**PROJECT ABSTRACT**

**Competitive Preference Priority 1:** The Ohio State University will lead a consortium of higher education institutions, high-need education agencies and nonprofit entities across 12 states, 1 US territory, and the District of Columbia to design and implement Project knoTtT 3.0: Mobilizing National Educator Talent (abbreviated as Project m-NET). Participants will transition through Project m-NET to become fully state certified teachers, serving as teachers of record (TOR) for at least three years in high need, hard-to-staff school districts. Diverse partners will contribute to Project m-NET’s scope of work. This includes 9 colleges/universities with Education, Mathematics, Science, and Engineering programs; 8 State Departments of Education; 58 local educational agencies; and, 5 nonprofit entities. Project m-NET will support individual programs to address local shortages. M-NET partners will recruit, train and retain 1,111 TORs in four cohorts from 2011-2016. Project m-NET will attain three program performance measures: (1) 95% of all m-NET teachers will become TORs in high-need schools, (2) 85% of m-NET teachers will receive full state certification within 3 years of enrolling in the project, and (3) 80% of m-NET TORs will retain their positions for at least 3 years.

**Competitive Preference Priority 2:** Project m-NET will promote Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education by providing high quality preparation and professional development for m-NET teachers and school leaders. Project partners will enlist the guidance of the National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity Educational Foundation (NAPEEF) to grow and retain the number of underrepresented populations in STEM. Project m-NET will conduct the following activities: (1) Examine partners’ hiring system, processes, and policies to identify critical barriers to hiring highly qualified teachers, and (2) Design and implement strategies with open educational resources to mitigate such barriers, replacing ineffective systems and activities with effective ones.

**Invitational Priority:** Six high-needs, hard-to-staff school districts in North Carolina that predominantly serve American Natives will collaborate through Project m-NET. M-NET will conduct the following activities: (1) Identify teacher staffing needs and examine the current hiring system, processes, and policies to identify critical barriers to hiring highly qualified teachers, (2) Design and implement strategies to remove such barriers, (3) Provide pedagogical and content knowledge support to attain full state certification and highly qualified teacher status, (4) Develop and implement e-Modules and e-Coaching to advance online teaching proficiencies, (5) Develop open educational resources in our Immersive Virtual Learning Environment (IVLE) with culturally relevant teaching and learning curriculum, targeting STEM needs, and (6) Apply cloud computing technologies, including mobile technology, to offer a comprehensive teacher induction program.