

OFFICE OF QUALITY PROFESSIONALS AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
June 16-17, 2011

TEACHER CENTER

19. Approval to award competitive grant to the University of Mississippi for the Mississippi Teacher Fellowship Program (subject to the availability of funds)

Purpose: The grant will provide scholarships for up to 55 new critical shortage area teachers and 94 continuing critical shortage area teachers who pursue a Master of Education degree or an Educational Specialist degree. These selected participants must agree to continue employment in a Mississippi school district identified as a critical shortage area for a period of up to three (3) years.

In 1998 the Mississippi Legislature passed House Bill 609 which addresses the critical teacher shortage in the state, with Section 13 of this bill providing for the University Assisted Teacher Recruitment and Retention Program. As a result of Section 13 of HB 609, the Mississippi Teacher Fellowship Program is designed as an innovative partnership to address Mississippi's teacher shortage. The goal of the program is to attract qualified teachers to the critical teacher shortage areas of Mississippi. Scholarships will be made available to persons seeking a Master of Education or Educational Specialist degree at a Mississippi institution of higher learning in exchange for employment in these geographical shortage areas. The vision for the Mississippi Teacher Fellowship Program is to provide educational experiences to students enrolled in at-risk schools that will allow these students to participate fully in the economic and social opportunities of our nation.

Scope of Grant:

- Grant Period: July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012
(Option to renew annually up to ten years)
- Award Amount: \$587,607
- Method of Award: Request for Proposals
- Funding Source: State Funds

Summary of Selection Process:

Issuance of Request for Proposals (RFP):	April 18, 2011
Deadline for Proposal Submission:	May 17, 2011
Evaluation of Proposal:	May 23, 2011
Total Proposals Received:	1

Total Proposals Recommended for Award: 1

Scoring Criteria:

- A. Qualifications
- B. Plan for Performing the Required Services
- C. Budget

Maximum Points

45 points
45 points
10 points
100 points

Recommendation: Approval