

UCLA IMPACT

PR#: U336S140049

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Priorities: AP2, CP1, CP2

Award Amount: \$8,107,985.00

Abstract: The UCLA IMPACT Teacher Quality Partnership has successfully prepared 155 math, science, and early childhood teachers over the last five years for high-need schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). IMPACT teachers have higher than average retention rates, value-added scores, and have demonstrated their professional competency on several other measures. The partnership is now poised to build on its initial success with a second phase of work that will prepare 96 new STEM teachers in an innovative residency program that situates learning in 18 STEM-focused elementary and secondary schools within high-need LAUSD communities. This second phase is a multi-level reform that will:

- Improve college and career readiness of traditionally underserved students;
- Respond to the local need and national 100Kin10 call for highly-effective STEM teachers;
- Advance school and district-level Linked Learning/STEM reforms with a particular focus on mentor teacher support;
- Deepen STEM and STEAM partnerships to support teacher and student learning;
- Promote continuing innovation in teacher preparation and program sustainability.

The UCLA IMPACT Program was developed by a trio of partners with a strong track-record of working within the public education system to effect change, including: UCLA Center X, which houses UCLA's teacher education program and several other professional learning projects—all focused on transforming public schooling to create a more just, equitable, and humane society; Los Angeles Unified School District, the second largest school district in the nation; and the Center for Powerful Public Schools, an educational non-profit organization that builds upon the capacity of educators to create and sustain powerful schools that prepare students for college, career and life. Together, these organizations are committed to leading a second phase of the IMPACT program with STEM/Linked Learning schools and mentors, as well as partners such as NASA and Inner City Arts that will substantially deepen and extend teacher and student learning of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

The proposed project represents an exceptional approach to the Teacher Quality Partnership Grants Program under Absolute Priority #2: Partnership Grants for the Establishment of Effective Teaching Residency Programs. The UCLA IMPACT Program also addresses both competitive priorities with structures for: 1) Promoting Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education; and 2) Implementing Internationally Benchmarked, College and Career-Ready Elementary and Secondary Academic Standards.