

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
Consent Agenda
August 20, 2015

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

D. Approval of methodology for awarding competitive Mathematics and Science Partnerships grants

Purpose: The Mississippi Department of Education through the Office of Professional Development requests approval of the following methodology to award competitive mathematics and science partnerships grants to Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL).

High-need refers to a school district that encompasses at least two of the following:

- 40 percent of the students qualify for free or reduced lunch and/or Title I;
- 40 percent of the students are low-performing on statewide assessments in the area(s) of mathematics and/or science; and/or
- 10 percent of teachers are not teaching in the academic subjects that they were trained to teach.

Eligibility: IHLs will be partnering with one or more entities. Applications will only be accepted from IHLs, serving as fiscal agents. Eligible grantees to be selected must:

- Target K-8 mathematics and/or science teachers in high-need school districts;
- Develop sustained, high-quality professional development activities that focus on deepening teachers' content knowledge;
- Provide opportunities for advanced and on-going professional development activities for teachers to work with mathematicians, scientists, engineers, experienced teachers, and university faculty.

Selection Criteria:

- Plan of Work - Supports improved student achievement in mathematics and/or science, provides summer institutes, provides direct interaction between students and faculty, enhances the ability of teachers to understand and utilize the Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards for Mathematics and/or the Mississippi Science framework, provides on-line follow-up, and provides follow-up training that is conducted within the classroom.
- Evaluation plan - Includes measurable objectives and annual targets that describe progress towards meeting the goals and objectives established.
- Research based - Provides scientifically research-based

- professional development activities for teachers.
- Commitment and Capacity of Partnership - Demonstrates the capability of managing the mathematics and science partnership grant project. Provides record of past performance of similar work with a track record of success.
 - Budget and Cost Effectiveness - Determined by the relationship between the number of teachers served, the actual amount of teacher-faculty instructional contact time, and total cost of program.

Selected grantees are required to submit mid-year reports and annual reports to the MDE.

Funding Source: Federal

Basis for Awarding the Grants: Competitive RFP process

Total Amount to be Awarded: Subject to availability of funds

Recommendation: Approval