

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER
Summary of the State Board of Education Agenda Items
Consent Agenda
July 17, 2025

OFFICE OF TEACHING AND LEADING

- N. Approval of methodology to award grants to Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) to expand a teacher residency program in critical shortage areas in Mississippi

Background and Purpose: The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) through the Office of Teaching and Leading is soliciting applications from qualified IHEs for a Mississippi Teacher Residency (MTR) program targeting candidates seeking an initial license or supplemental endorsement in Elementary Education (K-6) or other critical shortage areas. The MTR is a program that combines college coursework and job-embedded training to prepare prospective educators for the teaching profession. The program will provide grants to Mississippi IHEs to enroll candidates for the purpose of obtaining initial licensure or a supplemental endorsement in Elementary (K-6) or other critical shortage areas.

The MTR is part of a statewide strategy to expand the teacher pipeline and retain highly effective teachers, so that all students have teachers who are well-prepared, appropriately licensed, and who are equipped to support the academic progress of all students.

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 an initial license or supplemental endorsement in Elementary Education (K-6) or other critical shortage areas.

Funding Source: State

Basis for Awarding the Grants: Discretionary

Funding will be awarded based on the following methodology:

Awards will be based on the on-time submission, approval by a MDE review panel to ensure all areas within the application and budget meet the intent of the MTR program, and final approval by the Mississippi State Board of Education.

Funds will be determined on a per pupil rate of up to \$14,000 per candidate for up to ten (10) candidates per eligible IHE, subject to the availability of funds and a completed application. Eligible IHEs may request funds for additional candidates on a per pupil rate of up to \$14,000 within their application. If there are remaining funds for additional

candidates, complete applications will be ranked from highest to lowest and awarded to IHEs until funding is exhausted.

Recommendation: Approval up to five (5) years

Back-up material: None