

ABSTRACT

Project Title: Math for All: Broadening and Sustaining Effective Teacher Professional Development to Support Rigorous Personalized Mathematics Instruction for High-Need Students in Grades K–5

Type of Grant: Mid-Phase

Absolute Priorities: 1 (Moderate Evidence), 2 (Field-Initiated Innovations)

Invitational Priorities: 1 (Personalized Learning), 2 (Early Learning and Cognitive Development)

Number of Students to Be Served: 51,200

Grade Levels: Grades K–5

Definition of High-Need Students: Students who meet one or more of the following criteria: (1) low mathematics achievement; (2) have a disability; (3) low-income background.

Brief Project Description: Math for All (MFA) is a professional development (PD) program that helps teachers personalize high-quality mathematics education to better meet the needs of a wide range of diverse learners. The overall goal of this project is to implement, test, and refine strategies for regionally expanding MFA in a variety of settings and with diverse populations in Illinois.

Objectives and Expected Outcomes: We will build capacity to support the depth, sustainability, and local ownership of MFA and its expansion by preparing local facilitators to lead the PD and school leaders to support its implementation. Implementation of two successive randomized controlled trials using a crossover design will enable us to document the impact of MFA on teacher and student outcomes and allow for the iterative refinement of our scaling strategies. We anticipate this project will result in 80 local facilitators prepared to lead MFA PD, and more than 600 teachers with enhanced skills to (a) personalize rigorous mathematics instruction and (b) improve achievement for the high-need students they are serving.

Special Project Features: (1) Utilization of a school-wide, job-embedded approach for PD implementation. (2) Partnerships with local PD providers to broaden access to MFA and build infrastructure across Illinois.

Partnering Organizations: Education Development Center; Bank Street College of Education; Deacon Hill Research Associates; Abt Associates; Teachers College, Columbia University; Chicago Public Schools; Illinois Regional Offices of Education #39, #47, and #50 with the 58 school districts served by them; and The Center: Resources for Teaching and Learning.