

Grantee Name: University of Colorado Denver
Project Name: Teacher Preparation, Retention, and Empowerment Project
Project Director: Ritu Chopra 303-315-6361
Partner Districts/LEAs: 30 high-need charter schools in Denver Metro Area and the following high-need LEAs - Adams 14, Alamosa RE-11J, Centennial R-1, Center 26 JT, Denver Public Schools, Del Norte C-7, Lamar RE-2, Mountain Valley RE 1, Moffat 2, North Conejos RE-1J, Sargent RE-33J, Sangre De Cristo RE-22J, Sierra Grande R-30, Sheridan 2 and South Conejos RE-10.

Teacher PREP is a partnership between the Paraprofessional Resource and Research (PAR2A) Center at the University of Colorado Denver (UCD), as the lead agency in partnership with the Colorado Department of Education (CDE), a state designated agency that offers an alternative certification program, high-need charter schools and LEAs, The project will provide a seamless transition for paraprofessionals, recent college graduates and mid-career professionals to teaching positions in high need schools and high need subjects i.e. Special Education, Linguistically Diverse Education, Math and Science through an alternative licensure program. The project prepares a total of 150 teachers over the five project years by recruiting 30 eligible candidates in each year. To ensure project participants' success and retention, the project will provide a full array of student services including advising, coaching, tuition assistance, mentoring in school districts, and guided induction to the teaching profession. All project activities will be coordinated through a consortium to include LEAs, IHEs, alternative certification programs and the CDE to develop an alternative certification system that will sustain beyond the grant period.