

Guidelines for Request for Application (RFA) on Teacher Residency Grant

PURPOSE OF THIS REQUEST FOR APPLICATION (RFA)

This RFA is designed to promote innovation in the critical area of the educator preparation pipeline. Up to **\$1 million** in competitive grants are available to a department-approved teacher preparation program at a public post-secondary educational institution or tribal college to:

- Develop a teacher residency program that diversifies the teaching profession with teaching residents who reflect the diversity of students in the public schools in the state or the geographic area where the school is located;
- Fill high-need teaching positions within the state and ensure that teaching residents are prepared for a department-issued teaching license at the end of the program;
- Provide at least one full academic year of rigorous department-approved teacher preparation program coursework and provide a full academic year of guided apprenticeship in the classroom of an expert teacher at the partner area school district or charter school;
- Ensure faculty or university supervisors who work with the teacher residency program visit residency sites no less than three times per month to monitor teacher residents' programs;
- Require teacher residents enrolled in the program to meet the eligibility requirements. Residents must: (A) hold a bachelor's degree; and (B) be a professional from outside the field of education and have strong content knowledge or a record of achievement; or (C) not hold a level one, two or three-A teaching license; and
- Provide a stipend of no less than \$20,000 per year for teaching residents.

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (NMPED) VISION

The New Mexico Public Education Department partners with educators, communities, and families to ensure that ALL students are healthy, secure in their identity, and holistically prepared for college, career, and life.

LEVEL OF FUNDING

Funding shall not exceed \$1 million for fiscal year 2021. NMPED intends to award the full amount to either a single educator preparation program or a combination of multiple applicants. Any funds not expended by June 30, 2021 shall be reverted to NMPED and shall not be permitted to carry over to subsequent years. Current and continued funding for this project is dependent upon annual legislative appropriations.

Disbursement from the Teacher Residency Fund shall be made by warrants of the Secretary of Finance and Administration pursuant to vouchers signed by the Secretary of Education or the Secretary's authorized representatives.

LENGTH OF FUNDING

The resulting contract shall begin upon execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between NMPED and selected applicants and continue through June 30, 2021. NMPED reserves the right to terminate any award that does not meet the requirements as defined by the guidelines governing the program or does not demonstrate substantial progress toward meeting the objectives set forth in its approved application.

ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

Eligible entities are New Mexico teacher residency programs at public post-secondary educational institutions and tribal colleges that have a department-approved teacher preparation program and have developed a commitment to investing in teacher education.

PROGRAM OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT

NMPED has assigned three individuals (listed below) to oversee and manage the progress of the projects/programs:

Dr. Gwen Perea Warniment, Deputy Secretary, Teaching, Learning and Assessment
Gwen.Warniment@state.nm.us

Seana Flanagan, Director, Educator Quality Division
Seana.Flanagan@state.nm.us

Dr. Becky Kappus, Educator Preparation Program Manager
Becky.Kappus@state.nm.us

SCORING GUIDELINES

Each application will be scored across five (5) application sections:

- I. Roles and Responsibilities (Clear organizational chart establishing roles and responsibilities for plan components) (10 points)
- II. Project Narrative (Detailed narrative illustrating intended goals, scope, partners, timeline, and any evidence-based justification) (15 points)
- III. Project Budget (Budget overview detailing the requested funding by category through June 30, 2021) (10 points)
- IV. Project Timeline (Timeline detailing expected program progress through at least June 30, 2021) (10 points)
- V. Support Documents (Document of support from Dean of the School of Education or leader of approved alternative preparation program and any other related departments or external partners) (5 points)

Additionally, applications will be scored across five rubric areas ranging from “complete, coherent, convincing” to “Section not included in application, or is conspicuously incomplete”. **Either a score of ‘0’ or ‘no submission’ of any of the components of the application will result in a disqualification of the application.**

TIMELINE

Program managers will make every effort to adhere to the following schedule:

Action	Responsible Party	Due Dates
Share RFA with Deans + Directors	NMPED/Deans + Directors	June 26, 2020
Issue RFA	NMPED	June 26, 2020
Deadline to submit questions	Potential applicants	July 10, 2020
Response to questions	NMPED	July 14, 2020
Submission of applications	Potential applicants	July 17, 2020
Evaluation of applications	Review Panel	July 20 – July 24, 2020
Selection of grantees	Review Panel	July 27, 2020
Finalize contractual agreements	NMPED/Grantee(s)	August 1- August 30, 2020
Contract awards	NMPED/Grantee(s)	August 30, 2020

EXPLANATION OF EVENTS

Issuance of RFA

This RFA is being issued on behalf of the New Mexico Public Education Department on the date specified in the above timeline.

Discuss RFA

Pursuant to the issuance of the RFA, officials from NMPED will join deans and directors of educator preparation programs to discuss the intention of the RFA and go over the guidelines as stipulated in this document.

Deadline to Submit Questions

Potential grantees may submit questions to Becky Kappus at Becky.Kappus@state.nm.us as to the intent or clarity of the RFA until **4:00 pm MST on July 17, 2020** as indicated in the timeline above. Questions shall be clearly labeled and shall cite the relevant sections of the RFA or any other attending document.

Response to Questions

Responses to questions will be distributed as indicated in the timeline above and according to order in which the questions were received.

Submission of Application

All applications must be received for review and evaluation by Dr. Becky Kappus (Becky.Kappus@state.nm.us) no later than **4:00 pm MST on July 17, 2020**. Applications received after this time will not be accepted. The date and time of receipt of application will be noted on the application itself.



Evaluation of Applications

The Evaluation Committee will perform the evaluation of applications. The process will take place as indicated in the timeline above depending on the number of applications received. During this time, Dr. Becky Kappus may initiate discussions with Applicants who submit applications requiring clarification. Discussions may not be initiated by Applicants.

Selection of Grantees

The Evaluation Committee will notify all Applicants of the decision on their application by **August 30, 2020** or earlier. Feedback and final application score will be distributed to Applicants not selected for funding. Each application will be scored by the panelists individually and then discussed at a meeting of the entire panel in order to arrive at final scores for each component. For more detail on the scoring guidelines, see "Scoring Guidelines" section above.

Finalize Contractual Agreements

During the window of time stipulated in the timeline above, NMPED will work directly with successful grantees to establish contract terms leading to execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA).

Contract Awards

After review of the Evaluation Committee Report and the signed contractual agreement, the Agency Procurement Office will award as per the schedule in the timeline above. This date is subject to change at the discretion of the State Purchasing Division or relevant Agency Procurement Office. The contract(s) shall be awarded to the Applicants whose proposals are most advantageous to the State of New Mexico and the Public Education Department, taking into consideration the evaluation factors set forth in this RFA. The award is subject to appropriate Department and State approval, and both entities reserve the right to not fund any of the applications, if none are judged to be advantageous and/or do not score sufficiently.

REPORTING

Successful grantees will work together with NMPED to establish a reporting schedule focused on progress to goals and project budgeting aligned to milestones.

EVALUATION COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

The committee tasked with the evaluation of applications has a broad level of experience with educator preparation collectively, representing a variety of perspectives and seniority in the field. Members are highly familiar with the educator and school leader preparation landscape in New Mexico.
