



South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

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CAAL
05/15/2018
Agenda Item 6

May 11, 2018

MEMORANDUM

To: Chair Terrye Seckinger, and Members, Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing
From: John Lane, DMA, Director of Academic Affairs

Continuing and New Awards for Centers of Excellence (Teacher Education) Competitive Grants Program, FY 2019

Background

The purpose of the Centers of Excellence (Teacher Education) grant program is to enable eligible institutions, or consortia of such institutions, to serve as resource centers for South Carolina in a specific area related to the improvement of teacher education. Teacher education encompasses both in-service and pre-service training. These resource centers develop and model state-of-the-art teaching practices, conduct research, disseminate information, and provide training for K-12 and higher education personnel in the center's specific area of expertise.

In FY 2019, CHE has requested the S.C. General Assembly approve a request for an appropriation of \$112,000 for continuing the Center of Excellence for the Advancement of the Workforce and Knowledge Economy (AWAKE) and an additional \$225,000 to support a Center for College and Career Readiness located at Francis Marion University. Currently, there is a proviso that requires \$350,000 to be sent directly to Francis Marion University to support the Center of Excellence for Preparing Teachers of Children of Poverty. A total of \$405,000 is being requested for funding for new Centers of Excellence. The New Center of Excellence in Research in Teacher Education at the University of South Carolina Columbia will receive \$105,000 for FY 2019. A new Center of Excellence in Alternative Certification is recommended for Columbia College, which will receive \$150,000. Finally, a new Center of Excellence in Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers is under consideration. If approved after subsequent review, the initial year of funding for FY 2019 will be \$150,000. The total funding request for the EIA Centers of Excellence, which includes funds for administration, is \$1,137,526.00. Funding for all new and continuing Centers will be contingent upon availability of funds from the General Assembly.

In FY 2018, CHE did not fund a new Center of Excellence. Through conversations with the Education Oversight Committee, it was decided a new Center would be funded in FY 2019 with initial funding received from the FY 2018 budget. This Center of Excellence in Research in Teacher Education is being recommended for the University of South Carolina Columbia. They will receive the \$150,000 of funds for FY 2018 and then \$105,000 for FY 2019.

In November 2017, Requests for Proposals for Centers of Excellence for the FY 2018-19 project year were issued to all eligible public and private four-year institutions with teacher education programs. At the direction of the Education Oversight Committee, proposals were requested that focus on Research in Teacher Education, Alternative Certification, and Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers. The CHE received a proposal for the Research Center from the University of South Carolina Columbia, a proposal for the Alternative Certification Center from Columbia College, and proposals for the Minority Teacher Center from the University of South Carolina Beaufort and Clemson University.

The FY 2019 Award

The Review Panel (**Attachment 2**) included one current district recruiter, one representative from the South Carolina Department of Education, one representative from the Education Oversight Committee, one representative from the Department of Employment and Workforce, one representative from an institute of higher education, one representative from a currently active Center of Excellence, and one staff member from the Commission on Higher Education.

The Review Panel met on April 12, 2018, for presentations by the representatives from the institutions applying to host a Center of Excellence. The merits of each proposed center were discussed by the panel members. Each group of presenters answered questions for over 45 minutes and two groups were asked to present additional information. The panel members deliberated the merits of each proposal and recommended the funding of the Center of Excellence in Alternative Certification at Columbia College and the Center of Excellence in Research in Teacher Education at the University of South Carolina Columbia. Pending subsequent review, the panel will make a recommendation for the initial year of funding for the Center of Excellence for Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers.

Recommendations

The staff recommends that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing approve the continued funding for the existing centers at the University of South Carolina Columbia and Francis Marion University, as well as new centers at Columbia College and the University of South Carolina Columbia pending approval of the FY 2019 budget.

Attachment 1: Centers of Excellence Award Recommendations

Attachment 2: Review Panel Members

**EIA Centers of Excellence
New and Continuing Projects
FY 2018 Budget**

Center	Institution	Project Director	FY 2016-17 Awards	Award Year
Center of Excellence in College and Career Readiness	Francis Marion University	Matt Nelson	\$225,000.00	Year 4
Center of Excellence in Teaching Children of Poverty (Proviso)	Francis Marion University	Tammy Pawloski	\$350,000.00	NA
Center of Excellence for the Advancement of the Workforce and Knowledge Economy in South Carolina	University of South Carolina	David Virtue	\$112,500.00	Year 3
Center of Excellence in Alternative Certification	Columbia College	Tracy West and Marla Sanders	\$150,000.00	Year 1
Center of Excellence in Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers	TBD	TBD	\$150,000.00	Year 1
Center of Excellence in Research in Teacher Education	University of South Carolina	Thomas Hodges	\$105,000.00	Year 2*
		Award Subtotal	\$1,092,500.00	
		Administration	\$45,026.00	
		TOTAL	\$1,137,526.00	

*This Center is considered Year 2 because they will receive initial funding from the FY 2018 budget (\$150,000.00).

**Centers of Excellence
FY 2019
Review Panel
April 12, 2018**

<p>Dr. John Payne</p> <p>Deputy Superintendent Division of Innovation and Effectiveness South Carolina Department of Education</p>	<p>Ms. Sharetta Dozier</p> <p>Professional Staff Certification Lexington School District One</p>	<p>Ms. Melanie Barton</p> <p>Executive Director Education Oversight Committee</p>
<p>Dr. Damara Hightower</p> <p>Dean School of Education Benedict College</p>	<p>Dr. Erica Von Nessen</p> <p>Researcher Department of Employment and Workforce</p>	<p>Dr. Deepti Joshi</p> <p>Director The STEM Center of Excellence The Citadel</p>
<p>Ms. Julissa Nixon</p> <p>Program Coordinator Commission on Higher Education</p>	<p><u>Staff Support:</u> Dr. Falicia Harvey</p> <p>Program Manager Commission on Higher Education</p>	