Environmental Science for Elementary School Teachers:

Dear Applicant:

Enclosed is the application packet for Environmental Science for Elementary School Teachers. Please keep this sheet as a reminder of everything that needs to be returned to complete the application process.

Expenses:
If you are selected for this program, your tuition and fees will be paid for five semester-hours of graduate credit in geology or zoology. You will receive full room and board for 13 days while in residence at the Miami University Geology Field Station, Dubois, Wyoming and at Mammoth Hot Springs, Yellowstone National Park. The program will provide all equipment, books, and supplies. The program will provide room and board while at 4-H Camp Ohio during October. These graduate credits and instructional services are worth approximately $2,500.

If you are selected for this program you will have to pay about $55 for meals while in Yellowstone, between $500 and $700 for your air fare to Jackson Hole, Wyoming (JAC) and $30 for transportation to and from the airport, plus $20 for tram fees. Personal expenses such as clothing, film, souvenirs, and snacks will also be your responsibility.

Special Conditions:
Teachers selected for this program are required to attend an Environmental Science Follow-Up Workshop at 4-H Camp Ohio near Utica, Ohio during a 3-day weekend October 9-11, 2009.

Application Procedures:
Application and personal background questionnaire are due as soon as possible and no later than March 31, 2009. We will begin admitting teachers to the program soon after awards are announced on January 23, 2009. Early applicants have a greater likelihood of being accepted than late applicants.

You will be notified as to the status of your application no later than April 30, 2009.

The complete application consists of three items:

1. Personal Background Questionnaire.

2. Essay not to exceed two typewritten pages explaining why you should be selected for Environmental Science for Elementary School Teachers.

3. Letter of Recommendation from your supervisor.

Completed applications and all questions about the program should be sent to:

Dr. Robert McWilliams
Department of Geology
Miami University
Oxford, Ohio 45056
E-mail: mcwillrg@muohio.edu

Please retain this sheet for your records.
AN OHIO BOARD OF REGENTS IMPROVING TEACHER QUALITY
STATE GRANTS PROGRAM

Environmental Science for Elementary School Teachers

Personal Background Questionnaire

**About Yourself:**
PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Today's Date __________________________

Your name: ____________________________________________

Your address (please include zip code):
____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

Home phone: ____________________ Your email address (please print):
____________________________________________________

Name of school district: ___________________________ County in which district is located:________________________

School address and zip code: __________________________________________________________

School phone: ____________________________________________________________

College degrees you have earned: _____________________________________________

How many years have you been teaching? ____________________________

Grade level(s) that you teach: _______________________________________________

Your job description: _______________________________________________________

Have you ever applied for an Environmental Science for Elementary School Teachers workshop supported by an Ohio Board of Regents Eisenhower Grant or Improving Teacher Quality Grant? ____________________________

If yes, when? ____________________________________________

Have you previously **participated** in Environmental Science for Elementary School Teachers? ____________

If yes, when? ____________________________________________

**Note:** If you are a superintendent, principal, or administrator applying for this program you must apply jointly with a classroom teacher(s) from your school. Your essay should explain how you would help disseminate knowledge and classroom projects gained in this program among teachers in your school. Up to ten administrator-teacher teams will be selected.

If you are an administrator, please give the name of the teacher(s) with whom you are applying jointly.

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________
Affirmative Action Data

The following information is not required but will be used to demonstrate to the Ohio Board of Regents Eisenhower Program Committee that we are complying with affirmative action.

Age _____________________ Race _____________________

Sex _____________________ Handicap_________________

Personal Essay

• On a separate sheet, not to exceed two typewritten pages, briefly explain why you would like to be selected for Environmental Science for Elementary Teachers.

About Your School:

Of the students you presently teach, approximately what is the percentage of:

Minority___________ Physically handicapped ____________

Educationally disadvantaged* ___________ Learning disabled _______________

*We define educationally disadvantaged students as those students whose educational progress is hampered by the absence of a support system for achieving desired educational objectives due to special problems in their immediate family; such as: divorce, mental illness, poverty, unemployment, inadequate parental education or social alienation due to ethnic, religious, or racial background.

Name of the supervisor in your school whom you have asked to write a letter of recommendation:

________________________________

Title:

________________________________

(This person should be a principal, assistant principal, guidance counselor, or department chair.)

Return to Robert McWilliams
Department of Geology
Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, 45056.

If you have questions, please write or e-mail: mcwillrg@muohio.edu (please don't call).

Application and personal background due as soon as possible and no later than March 31, 2009. We will begin admitting teachers to the program soon after awards are announced on January 23, 2009. Early applicants have a greater likelihood of being accepted than late applicants.

You will be notified as to the status of your application by April 30, 2009.

Miami University: Equal opportunity in education and employment.
AN OHIO BOARD OF REGENTS IMPROVING TEACHER QUALITY
STATE GRANTS PROGRAM

Environmental Science for Elementary School Teachers

SUPERVISOR RECOMMENDATION FORM

To be completed by the applicant

Name of applicant ________________________________________________________________

School ____________________________________________________________

Address ________________________________________________________________

School District ____________________________________________________________

To the person writing the recommendation:

This Improving Teacher Quality Program, funded by the Ohio Board of Regents, will provide room, board, and tuition for 85 elementary school teachers to study in and near Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Park while in residence at Miami University's Geology Field Station. The purpose of this program is to train Ohio elementary school teachers for teaching environmental science.

Teachers selected will learn about energy in the environment, biological cycling of carbon, nitrogen, and water, management of land and water, creation of rocks and landscape, geologic time and fossils, and the diversity and adaptations of plants and animals.

Participants will collaboratively develop laboratory exercises, field exercises or lecture demonstrations for use in elementary school classes as part of this course.

This course provides five semester-hours of Miami University graduate credit that may be transferred to another university or college. These graduate credits and instructional services are worth approximately $2,500.

Thank you for completing this recommendation form.

Please return to:
Dr. Robert McWilliams
Department of Geology
Miami University
Oxford, Ohio, 45056.

If you have questions, please write or e-mail: mcwillrg@muohio.edu. No phone calls please.
To be completed by the person writing the recommendation

Today's date _______________________________________________________________________

Candidate name _____________________________________________________________________

School _____________________________________________________________________________

Address ___________________________________________________________________________

School District _____________________________________________________________________

Use the following numerical scale to indicate the degree to which you agree with each of the following statements about the candidate:

Strongly Agree: 1
Agree but not strongly: 2
Neutral: 3
Disagree but not strongly: 4
Strongly Disagree: 5

The candidate is a highly motivated teacher. ___________________________________________

The candidate is interested in improving his or her performance as a teacher. _______________

The candidate is concerned about the welfare of his or her students. _______________________

The candidate teaches learning disabled students. _______________________________________

The candidate teaches minority students. _______________________________________________

The candidate teaches educationally disadvantaged students. ____________________________

________________________________________

Signature and title of person writing recommendation

We hope that you will provide additional comments on the next page concerning the suitability of the candidate for this program.

We are also interested in knowing about the number and kind(s) of educationally disadvantaged students the candidate teaches. We define culturally and educationally disadvantaged students as those whose educational progress is hampered by the absence of a support system for achieving desired educational objectives due to special problems in their immediate family; such as: divorce, mental illness, poverty, unemployment, inadequate parental education or social alienation due to ethnic, religious, or racial background.

Application and personal background questionnaire are due as soon as possible and no later than March 31, 2009. We will begin admitting teachers soon after awards are announced on January 23, 2009. Early applicants have a greater likelihood of being accepted than late applicants.
Name of candidate ______________________________________________

Please use this page to provide additional comments concerning the suitability of this candidate for Environmental Science for Elementary School Teachers.