

PR Award #: U336S190022

Organization Name: Southwest Center for Educational Excellence

Address: 528 S. Ellis, Webb city, MO 64870

Program Contact: Dr. Eileen Ford

Phone: 417-673-7078

Email: eileen@southwestcenter.org

Project Model: Residency Model

Competitive Preference Priorities: Only 2 Stated-2) Promoting Effective Instruction in Classrooms and Schools

Invitational Priority – No

Requested Total Award Amount:

Project Description: MoACT provides reforms to create a nontraditional innovative pathway enabling pre-baccalaureate paraprofessionals, working in our consortium districts, to become highly qualified teachers in rural, high need LEAs. Key foci are 1) Certification; 2) Pre-service Seminars; and 3) Induction. MoACT will develop and implement WGU's comprehensive teacher prep program (TPP) with specific reforms for rural teacher recruitment, preparation, clinical experience and induction/mentoring to improve student achievement. Reforms will also include an 18-month residency with extensive, job embedded PD and additional induction support.

Project Expected Outcomes: The goal of MoACT is to prepare and retain quality teachers for high-need rural schools and to improve academic achievement of students.

- 70 TRs obtain a MO Teaching Certificate and rural districts will retain teachers for 3+ years; having a positive effect on student achievement.
- Pre-service Seminars (PD) will create learning that provides research-based strategies for high-need students, a residency that allows practice, a mentor that models and provides feedback for high quality teaching and experiences that align with, and support coursework.
- TRs will have a support system during certification and through their first years as a new teacher with high-quality mentors and training that supports additional learning needs of the first years as a new teacher.

Project Special Features: Addressing the dire need for highly qualified teachers in elementary, secondary content based and special education in SW MO by:

- Recruiting and preparing pre-baccalaureate paraprofessionals teacher candidates to be high-quality teachers for high-need rural LEAs earning a teaching degree and MO Teaching Certificate and remain working in the rural LEA long-term.
- Engaging TRs in pre-service seminars over 18-months that provides PD that increases content knowledge and develops expertise needed to become highly qualified teachers
- Providing TRs ongoing induction support throughout the teacher residency and into the 1st years of teaching to positively impact academic outcomes of rural, high-need students

Project Partners: Western Governors University Missouri (WGU) and including the following consortium of 42 LEAs: Aurora, Avilla, Bronaugh, Carl Junction, Carthage, Cassville, Crane, Diamond, East Newton, El Dorado Springs, Everton, Exeter, Galena, Golden City, Greenfield, Humansville, Hume, Hurley, Jasper, Joplin, Lamar, Liberal, Lockwood, Marionville, McDonald County, Miller, Monett, Mt. Vernon, Neosho, Nevada, Northeast Vernon County, Pierce City, Purdy, Sarcoxie, Seneca, Sheldon, Southwest, Verona, Walnut Grove, Webb City, Westview, Wheaton

PR Award