

**PR Award #:** S336S220023

**Organization Name:** University of Iowa

**Address:** N274 Lindquist Center, Iowa City, IA 52242

**Program Contact:** Lia Plakans

**Phone:** 319-335-5565

**Email:** lia-plakans@uiowa.edu

**Absolute Priority:** 1

**Competitive Preference Priorities:** 2, 3, & 4

**Invitational Priority (GYO):** Y

**Requested Total Award Amount:** \$1,464,200

**Project Description:**

**The UI Teacher Education for Equity through Partnerships (TEEP)** program will

(1) reform the Elementary Education teacher education curriculum to center equity and

(2) support and retain teachers of color in our Teacher Education Program and partner districts.

To achieve this, the UI Colleges of Education (COE), Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS), and the Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DDEI) will partner with 5 Iowa school districts, 2 community colleges, Area Education Agencies, and community partners. TEEP will recruit, prepare, and support 20 high quality elementary teachers through coursework and field experiences that center equity and lead to an elementary teaching license and an ESL endorsement in Iowa. The

Elementary Education program will undergo curriculum reform to center newly developed UI

Teacher Education Core Principles that center equity. The partnership will recruit students of

color and provide support pre-, during, and post-programming for academic, social, and financial

support to retain teachers who represent the lived experiences of all K-12 students in Iowa.

The project has 6 goals:

- 1: Establish and maintain partnerships between UI, school districts, community colleges, AEAs, and local communities to address teacher shortages, assure quality teacher preparation and PD, and center equity in teaching and learning;
- 2: Integrate new UI Teacher Education Core Principles into the Elementary Education Program to prepare teachers proficient and intentional in enacting instruction and learning environments that center equity;
- 3: Recruit and support high school students into teaching with focus on future teachers of color;
- 4: Prepare TEEP students in partner districts to center equity in education;
- 5: Support TEEP graduates in partner districts enact equity-centered education;
- 6: Collect TEEP data for continuous improvement and impact to center equity in the TEP and support teachers of color in partner districts.

**Project Expected Outcomes:**

TEEP outcomes include:

- 1: Partnership network to address teacher shortages, prepare quality teachers, and support a diverse workforce;
- 2: A comprehensive Elementary teacher preparation program that centers equity and supports a diverse teaching workforce.
- 3: Elementary education graduates able to deliver equity-centered education in partner districts.
- 4: Increased diversity in the teaching force of high needs schools in the partner districts.
- 5: Improved retention of qualified teachers of color in partner districts.
- 6: A sustainable and data-informed Grow your Own teacher education program. Finally, this project will create an equity centered Teacher Preparation Program (Elementary) that disrupts the increasing economic and educational disparities from COVID-19 and where a growing racially diverse student body encounters a predominantly white teaching workforce.

**Project Special Features:**

The TEEP Program will help schools and teachers address inequities and provide a path forward for Iowa and states with similar profiles. After 5 years, the UI will have a sustainable infrastructure to identify, recruit, and retain teachers of color prepared to positively impact achievement in Iowa's K-12 schools. UI faculty and staff will provide curricular support, PD and technology training to all participants. School partners will be the sites critical in the recruiting and selection of mentor teachers for preparation and for induction. Rigorous evaluation design will inform practice in how to develop diverse highly qualified teachers prepared to serve in high-need rural schools. The combination of expertise, commitment, and resources of TEEP will have a significant impact on student achievement in Iowa by preparing quality equity-centered teachers and by supporting a diverse teaching workforce.

**Project Partners:**

5 Iowa school districts, 2 community colleges, Area Education Agencies, and community partners.