

## Program Synopsis

The Mathematics and Science Partnership (MSP) program strives to improve teacher quality through partnerships between high-need school systems, institutions of higher education, and other qualifying partners to increase the academic achievement of students in mathematics and science. Other partners may include other school systems, public charter and magnet schools, private elementary and secondary schools, businesses, and nonprofit or for-profit organizations of demonstrated effectiveness in improving the quality of mathematics and science teachers.

The MSP program is a formula grant program to the states, with the size of individual state awards based on student population and poverty rates. With these funds, Georgia is responsible for administering a grant competition in which grants are made to eligible partnerships to improve the content knowledge and instructional practice of grades K-12 mathematics and science teachers.

- **Title of Program:** Georgia Mathematics and Science Partnership (MSP) Program, Title II B
- **Purpose:** To support partnerships that demonstrate deep engagement between (a) one or more school systems, at least one of which must meet high-need criteria; and (b) science, technology, engineering, and/or mathematics (STEM) faculty at an accredited 2 or 4 year college or university. Such partnerships seek to advance the disciplinary content depth, pedagogical content acumen, and cognitive disciplinary instructional skills of mathematics and/or science teachers of grades K-12 to improve student achievement. The focus of proposals submitted in response to the RFP is to provide a minimum of 80 hours of intensive and follow-up content training each year to the same cohort of mathematics and science teachers.
- **Eligibility:** Proposals should be submitted by partnerships between a Georgia high-need school system or consortium and departments of engineering, mathematics, or science in institutions of higher education. A school system is considered high-need if at least 40% of its students qualify for the free and reduced meal plan. The project must also include teachers from Priority (Comprehensive), Focus (Targeted), or other Title I schools
- **Duration of Grants:** Funding will be provided from October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2018, pending evidence of project effectiveness and compliance to program requirements. At the conclusion of project year one, each partnership will submit a brief application to the GaDOE that must include compelling justification for funding to be continued into project year two.
- **Limitation:** An organization may submit only one proposal as the lead partner of an MSP project. That organization may be included as a secondary partner on proposals by other partnerships that do not seek to provide professional learning opportunities in the grade levels and content area(s) already provided for by said organization.
- **Proposal Preparation:** Proposals are to be submitted by a Georgia high-need school system, a RESA or an IHE. The RFP contains instructions for the preparation of the proposal. All partnerships must submit proposals using the required MSP proposal framework document provided by the GaDOE. Any proposal failing to comply with preparation guidelines, including required forms and format, may result in the proposal being returned without review.

