

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER
Summary of the State Board of Education Agenda Items
Consent Agenda
September 23, 2021

OFFICE OF TEACHING AND LEADING

- K. Approval of methodology to award grants to Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) to establish and or expand a teacher residency program in critical shortage areas in Mississippi [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Background and Purpose: The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) through the Office of Teaching and Leading is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified IHEs for a Mississippi Teacher Residency (MTR) program. The MTR is a program that combines college coursework and job-embedded training to prepare prospective educators for teaching profession. The program will provide grants to Mississippi educator preparation programs to enroll candidates for each school year to work toward their graduate degree and Mississippi teacher certification.

The MTR will prepare diverse and effective teachers in critical shortage areas serving low-income children, racial/ethnic minorities, and children with disabilities disproportionately impacted by Covid-19. The MTR is part of a statewide strategy to expand and diversify the teacher pipeline, so that all students have teachers who are well-prepared, appropriately licensed, and can serve as role models. The grant enables the MDE to provide funds for collaboration between IHEs and school district partners to develop graduate teacher residency programs.

Eligibility: Eligible IHEs include all public and private Mississippi IHEs that have a State Board of Education (SBE) approved educator preparation program. IHEs must have the ability and capacity to provide programming and support to candidates desiring to attain a master's degree in elementary education with a supplemental endorsement in Special Education (SPED).

While IHEs that were previously awarded MTR grants through the W.K. Kellogg Foundation are encouraged to apply, priority will be given to new university and district partnerships in an effort to expand access to residency-based preparation statewide.

Funding Source: Federal funds

Basis for Awarding the Grants: Competitive

Funding will be awarded based on the following methodology:

For competitive proposals, awards will be based on a 100-point scale. New IHE applicants, that have not received Kellogg MTR grants previously, will receive priority points.

Funds will be determined on a per pupil rate of \$25,500. This total grant award may be subject to a ten percent (10%) contingency increase.

This item references Goal 4 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2018 – 2022 Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval up to five (5) years

Back-up material: None