The Community Training and Assistance Center, Inc., a non-profit organization, is applying for TSL support of AdvanceSTEM in partnership with Tracy Unified School District (TUSD), a high-need LEA in Tracy, CA. The project serves 14,199 students, 510 STEM teachers (two-thirds of the TUSD teaching force), and principals at all 17 schools.

AdvanceSTEM focuses resolutely on the most relevant objective: to demonstrably and sustainably increase the academic growth of TUSD students, particularly those traditionally underrepresented in STEM learning.

AdvanceSTEM improves and expands TUSD’s human capital management system to increase student STEM achievement. AdvanceSTEM strengthens teacher STEM content knowledge and instructional skills and provides effective STEM instructional leadership at each school. It recognizes and rewards STEM teachers, principals, and STEM Instructional Leadership Team members who improve student STEM achievement. Further, it diversifies the teacher workforce and transitions effective STEM teachers of color into school leadership positions. Through this multi-pronged approach, AdvanceSTEM increases equity of STEM learning opportunities and results for all students, particularly in high-need schools.

This project addresses Absolute Priority 1 (Human Capital Management Systems or Performance Based Compensation Systems), Absolute Priority 2 (High-Need Schools), Competitive preference Priority 1 (Supporting Educators and Their Professional Growth), and Competitive Preference Priority 2 (Increasing Educator Diversity).