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Investing in Educators: Regions Foundation Helps Teachers Succeed

Regions Foundation awards \$35,000 to support Teach For America Greater Baton Rouge.

BATON ROUGE, La. – Feb. 28, 2024 – The [Regions Foundation](https://regions.doingmoretoday.com), a nonprofit funded primarily by [Regions Bank](https://regions.doingmoretoday.com), on Wednesday announced a \$35,000 grant to support the work of [Teach For America Greater Baton Rouge](https://regions.doingmoretoday.com).

The funding will help Teach For America (TFA) build on its work to recruit additional educators to Greater Baton Rouge. This effort is designed to both address a shortage of teachers in the region while also helping ensure schools in underserved communities have greater access to a steady pipeline of high-quality educator talent.

“Teachers serve a crucial role in shaping our future, and we are inspired by educators across South Louisiana who are deeply invested in the success of their students,” said Marta Self, executive director of the Regions Foundation. “Our focus with this grant is to help address the needs of local schools in recruiting and retaining more educators who are eager to share their knowledge with the next generation. In turn, more students will thrive, in the classroom and in life.”

The \$35,000 grant will be directed toward the Alumni Fellowship Program, which has a goal of identifying, recruiting, selecting, and supporting proven high-quality teachers who have at least two years of teaching experience to remain or relocate to Louisiana and specifically, the Baton Rouge area.

“Education and workforce development are crucial to any community’s success, and we appreciate our colleagues at the Regions Foundation for recognizing the important work of Teach For America,” said Amy Province, Baton Rouge market executive for Regions Bank, who presented the contribution during a Teacher Self-Preservation and Wellness Panel. “This is providing resources that will further enable these dedicated educators to make a powerful difference.”

In the state, nearly 7,000 teachers exited the classroom in 2022, about 1,000 more than usual according to the [Board of Elementary and Secondary Education](https://regions.doingmoretoday.com).

“Teach For America Greater Baton Rouge is grateful for community partners like the Regions Foundation; their support is crucial in our work to recruit and retain more high-quality educators to complement the existing local education workforce,” said Laura Vinsant, executive director of Teach For America Greater Baton Rouge. “Additionally, this will allow us to further support

professional development opportunities, from coaching, online resources, and more that form an ecosystem of support for our teachers.”

Potential candidates completed Teach For America’s development program and have already moved through a selective process before being chosen for local educator roles. The Green Fellowship, developed to support TFA alumni and veteran teachers, seeks to not only address teacher shortages, but also ensure schools in low-income areas are among those that benefit from an increased talent pool of educators.

"Teachers recruited through the Teach For America program are investing in the success of their students and our communities,” said Jeniffer Montañó, who is a TFA alumna, TFA Green Fellow alum and 6th grade English teacher and Mentor at Kenilworth Science and Technology Academy. “We are focused on working side-by-side with longtime local educators to accomplish our shared goal of helping more students thrive.”

About Regions Foundation

The Alabama-based Regions Foundation supports community investments that positively impact communities served by Regions Bank. The Foundation engages in a grantmaking program focused on priorities including economic and community development; education and workforce readiness; and financial wellness. The Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation funded primarily through contributions from Regions Bank.

About Regions Financial Corporation

Regions Financial Corporation (NYSE:RF), with \$152 billion in assets, is a member of the S&P 500 Index and is one of the nation’s largest full-service providers of consumer and commercial banking, wealth management, and mortgage products and services. Regions serves customers across the South, Midwest and Texas, and through its subsidiary, Regions Bank, operates approximately 1,250 banking offices and more than 2,000 ATMs. Regions Bank is an Equal Housing Lender and Member FDIC. Additional information about Regions and its full line of products and services can be found at www.regions.com.

About Teach For America

Teach For America works in partnership with communities across the country to expand educational opportunities for children. Founded in 1990, Teach For America finds, develops, and supports a diverse network of leaders who expand opportunity for children from classrooms, schools, and every sector and field that shapes the broader systems in which schools operate. Today, Teach For America is a force of over 70,000 alumni, corps members, Ignite fellows, and staff working in pursuit of profound systemic change so that one day every child has an equal opportunity to learn, lead, thrive, and co-create a future filled with possibility. Teach For America Greater Baton Rouge region is one of six founding sites since 1990. Teach For America is a proud member of the AmeriCorps national service network. For 3more information, visit www.teachforamerica.org and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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