

Improving Teacher Quality State Grants

Title II, Part A of the No Child Left Behind Act

Georgia TQ Program at the Northeast Georgia RCC Meeting

August 31, 2006

- Overview of TQ Grant Program
- Anticipated TQ-RFP Timeline
- Q&A





TQ Program Purpose

- ***To strengthen and deepen teachers' content knowledge in their academic subjects...with attention to how strengthened and deepened content knowledge impacts teaching practices and student learning.***
 - TQ is administered by the University of Georgia for the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.



Primary Program Goals

- Strengthen and deepen content knowledge in science, mathematics, language arts, and social science for teachers of grades PreK-12;
- Improve teaching practices and student learning in grades PreK-12; and
- Identify and disseminate successful PD projects and models



Secondary Program Goals

- Enhance communication between LEAs and IHE
- Improve collaboration between PreK-12th grade teachers of the same and different content areas
- Improve collaboration between Arts & Sciences and Education faculties at IHE
- TQ as an Agent of Change in LEAs and IHE



Partnerships must include:

- A unit of an IHE that works directly with teachers
- An Arts & Sciences unit from an IHE
- At least one High Need LEA
system-wide or one or more targeted schools



TQ Criteria for High Need LEA

- At least 10,000 or 20% of students come from families whose income is below the poverty line

Poverty information can only come from the most recent published US Census data on impoverished children/school districts. This can be found at TQ web site.
- School or school systems with 10% or more of teachers teaching out of field for part of the day or have emergency, provisional, or temporary certification



Partnerships *may* also include:

- Another IHE;
- Additional LEAs, charter schools, public or private schools, or a consortium of schools;
- A museum, nature center, or business;
- A non-profit education-oriented organization; or
- A professional or cultural organization of demonstrated effectiveness in strengthening and deepening teachers' content knowledge.

History of the TQ Program:



- Originally funded through Eisenhower Higher Education
- Now PL107-110 Title II-Part A, Higher Education
- Separate from PRISM
- Size of individual state awards determined through a formula based on each state's student population and poverty rates



TQ Funding for Georgia

2004: Total Award = \$1,869,153

- 64 Projects Funded
 - 8 Math & Science, 24 Math, 15 Science, 3 Language Arts, 2 Social Science, 12 Other Content Area Combinations
 - Impacted Teachers in 85 School Systems

2005: Total Award = \$1,920,220

- 48 Projects Funded
 - 7 Math & Science, 12 Math, 19 Science, 1 Language Arts, 1 Social Science, 8 Other Content Area Combinations
 - Impacted Teachers in 73 School Systems

2006: Total Award = \$1,912,500

- 51 Projects Funded
 - 9 Math & Science, 14 Math, 23 Science, 1 Language Arts, 1 Social Science, 3 Other Content Area Combinations
 - Impacted Teachers in 72 School Systems



Categories TQ Projects for 2007

- Category 1

- PD for teachers of science, math, language arts, and social sciences
- Approximately 50% of available funds

- Category 2

- PD for teachers of science and mathematics in PRISM or PRISM Satellite Regions (requires support from PRISM Regional Co-PI)
- Approximately 50% of available funds



Types of TQ Projects for 2007

- Type B - Graduate Course or Workshop with Follow-Up
 - Expected cost: Up to \$30,000
- Type C - Special Project
 - Expected cost: Up to \$50,000
- Type D - Graduate Course or Workshop with Sustained Contact
 - Expected cost: Up to \$55,000
- Combination of Types B & C and C & D



Initiating a Project:

- A school, school system(s), or RESA can approach a professor at any public or private College or University in Georgia with a problem or idea for solving a problem related to teacher content knowledge or student achievement.
- A professor with a PD project in mind can approach one or more school systems. The PD project can target specific schools or school systems, or all school systems in Georgia.

TQ Project Goals, FY07:



Assist teachers to:

- Become current in the content they teach;
- Become current in appropriate strategies for teaching their subject; and
- Develop the background necessary to incorporate instructional technology in the courses they teach.

Projects that attend to the content within and implementation of the GPS are encouraged.



TQ Project Criteria:

- Focus on **teachers of grades PreK-12** science, mathematics, language arts, and/or social sciences.
- A project should serve at least **12** teachers.
- The project PI must be a IHE faculty member who agrees to assume responsibility for oversight and fiscal management.
- An IHE must serve as the fiscal agent for the project.
- Project proposals must include a **scientifically based rationale**.



Scientifically Based Research

- SBR is relevant to educational activities and employs one or more of the following:
 - systematic and objective procedures
 - observations or experiment
 - hypotheses testing
 - data from multiple observations and measurements related to other studies
 - acceptance by a peer reviewed journal
 - details sufficient for replication



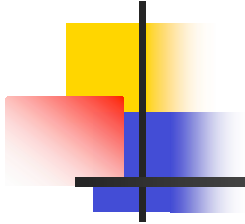
Budget:

- Funds can be spent on
 - Expenses associated with delivery of PD including partial salaries, travel expenses, PD session materials and expenses, substitutes, teacher stipends
 - Materials are limited to those necessary for delivery of PD –**cannot** buy equipment that becomes property of schools
- Matching Funds are encouraged; they can be actual dollars or in-kind contributions.
- Funds **cannot** be spent on students, salary that is extra compensation, and out-of-state travel.



Proposal Review and Rating

- Review panels are composed of educators from school and colleges across Georgia.
- Review Criteria:
 - Significance - Potentially productive approach to addressing significant issue or need?
 - Capability - Foundation in scientifically based research? Activities and resources sufficient to meet the project's objectives? Sound evaluation?
 - Impact - Likely impact on teachers' content knowledge and practices and student learning?



New RFP, Fall 2006

New RFP Anticipated Timeline

- Posted now at
 - <http://www.coe.uga.edu/teacherquality>
- Proposals due in January 8, 2007
- Proposals reviewed January 23-25, 2007
- Awards made in March, 2007





Emphasized in new RFP

- Stipends increased
 - To \$60 per hour of PLU (\$300 for 5 PLUs)
 - To \$30 per hour for projects that include room and board (\$150 for 5 PLUs)
- Georgia Performance Standards
- Project evaluation, but no required assessment tools



Questions?

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