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____ SS # (last 6 digits) X X X - ____ - ____

Current Address: _____ Permanent Address: _____
Street Address Street Address

City State Zip City State Zip

Home Phone: () _____

Cell Phone : () _____

e-mail: _____

Please list teachers sending letters of recommendation:

_____, _____
_____, _____

(Optional) Description of membership in underrepresented population in mathematics teaching (gender, social economic status, ethnicity, rural background).

Student Signature

Date