REIMAGINING THE EDUCATION WORKFORCE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY:
Preparing Teachers through Personalized Learning Modules and Diversified Clinical Experiences

PR Award #: U336S180020
Organization Name: AZ Board of Regents on behalf of Arizona State University
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Project Model: Pre-bac Model
Competitive Preference Priorities: (1) Promoting STEM Education, and (2) Promoting Effective Instruction in Classrooms and Schools
Requested Total Award Amount: $4,979,769.00

Project Description: Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College will enhance its hallmark iTeachAZ teacher preparation program to meet the needs of elementary and secondary students in 21st Century learning environments. The enhanced preparation program will be grounded in competency-based, evidence-rich, flexible learning modules that can be personalized to align clinical experiences with coursework, promote specializations, and prepare educators to be part of teams that meet the needs of the whole child in multiple educational settings. This new model will create learning opportunities for educators that are more flexible, differentiated, and will ultimately empower them to dramatically improve outcomes for K-12 students.

Project Expected Outcomes: Over the course of the project 1,500 prospective teachers; 2,000 in-service teachers, mentors, and educational leaders; and 500,000 K-12 students enrolled in partner districts will be impacted. Additionally, the project will imbue the educator workforce with specialized expertise in high-need subject areas; increase the diversity of educators; better prepare novice teachers; and empower teacher leaders to develop collaborative educator teams.

Project Special Features: Diversifying placement sites to provide prospective teachers with experiences in a wide variety of educational contexts, including traditional public schools, charter schools, private schools, after-school programs, criminal justice-related educational settings in alternative schools, and digitally-rich environments in locally facilitated blended classrooms. iTeachAZ will convert the current district-focused model to a regional model, affording prospective teachers experiences in a variety of settings across their preparation program. The focus on Title 1, high-risk, high-diversity, high-need partners will continue, and prospective teachers will be intentionally and strategically placed to provide a heterogeneous set of experiences during their degree program.

Project Partners: Arizona State University (Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, EdPlus Continuing Professional Education, University Office of Evaluation and Educational Effectiveness); ten Arizona Elementary School Districts (Avondale, Balsz, Bonita, Crane, Creighton, Gadsden, Kyrene, Pendergast, Phoenix Collegiate Academy; Washington); eight Arizona Unified School Districts (Fort Thomas, Globe, Miami, Morenci, Pima, Safford, Thatcher, Yuma); Office of the Maricopa County School Superintendent; Center for the Future of Arizona; Arizona Department of Education.