

Project Abstract

Lead Applicant / Organization Name: Western Kentucky University
Lead applicant entity type: Institution of Higher Education (4-year)
Lead Applicant City and State: Bowling Green, KY

Select Grant Category: Category 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensuring Equitable Apprenticeship Pathways and Partnerships Through Pre-Apprenticeship Leading to RAP Enrollment: up to \$4 million	
Project Title: Western Kentucky University’s Level UP Leadership Program for K-12 Principals	
Funding Amount Requested: \$1,323,733	
Applicants Geographic Scope of Proposed Project: State-wide (Kentucky)	
Number of apprentices enrolled in RAPs during the life of the grant: 72	
Population(s) to be served: Underserved and underrepresented incumbent workers employed as a K-12 Teacher in LEAs with a significant gap between the diversity of school leaders and the student population they serve.	
Required Partners: (Organization name and entity type)	
<i>Western Kentucky University</i>	Employer/Sponsor
<i>Kentucky Education and Workforce Development’s Office of Employer and Apprenticeship Services</i>	Kentucky SAA (State Apprenticeship Agency)
<i>Community Agenda for Regained Employment</i>	Equity-focused CBO
<i>Nelson County Schools</i>	Employer/Sponsor
<i>Fayette County Schools</i>	Employer
<i>Warren County Schools</i>	Employer
<i>Daviess County Schools</i>	Employer
<i>Education Registered Apprenticeship (ERA) Intermediary</i>	DOL-funded RAP intermediary

<i>Kentucky Education Association (NEA affiliate)</i>	Labor Union/Industry Trade Organization
Optional Partners: (Organization name and entity type)	
<i>Lincoln Trail Area Development District (LTADD) Barren River Area Development District (BRADD)</i>	Area Development Districts/ Workforce Development Boards
<i>Kentucky Department of Education's Education Professional Standards Board</i>	State Accreditation Agency for Credential Licensure (K-12 Principal)
<i>Council for Postsecondary Education</i>	State Agency: coordinates policy and implementation of all Kentucky's state post-secondary institutions
<i>Kentucky Education Development Corporation (KEDC)</i>	Pre-Apprenticeship Provider; Education Cooperative

Project Purpose: To address the critical shortage of underserved and underrepresented populations in the field of K-12 Principal through creation of a pre-apprenticeship program leading to RAP as K-12 Principal.
Sub recipient Activities: Sub awards will not be issued.
List of Credentials(s) to be awarded: K-12 Principal (per the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board approval upon completion of an approved Educator Preparation Program)
SUMMARY OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES: The Western Kentucky University Level UP K-12 Principal Registered Apprenticeship Program creates a pre-apprenticeship pathway through the Level UP Leadership Academy to provide an entry point into a K-12 Principal Registered Apprenticeship Program for current Kentucky EPSB certified K-12 teachers employed through an LEA. WKU serves as the program sponsor with four partner school districts serving as pilot employers in the RAP, including Fayette County Schools, Warren County Schools, Nelson County Schools, and Daviess schools. Pre-apprenticeship candidates earn six hours of credit toward K-12 Principal

certification and a graduate degree through completion of professional learning experiences delivered through LEAs and partner Kentucky Education Development Cooperative serving as an initial partner. Upon completion of the pre-apprenticeship, candidates are eligible for the RAP through LEA employment. Related Technical Instruction through the RAP is provided through WKU's K-12 Principal Educator Preparation Program and includes articulation for 12 hours of required credits toward K-12 Principal Certification and a graduate degree through mastery of the Work Process competencies demonstrated through on-the-job training experiences. This model creates an accelerated, experiential learning, and affordable route to K-12 Principal Certification for underserved and underrepresented populations, a group among whom there is a critical shortage of applicants.

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