



Ted Strickland, Governor  
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor

## Board of Regents

University System of Ohio

June 26, 2008

Dear Education Dean:

I want to tell you about an exciting new initiative that I believe will make an important contribution to public education in Ohio.

The Ohio Teachers Corps is a new program aimed at recruiting and retaining foreign language, science and mathematics teachers in hard-to-staff schools throughout the state of Ohio. Governor Strickland recognizes the critical need to attract quality staff members to teach in these subject areas, and the Ohio General Assembly has voiced its support of the Governor's vision.

Funded under H.B. 119, the Ohio Teachers Corps offers financial assistance to first-year, properly licensed teachers in the form of either a professional enhancement incentive or student loan repayment. In exchange for this financial assistance, the teachers must enter into a five-year teaching commitment in the subject areas of foreign language, science or mathematics at one of a number of hard-to-staff schools as determined by the Ohio Department of Education.

The Ohio Board of Regents will administer the Ohio Teachers Corps Program and will begin accepting applications immediately. Qualified applicants are eligible to receive a maximum financial award of \$20,000 to be distributed over the course of their five-year teaching commitment. Our goal is to provide awards to all eligible applicants. Every effort will be made to distribute the awards geographically across the state.

I encourage you to share the news about the Ohio Teachers Corps with all interested parties, particularly with any of your recent graduates who qualify for this opportunity. Letters similar to this have been sent to school superintendents notifying them of the program's launch. Applications, frequently asked questions and a list of the hard-to-staff schools that qualify can be found at <http://regents.ohio.gov/sgs/otc>.

I appreciate your assistance and support.

Sincerely,

Eric D. Fingerhut  
Chancellor, Ohio Board of Regents