

Schedule for FY2015-2016 Quarterly Meetings: SC Program for the Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers (SC-PRRMT) at SC State University

Background

The SC-Program for the Recruitment, Retention of Minority Teachers (SC-PRRMT) FY2015-16 budget submitted by South Carolina State University (SCSU) to the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (CHE) on October 15, 2014 directed all funds in the amount of \$339,482 for forgivable teacher loan awards to new and current participants in the program. SCSU officials stated that the University will absorb all administration costs for SC-PRRMT to include the establishment of additional sites throughout the state. The previous FY2015-16 SC-PRRMT budget proposal* included funding for personnel costs (\$144, 342.21), other expenditures (\$9,500) and forgivable loans (\$184,239).

At its meeting on November 6, 2014, CHE) considered SC-PRRMT's revised FY2015-16 budget. CHE approved the revised FY2015-16 budget request in the amount of \$339,482 for minority teacher recruitment for one year provided that the following conditions were met:

1. All funds appropriated to SC-PRRMT in FY2015-16 are to be used to meet direct student costs. No funds shall be used for administrative oversight of the program. SCSU must submit a revised FY2015-16 budget to the Committee by no later than October 15, 2014;
2. The program, in accordance with the proviso, shall recruit minority teachers throughout the state; and
3. CHE shall retain approval for the budget and monitor the use of funds to ensure that all funds are used to meet direct student costs to promote minority teacher recruitment on a statewide basis.

According to SCSU officials, in addition to the \$339,482, loan repayment funds in the amount of \$190,830.68 were available for new and returning students for a total of \$530,313.68. There were no carried forward funds from the previous year (s). SCSU collected \$197,270.79 in loan repayments. These funds, according to SCSU, are to be used for forgivable loans. No funds, either appropriated in FY2015-16 or carried forward from FY2014-15 are to be used for administrative costs.

As of fall 2014, eight (8) freshman, ten (10) sophomores, eight (8) juniors, fifteen (15) seniors and eleven (11) graduate students are enrolled in SC PRRMT (after the official fall 2014 drop/add period). SC-PRRMT anticipates 18-20 students will graduate by the end of the 2014-15 academic year. According to SC PRRMT, eighty (80) new and participating students are projected to participate in SC-PRRMT during FY2015-16 and the average forgivable loan award per participant is anticipated to be \$4,243 (\$4,243 X 80 participants = \$339, 440).

(Attachment)

In addition, as SC-PRRMT is funded as a statewide recruitment program to attract minorities to the teaching profession (Part 1B Proviso 1A.9 (SDE-EIA: XII.F.2-CHE/Teacher Recruitment), the program requires stronger and more sustained partnerships with existing teacher recruitment programs throughout the state. Because the important goal is to increase the number of minority teachers throughout the state, and in an effort to serve as many eligible students as financially possible, SC-PRRMT's proposed plans to: 1) increase the number of teachers through statewide delivery of coursework to non-traditional students; and 2) increase

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the program's effectiveness through the use of forgivable teacher loans to attract minority students to the teaching profession will require careful monitoring each quarter throughout the FY2015-16 year to determine its progress towards these goals.

According to SC-PRRMT's revised budget and as outlined in the Expansion plan (October 2014), recruits will be targeted from current and future sites established around the state. During fall 2014, SCSU officials stated that sites were established in Berkley County School District, Fairfield County School District and Richland County School District One. The program's projected sites for spring 2015 were Richland County School District Two, Williamsburg County School District, Georgetown County School District and Florence County School District. According to SCSU officials, SC-PRRMT shall establish sites in Clarendon, Horry, Marion and Marlboro School Districts during FY2015-16.

Proposed Quarterly Schedule

Quarterly Report Due Dates	Submission to Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services	Committee's Report to Commission
First Quarter October 15, 2015	December Committee Meeting	January Commission Meeting
Second Quarter January 15, 2016	March Committee Meeting	April Commission Meeting
Third Quarter April 15, 2016	May Committee Meeting	June Commission Meeting
Fourth Quarter June 15, 2016	July Committee Meeting	September Commission Meeting

Attachment

**SC-PRRMT
PROPOSED BUDGET
FY2015-2016
REVISED October 15, 2014**

BUDGET REQUEST \$339,482.00

Direct Student Costs/Expenditures for students currently in the pipeline, and new participants.

- **Forgivable Loan Awards**

BUDGET

Forgivable Loans

\$339,482.00

TOTAL DIRECT STUDENT COSTS/ EXPENDITURES

\$339,482.00

TOTAL PROJECT APPROPRIATIONS

\$339,482.00

Explanations provided to CHE staff for the forgivable loan budget line item for direct student costs:

1.

- a) In addition to the \$339,482, what is the total amount available in FY2015-16?
\$339,482.00
- b) Including all loan repayment funds and debt amount/outstanding balances of graduates?
\$530,312.68
Seventy-Seven (77%) of the Program's graduates are still employed in South Carolina public schools.
- c) Carry over funds from previous years?
No funds carried over from previous years
- d) Amount in collections?
\$197,270.79
- e) Using the total amount, what is the available amount per student (anticipated new student and participating students) in FY2015-16? **\$339,482.00**
Projected enrollment for 2015-2016: Eighty (80) students, includes students currently in pipeline and new students
Projected # of graduates: 18-20
Projected Available amount per student: \$4,243.00

- f) For FY2015-16 the Program/SC State plans to continue to produce quality teachers for South Carolina's teaching force. To continue to address the State's Teacher shortage PRRMT plans to expand, establish and maintain Satellite Teacher Education Program (off campus) sites in the Midlands, Pee Dee and Piedmont areas. By spring 2016 the goal is to maintain and/or establish sites in the following counties: Berkeley, Columbia (Richland County), Clarendon, Fairfield, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Marion, Marlboro and Williamsburg. Some counties may have combined classes.

**Sites 2014-2015
Fall 2014**

Berkeley County School District
Fairfield County School District
Richland County School District One

Projected Sites Spring 2015

Richland County School District 2—	Initial Meeting with District officials— October 21, 2014
Williamsburg County School District—	Recruitment Visit, October 23, 2014
Georgetown County School District—	Recruitment Visit, October 29, 2014
Florence County School District #3—	Recruitment Visit, November 3, 2014

2014-2015 Sites will continue through 2015-2016

Projected sites 2015-2016

(Spring 2015: PRRMT staff will contact district personnel and set-up initial visit)

Clarendon County School District
Horry County School District
Marion County School District
Marlboro County School District

SC State University will absorb the administrative costs for SC-PRRMT

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Additional questions from Dr. Karen Woodfaulk, regarding PRRMT revised proposed 2015-2016 budget.

SC-PRRMT has been required to adhere as closely as possible to the original plan of expansion, to be as cost effective as possible, sites will have combined classes with nearby counties and school districts.

1. According to SC-PRRMT’s proposed budget, the number of participants in SC-PRRMT is expected to increase to **80** participants. Given this funding model, please explain your plans to recruit new participants through forgivable loans.
SC -PRRMT Enrollment:

Year	Number of Participants
FY2009-10	34
FY2010-11	28
FY2011-12	27
FY2012-13	27
FY2013-14	52

What would account for the anticipated number of SC-PRRMT participants to 80 in FY2015-16? Expanded number of sites? Please clarify your measureable objectives for expansion given the new funding model.

As part of its overall expansion initiatives PRRMT plans to expand into, establish, and maintain Satellite Teacher Education Program (off-campus) sites in the Midlands, PeeDee and Piedmont areas. By spring 2016 the goal is to maintain and/or establish sites in the following counties: Berkeley, Columbia (Richland County), Clarendon, Fairfield, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Marion, Marlboro, and Williamsburg. Expanding the number of sites will result in increased enrollment.

The PROJECTED enrollment

Year	PROJECTED Enrollment	Actual Enrollment
FY2013-2014	40	52
FY2014-2015	60	
FY2015-2016	80	

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2. Although it is our understanding that to have an even greater impact, SC-PRRMT has decided to expand the sites by region throughout the state, it is unclear as to the number of participants anticipated per site. Please provide the projected number of participants per site.

The numbers provided are a **projected** minimum number of enrollees

SITES	<u>PROJECTED/ANTICIPATED ENROLLEES</u>
Berkeley County School District	12
Richland County School District One Richland County School District Two Fairfield County School District	12
Clarendon County School District Georgetown County School District Williamsburg County School District	12
Florence County School District #3 Marion County School District	12
Horry County School District	10
Marlboro County School District	10
SC State University Campus	12

3. The average forgivable loan award per participant is anticipated to be \$4,243 (\$4,243 X 80 participants = \$339, 440). What will be the average cost per participant in this program? According to the proposed budget, although there were no carried forward funds, SCSU collected \$197,270.79 in loan repayments. Why is this amount not included with the \$339, 482? Where do these funds go? Are the funds used for additional forgivable loans?

-What will be the average cost per participant in this program?

Currently, the average cost for non-graduating SC State students is \$11,688 per year.

- According to the proposed budget, although there were no carried forward funds, SCSU collected \$197,270.79 in loan repayments. Why is this amount not included with the \$339, 482?

Collection funds were not included in the total appropriations, if needed funds will be used for forgivable loans.

-Where do these funds go? **Forgivable Loan budget line item**

-Are the funds used for additional forgivable loans?

Yes. Collection funds are used to augment yearly appropriations in the Forgivable Loan budget line item, if needed.

4. Please provide the eligibility requirements for a forgivable loan in SC-PRRMT program. How will the eligibility requirements differ from other forgivable loan program(s) SCSU presently administers, the SC Teacher Loan Program, or other state loan forgiveness program?

Eligibility requirements for a forgivable loan in SC-PRRMT program

Participants in the program must be a resident of South Carolina; possess a high school diploma or G.E.D.; employed as academic or support staff in South Carolina’s public school system or completed an Associate in Arts or Associate in Science degree at one of South Carolina’s technical colleges or earned general education hours; have a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or above on a 4.0 scale; admitted to South Carolina State University; enroll in a teacher education program of study; enroll as a full-time student (12+ credit hours) or enroll as a part-time student (6+ credit hours); agree to teach in South Carolina. Master of Arts in Teaching students must be fully admitted into the M.A.T. Degree Program and have a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or above.

Per our Financial Aid Department the SC Teachers Loan is the only other forgivable loan program SC State administers.

5. Please provide the present number of students participating in SC-PRRMT (after Fall 2014 drop/add period) per classification freshman, sophomores, juniors, seniors, master’s level.

Fall 2014(Classification)	Number of Participants
Freshmen	8
Sophomores	10
Juniors	8
Seniors	15
MAT	11
TOTAL	52