

PR Award #	U350B110009
Name of Organization	University of Delaware
Name of Project	Delaware's Transition to Teaching Partnership (DT3P)
City, State	Newark, Delaware

PROJECT ABSTRACT

In June 1996, the state of Delaware passed legislation (Senate Bill #427) which enabled the creation of the Delaware Alternative Routes to Certification (ARTC) program. The program was created to provide an accommodating route to teaching for highly qualified individuals from other professions and recent graduates, to help address teacher shortages in “critical needs” subjects, and to increase the diversity of Delaware’s teaching force. While the program has been successful (over 600 teachers have been hired by DE public schools) since its inception, the proposed grant will provide additional support to add new features which will greatly enhance the preparation of a new cadre of highly effective teachers.

Through a partnership with three high-needs school districts (Capital, Seaford School, and Woodbridge), two charter schools (Moyer Academy and Pencader Charter), and the DE Department of Education, the goal of the grant is to prepare a highly-effective cadre of 60 (15 annually in grant years 2-5) new teachers in Mathematics, Science, Technology and English from underrepresented groups (e.g., women, racial and ethnic minorities and people with disabilities). The project seeks to: 1) In collaboration with our partnering LEAs/ high need schools, recruit and select 15 STEM and English Language Arts DT3P candidates to enroll in the program. (2) Design a sequence of university courses to ensure a highly effective preparation program, one that meets the state’s certification requirements. (3) Implement an intensive summer institute for DT3P candidates before entering teaching. (4) Place DT3P candidates in partner LEAs/high need schools. (5) Provide on-site coaching of DT3P candidates during their first year. (6) Provide professional development seminars for DT3P candidates. (7) Provide mentoring during their first three years of teaching and monitor their effectiveness in the classroom. (8) Provide financial support to the DT3P candidates through tuition scholarships.