

Kansas Statewide Teacher Education Pathway for Underserved and Place-bound  
Project KSTEP-UP

**PR Award #:** U336S180046

**Organization Name:** Kansas State University

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**Project Model:** Pre Bac Model

**Competitive Preference Priorities:** (1) *Promoting STEM Education, and (2) Promoting Effective Instruction in Classrooms and Schools*

**Requested Total Award Amount:** \$ 3,025,074.00

**Project Description:** The project seeks to serve underrepresented students and their communities by providing equitable opportunities that will lead to teaching careers beginning in the high school teacher pathways courses. It will also institutionalize a model of induction that provides two years of mentoring to increase the retention of highly qualified teachers.

**Project Expected Outcomes:** Expected outcomes include current research on teacher education such as: reforming the traditional four-year teacher education program model into a site-based program offered in two diverse and economically challenged school districts; 60 new teachers prepared to teach students with disabilities including as members of IEP teams under IDEA and limited English proficient students; 60 new teachers who have attained initial state certification by passing all necessary licensure certification assessments within one year of program completion; enhanced and ongoing professional development for students, mentor teachers, and current teachers through face-to-face training followed by semester-long, job-embedded microcredentials in Literacy, ESOL, and Computational Thinking.

**Project Special Features:** Goals reflect a reformed teacher education pathway; well-developed recruitment plan that targets underrepresented populations; individuals to teach in rural communities and teacher shortage areas, and mid-career professionals from other occupations, former military personnel and recent college graduates. A revised, year-long clinical experience with innovative distance supervision through SWIVL technology; weekly seminars led by Clinical Instructors on site; 5 new micro-credentials created for ongoing professional development for current and future teachers. Financial support for licensure requirements: Praxis exams, background check, license fees KSDE licensure, certification in ESOL, and a “grow your own teacher” program which is a well-developed, two-year induction model incorporating evidence and guidance from the What Works Clearinghouse.

**Project Partners:** Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE), KSU College of Education (KSUCOE), KSU College of Arts and Sciences (KSUAS), Kansas City Kansas Community College (KCKCC), Seward County Community College (SCCC), USD 500 Kansas City Kansas Public Schools (KCKPS), and USD 480 Liberal Public Schools.