

Colorado Boettcher Teacher Residency – Rural Expansion

PR#: U336S140022

Organization: Public Education & Business Coalition

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Priorities: AP2, CP1

Award Amount: \$3,016,948.00

Abstract: PEBC – Public Education & Business Coalition, which operates the Colorado Boettcher Teacher Residency (CBTR) program, in partnership with Adams State University (Adams State or ASU) and fifteen rural Colorado school districts, respectfully requests \$3,016,948 over five years through the Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP) Grant Program to expand and enhance their proven teacher residency program. This investment will boost student achievement in some of the most challenging rural schools in Colorado, and will provide a model for how teacher residency programs, universities and school districts work together to improve outcomes for rural public school students through teacher preparation.

Absolute Priority & Competitive Preference Priority – Funding would support Absolute Priority 2 which is expanding and enhancing the Colorado Boettcher Teacher Residency program, and would also support Competitive Preference Priority 1 promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education by training new STEM teachers (elementary and secondary).

Description, Activities, Objectives & Outcomes – CBTR integrates rigorous graduate-level coursework with hands-on classroom practice for the Resident under the guidance of a skilled Mentor Teacher. Residents are placed into collaborative cohorts to facilitate shared learning, and receive up to four years of induction support. Primary objective is to create highly-effective Residents for high-needs rural schools, creating a collaborative instructional culture that builds local capacity and leads to improvements in student achievement.

CBTR/ASU has identified the following five goals to produce the most impactful results in student achievement: 1) expand number of CBTR/ASU graduates to serve in high-needs rural Colorado schools, 2) expand recruiting to attract more highly-qualified and diverse residency candidates, 3) expand recruiting to attract more STEM-oriented residency candidates for high-need subject areas such as math and science, 4) create coursework around STEM content knowledge and best-practice pedagogy for training Residents and Mentors, especially those teaching in elementary grades, and 5) use student growth and achievement data, and train Residents in assessment literacy, to build teacher effectiveness and enhance teacher preparation.

Total Target Number of Teachers & Special Features – Over the five year grant period, approximately 195 rural teachers will be trained, and potential Mentor Teachers will receive rigorous professional development in preparation for the Residency Year.

Partners: PEBC, CBTR, Adams State, and school districts of Alamosa, North Conejos, Center, Monte Vista, Moffat 2, Sierra Grande, Centennial, Del Norte, Sangre de Cristo, Montezuma-Cortez, Dolores RE-2, Rocky Ford, East Otero, Crowley, and Huerfano. The evaluator will be American Institutes for Research.

