

PR Award #: S336S220007

Georgia Gwinnett College

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Program Contact Information:

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Absolute Priority: AP 1.

Competitive Preference Priorities: CPP 1-4

Project Title: GIFT – Gwinnett will be Inspiring Future Teachers.

Project Description: This TQP grant will supplement GGC's and GCPS' efforts to design a 'grow your own' program that will train GCPS graduates who can return to their communities four years later and serve as teachers. Recruitment will prioritize high-achieving GGC undergraduates who are also alumni of a GCPS high school. GCPS' largest demographic group is Hispanic (33.4%) yet only 6% of GCPS current teachers are Hispanic so there is a need to increase the diversity of the GCPS workforce. This project is a natural partnership with Georgia Gwinnett College, recently designated by the U.S. DOE as a Hispanic-Serving Institution

This proposal also addresses Comp Pref Priority 1 because GGC has held the designation of AANAPISI since 2019 and recently added a federal designation as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) in 2022. GGC also addresses Comp Prep Priority 3 by developing avenues through which undergraduate teacher candidates experience a positive, inclusive climate at GGC and learn to create the same for their students when they enter the classroom. The other two Comp Prep Priorities are described below.

Project Expected Outcomes: The three primary goals of the project include: (1) the delivery of an effective teacher preparation program while recruiting a diverse pool of candidates to meet state certification requirements in critical shortage areas; (2) a year-long intensive clinical experience providing new teachers with daily mentoring and monthly networking support to facilitate their transition into the field of education; and (3) improve teacher retention in high-need schools by redesigning the induction support provided to novice teachers, piloting a 2-year induction program while developing additional resources tailored to the needs of novice teachers.

Project Partners: Through a partnership between Georgia Gwinnett College (GGC), a minority-serving institution, and Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS), we plan to increase the diversity of the educator pipeline leading from GGC to GCPS in critical shortage areas including secondary math and science (6-12), special education (K-12) and elementary English Learners' (ESOL-endorsed) teachers. Gwinnett will be Inspiring Future Teachers (GIFT) placing teacher candidates in one of 56 high-need schools across the large, suburban district.