KANSAS ADVANCED PLACEMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The Kansas State Department of Education is proposing an Advanced Placement Incentive Program project for school districts in the state of Kansas whose high schools have a free and reduced percentage greater than 40% and/or represent underserved areas. This project would provide professional development opportunities for current and new advanced placement instructors. In addition, sub grants will be awarded to qualified districts or consortiums of districts who wish to begin implementing AP within their school(s). Sub grants would also be available for districts that wish to access online AP courses or develop their own online AP course.

The following goal and objectives will be achieved through this project.

Goal: Expand AP coursework availability in mathematics, sciences, English, Japanese, and Chinese to high schools in Kansas with large percentages of low-income students.

Objective 1
Increase the number of school districts providing AP coursework through a sub grant process each year of the project as measured by sub grant receipt list.
Objective 2
Improve KSDE's infrastructure for initiating a statewide AP program by hiring an AP coordinator, establishing an AP leadership committee, and implementing a statewide marketing and recruitment campaign as measured by performance measures established in this proposal.
Objective 3
Increase the number of high schools utilizing AP courses that are College Board Ledger compliant by 10% each year of the project as measured by the College Board Ledger roster. (Gap 3)**Objective 4**
Increase the number of students participating in and receiving a score of three or better on identified subject areas AP examinations each year of the project by 6% as demonstrated by the AP College Board report.
Objective 5
Improve AP instructor knowledge through intensive professional development opportunities as measured by course completion records and teacher knowledge surveys.
Objective 6
Increase business and community organization involvement in advancing AP coursework throughout Kansas as measured by partnership agreements, marketing campaign strategies, and content delivery.
Objective 7
Increase by 5% the number of feeder schools each year of the project utilizing the vertical team or Springboard programming with lower classmen as measured by team completion and implementation records.

The following outcomes will be accomplished through this project:

Overall Outcomes
•Increased awareness of the AP project and benefits among qualifying high schools and statewide
•Increased number of AP courses successfully completing College Board Course Audit Ledger protocols
•Partnerships are established with business and community organizations to increase AP awareness, online course offerings, professional development opportunities, and improve AP course content standards

•Ensure successful development and completion of critical language AP courses in Chinese and Japanese for online delivery for students.

Professional Development Outcomes
•100 teachers will participate in College Board summer institutes, Springboard, Vertical Team Trainings, or AP workshops during the summers of 2009, 2010, 2011
•5 teachers will receive scholarships to attend AP rater trainings for Chinese and Japanese
•20 teachers will receive funding toward attendance at the Midwestern Regional AP forum
•Up to 15 sub grants will be expended to qualifying districts or consortia of districts to develop and implement an AP program at their district(s), provide online course access for low-income students, or provide professional development opportunities to teachers
•Increased numbers of teachers implementing AP courses within their districts for core academic areas
•Increase the likelihood districts will have a successful team that develops a continuum of skill building from one grade level to the next

Student Outcomes
•Increased access to AP courses in mathematics, sciences, English, Chinese, and Japanese critical languages
•Increased numbers of students scoring a 3 or better on AP examinations
•Increased opportunities for feeder school students to implement Vertical Team or Springboard programming
•Increased access to sophomores in qualifying school districts with PSAT cost deferment scholarships

Sub Grants

Sub grants for local education agencies will provide the funding for the establishment or expansion of advanced placement course offerings which may include ones delivered traditionally, on-line or through distance education.

Sub grants will require local education agencies to develop a plan for aligning AP courses with ongoing school improvement efforts and actively engaging key stakeholders including teachers, administrators, parents, board members and students in the development process. Eligible applicants will include any Kansas accredited private or public local education agency serving Juniors and Seniors in high school. Applications will be accepted from an individual school district or as a member of a consortium application with other eligible school districts (those whose high school's free and reduced lunch count exceeds 40%). Sub-grants may also be utilized by local educational agencies who wish to develop Pre-AP or AP courses within their district (or consortium of districts) if no Pre-AP or AP courses have been previously available within their district or service area. The sub-grant process will be on a competitive basis and approximately $225,000 ($15,000 maximum for individual schools or up to $50,000 for consortia applicants) has been allocated in project funding each year to provide districts with funding to expand their AP programs.

Eligible activities for sub-grants include teacher training, the purchase of materials needed to implement Pre-AP or AP classes, either traditionally, online or via distance-education technologies. Other eligible activities include public information campaigns designed to increase awareness of the AP incentive program for low-income students, including either reduced or cost-free programming. Activities

involving Junior High students in Pre-AP courses will be given priority if the application content fully addresses solid Pre-AP programming.

Grantees are required to provide a 25% match for the amount of the award. All funds must be expended by September 30th, 2009.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED OR DELIVERED NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2009

RETURN AN ORIGINAL AND FIVE (5) COPIES TO:

Kent Reed
Kansas State Department of Education
120 SE 10th Avenue
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1182