



## **SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF THE TRANSITIONAL SCHOOL**

### **DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS**

Purchasing Department

801 North 11th Street

Saint Louis, Missouri 63101

### **RFP 003-1819 TEACHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

#### **ADDENDUM 1: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

1. How many teacher-candidates do you estimate entering the program in year one, and each year? **Answer: We anticipate a range anywhere from 5 to 30, with a smaller cohort beginning in year one. After initial year, we would hope to have a consistent range between 20 and 30 persons annually.**
2. Will these candidates be primarily seeking teacher certification at the undergrad level (candidates lack a college BA or BS at a minimum), the graduate level (candidates hold a BA or BS in any subject), or what approximate percent of each? **Answer: We will consider candidates in either situation and welcome proposals that contain a pathway for candidates in both circumstances, with a particular focus on efficiency for those not yet in possession of a BA/BS.**
3. Can we assume that most of those without a BA or BS degree have a minimum of 45 - 60 credit hours (general education requirements) and a cumulative GPA of at least 2.75?  
**Answer: You can submit a proposal based upon those requirements for your own proposal, but that is not a required assumption or requirement.**
4. Rather than a "tuition discount," will you consider a net cost per credit hour? Credit hour costs can be reduced by financial aid and scholarships and are already low at public institutions, but UMSL College of Education cannot offer a "discount" to tuition. **Answer: Yes, as long as net cost is a guaranteed cost.**
5. When do you anticipate the program starting? EX: FALL 2019. **Answer: As early as January 2019 or as late as Fall 2020.**
6. The RFP indicates that SLPS is seeking "a university partner" to develop a "teacher certification and training program specifically designed to meet the needs of St. Louis Public Schools' non-certificated employees ." (RFP p. 15). Are universities the only entities eligible to submit proposals in response to this RFP? If so, must the university be located in Missouri and included in the "Directory of Educator Preparation programs" listing the institutions that have been approved by the Missouri State Board of Education to offer programs from which

candidates may be recommended for certification? **Answer: Other entities may submit proposals provided that they can secure Missouri certification for their candidates within the designated timeframe.**

7. Is SLPS looking for a program for an "Alternative or Innovative route" to certification, described by DESE as:

*"An individual with a bachelor's degree in a content area (such as Mathematics or English) returns to a college of education for a program of study that may enable him to take courses and teach simultaneously. The teacher works under a two-year, provisional certificate and usually completes about 30 semester hours. When the college program is completed and the designated assessment test passed, the college recommends and the individual receives an initial certificate. Some of these programs are offered via distance learning, some programs offer a master's degree plus certification and some offer only the certification."* **Answer: SLPS is looking for a program that will certify candidates within the timeframe provided. The route quoted above would be considered as would other routes that provide a similar outcome.**

8. Acknowledging that there are already institutions offering alternative certification programs for Missouri educators, what led SLPS to publish this RFP and how does SLPS envision that the program created pursuant to this RFP will differ from the existing programs? **Answer: SLPS is looking for a long-term partner that will tailor their programming to the needs of SLPS.**
9. Is SLPS interested in an alternative model in which teachers would demonstrate their competency on specific skills via micro-credentials in order to earn graduate credits as part of the program? **Answer: SLPS would consider this model and any alternative model that arrives at the outcomes listed in the RFP.**
10. Regarding pricing, is SLPS seeking pricing both for (1) the cost of developing the program, and (2) the cost to individuals to engage in the program? **Answer: SLPS is seeking the pricing for the comprehensive cost of the program to SLPS.**
11. Does SLPS intend to pay fees to the chosen partner to develop the program only, with all subsequent participation costs to be borne by the teachers themselves? **Answer: SLPS will determine how fees are assigned once SLPS has an accurate understanding of what costs will be.**

**END OF ADDENDUM 1.**