

PR Award #	U350B110011
Name of Organization	Grambling State University
Name of Project	Grambling State University Alternative Teacher Certification Project (ATCP)
City, State	Grambling, Louisiana

PROJECT ABSTRACT

High-Need LEAs to be served: Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto, East Carroll, Grant, Sabine, Union and Winn Parish School Districts

The GSU Alternative Teacher Certification Project (ATCP) is a partnership of Grambling State University, the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) STEM Alliance and nine rural and high – need local education agencies (LEAs). The project’s overall goal is to address teacher shortages in STEM content areas through the recruitment, training and placement of teacher interns. In addition the project aims to provide opportunities for job-embedded training, on-site mentoring and induction activities to increase teacher retention.

The ATCP is characterized by the recruitment of STEM majors, graduates and populations that are traditionally underrepresented in the STEM disciplines. Specifically we will recruit, from the pool of recent college graduates, mid – career changers and highly qualified paraprofessionals, three (3) cohorts of at least 30 participants each (90 over five years) and provide training and development to become highly qualified science, math, and special education teachers. This will be accomplished through an intensive and comprehensive cohort model of online teacher preparation and face-to-face training, mentoring and e-mentoring, and induction that will lead to a Master’s of Arts in Teaching degree **and** standard teacher certification in a high-needs STEM content area (math or science) or Special Education within 14-16 months of enrollment. A unique feature of the project is the integration of pedagogical instruction with on-going and sustained professional development, cutting edge instructional strategies, and focused support that new teachers need to be retained for three years or more in the partner school districts. Further, the project will also offer pre-entry supports such as PRAXIS workshops. ATCP participants are eligible to receive a stipend of \$5000.00.