

**Project Title:** Teaching Academies

**Type of Grant Requested:** i3 Development Grant

**Absolute Priority and Subpart:** #2(a) Improving Low-Performing Schools: Changing elements of the school's organizational design to improve instruction by differentiating staff roles and extending and enhancing instructional time

**Project Description, Activities, and Special Project Features:** BPE will develop an innovative PreK-12 pathway of Teaching Academies to serve as a replicable model for improving low-performing schools. By creating differentiated, specialized staff roles and coordinating them in an instructional system focused on student achievement, we will maximize existing and additional time and provide rigorous instruction that consistently engages all students. Our schools are modeled after the best teaching hospitals, which provide exemplary care for patients and a premier training ground for new doctors. Similarly, our innovation merges teacher preparation with school improvement. Just as teaching hospitals rely on staff with highly differentiated roles—teams of nurses, supervisors, interns, residents, and attending physicians—Teaching Academies are structured around teams of individuals with different expertise and experience levels who work and learn together to ensure outstanding outcomes for all students.

**Project Objectives and Expected Outcomes:** Our goals are to: (1) Transform low-performing schools into a PreK-12 pathway of Teaching Academies which use innovative staffing and scheduling strategies to achieve ambitious student learning goals; (2) Train 120 new, highly-effective teachers within Teaching Academies; and (3) Research, document, and disseminate a model that holds great promise for the future of both teacher preparation and successful urban schooling.

**Number of Students to be Served in the Project:** 1,000

**List of Partners:**

- Nonprofit organization: BPE (formerly Boston Plan for Excellence)
- LEA: Dudley Street Neighborhood Charter School
- LEA: Dudley Upper School