UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX: PROJECT REACH
GRANT APPLICANT INFORMATION
United States Department of Education: Transition to Teaching Funds

PURPOSE

The purpose of PROJECT REACH is to help recruit individuals who wish to become certified or licensed teachers, increase the number of highly qualified teachers (as defined in Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Section 9101 (23) teaching high-need schools, and provide high quality coursework and mentoring to qualified grant recipients.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Students who are currently working at a high needs schools on emergency certification in (list districts/schools) will be given first priority. Students who currently possess a Bachelors degree, are not certified, and are interested in teaching in one of the listed locations, in elementary or secondary classrooms will also be eligible to apply. Consideration will be given for outstanding academic achievement, commitment to teaching in a high-need area, and district recommendation.

BENEFITS

Students accepted for this program receive:

- Tuition and fees (limited to $5000) towards the completion of a Masters of Education degree at the University of Phoenix Online, or ground campuses in Tucson, Arizona, Las Vegas, Nevada., or Honolulu, Hawaii.
- E resource materials
- Waiver of admissions application fees
- One year of mentorship following coursework completion provided by the district
- Computer access for coursework completion
PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Candidates for funds are required to:

- Be admitted to the University of Phoenix Masters of Education Program
- Pass state approved teacher assessment for certification
- Provide current fingerprint clearance documentation
- Complete coursework in a timely manner (24 months)
- Maintain a grade of B or better in all courses
- Follow all district, school and University of Phoenix policies
- Teach in a high-need participating school for three years *

Individuals do not qualify for funding if:

- They already possess a BA in Education
- Have completed 50% or more of a teacher preparation program at UOP
- Have defaulted on any financial aid agreements

*Any individual who receives training through the Transition to Teaching program must teach in a high-need local education agency for a period of at least three years. Those who do not will have to repay program funds, (ESEA, Section 2313(i) and (j)). If a teacher leaves after one year, h/she will have to repay ¾ of their tuition. After two years, ½ of their tuition, and during the third year, ¼ of their tuition.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The following must be included in the application packet:

- One letter of recommendation from the principal/ superintendent
- Essay explaining why you wish to pursue a long-term career in teaching
- A completed University of Phoenix Application, completion of a FAFSA application, and all other required documentation
- Fingerprint clearance documentation* (or confirmation receipt of submission)
- A signed Participation Agreement committing to teach in a participating high-need school for three years. (as attached)
Participant Service Agreement Draft
University of Phoenix
PROJECT REACH: Transition to Teaching Grant

I _______________________________ agree to participate in the University of Phoenix PROJECT REACH. If selected for participation, I agree to follow all district, school, and University of Phoenix rules and policies.

I have read and understand the conditions of repayment, which state that:

Any individual who receives training through the Transition to Teaching program: PROJECT REACH, must teach in a high-need local education agency for a period of at least three years. Those who do not will have to repay program funds, (ESEA, Section 2313(i) and (j)). If a teacher leaves after one year, h/she will have to repay ¾ of their tuition. After two years, ½ of their tuition, and during the third year, ¼ of their tuition.

______________________________  __________________
Applicant’s Signature               Date