



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

SENIOR DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION – P-16
Office of Elementary, Middle, Secondary and Continuing Education
Office of Higher Education

June 3, 2009

To: Presidents/Chief Executive Officers of Institutions of Higher Education in New York
District Superintendents
Superintendents of Public Schools
Administrators of Charter Schools

From:  Johanna Duncan-Poitier

Subject: U.S. Department of Education Accepting Applications for New Federal Teacher Quality Partnership Grants Program Awards

The U.S. Department of Education published a notice of the availability of \$143 million in regular 2009 appropriations and funding under the American Recovery and Rehabilitation Act of 2009 to support new awards under the Teacher Quality Partnership Grants program. Applications are due from eligible partnerships by July 23, 2009. Eligible partnerships are partnerships of a school of arts and sciences at a higher education institution, a high need local education agency (LEA), and either (1) a “high need school” or a “high need early childhood education program” or (2) a school, department or program of education within a four-year institution.

Enclosed is a brief summary of the application information. For full information, please see the announcement in the May 27, 2009, *Federal Register* (pages 25221-25234). For further information, please contact:

Teacher Quality Partnership Grants Program
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 4W320
Washington, DC 20202
Telephone: (202) 260-0563
E-mail: TQPartnership@ed.gov

Enclosure

cc: Members of the New York State Board of Regents

Teacher Quality Partnership Grants Program (ARRA Program)

On May 27, 2009, the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) announced in the *Federal Register* the availability of \$143 million for competitive Teacher Quality Partnership grants.

Eligible Recipients: Partnerships of a school of arts and sciences at a higher education institution, a high need local education agency (LEA), and either (1) a “high need school” or a “high need early childhood education program” or (2) a school, department or program of education within a four-year institution.

Purpose: The purposes of the Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP) program are to: improve student achievement; improve the quality of new prospective teachers by improving the preparation of prospective teachers and enhancing professional development activities for teachers; hold teacher preparation programs at institutions of higher education accountable for preparing highly qualified teachers; and recruit highly qualified individuals, including minorities and individuals from other occupations, into the teaching force.

“More specifically, the TQP Grants Program seeks to improve the quality of new teachers by creating partnerships among IHEs, high-need school districts (local educational agencies (LEAs)) their high-need schools, and/or high-need early childhood education (ECE) program. These partnerships would create model teacher preparation programs at the pre-baccalaureate level through the implementation of specific reforms of the IHE's existing teacher preparation programs, and/or model teaching residency programs for individuals with strong academic and/or professional backgrounds but without teaching experience. The TQP Grants Program may also support school leadership programs to train superintendents, principals, ECE program directors, and other school leaders in high-need or rural LEAs [USDE Web site].”

Awards and Funding: Estimated 25 to 35 awards nationwide, ranging from \$1 million to \$2 million, with an average award of \$1.5 million. Funding is \$43 million in the USDE FY 2009 budget and \$100 million for FY 2009 from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

Application Timetable:

- Availability of Applications: **May 27, 2009**, from USDE
- Notice of Intention to Apply: **June 26, 2009**, in a short E-mail message indicating intent to apply. “The e-mail need not include information regarding the content of the proposed application, only the applicant’s intent to submit it.” However, “Applicants that fail to provide this e-mail notification may still apply for funding.”
- Application Deadline: **July 23, 2009**

Application Information: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/tqpartnership/applicant.html>. Information on the content of the application and the priorities for funding are included in the announcement in the May 27, 2009, *Federal Register* (pages 25221-25234).