

**Improving P-12 Student Learning  
through Stronger School and College or University Partnerships**

A Proposal submitted to the Ohio Education Foundation  
in care of Randy Flora

on behalf of  
the Ohio Clinical Alliance for Educator Preparation

Developed by  
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Ohio Clinical Alliance for Educator Preparation

Submitted, August 27, 2014

***Abstract:***

The purpose of this proposal is to promote P-12 student learning and to strengthen teacher preparation by fostering school and college and/or university partnerships throughout the state of Ohio. This proposal is sponsored by the Ohio Clinical Alliance for Educator Preparation, a newly formed, state-wide organization dedicated to improving P-12 student learning a organization and fostering a clinically based approach to teacher preparation. (See accompanying white paper on clinically rich teacher preparation.) This specific proposal will further the mission of the Ohio Clinical Alliance for Educator Preparation by funding the development of up to four pilot partnership projects between schools and universities. The four partnerships would enact the vision and philosophy stated by the Ohio Clinical Alliance as briefly summarized with the following statement

"We are committed to Ohio's future teachers working shoulder-to-shoulder with practicing educators on the real challenges of student learning from the very beginning of their teacher preparation program."

***Description of the Ohio Clinical Alliance:***

The Ohio Clinical Alliance for Educator Preparation was established to advance and promote practices and policies for transforming clinical preparation through collaborative partnerships among schools, districts, and higher education by (See accompanying handout for a fuller description):

- Creating and communicating a vision and goals for clinical practice;
- Sharing best practices, research and innovations;
- Identifying and addressing issues related to clinical practice;
- Advocating for policies needed to support clinical practice.

The Ohio Clinical Alliance consists of a collaborative among several state agencies and public and private institutions of higher education. These include, the American Federation of Teachers, Buckeye Association of School Administrators, Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators, Ohio Education Association, Battelle for Kids, Ohio PTA, Ohio School Boards Association, Ohio Board of Regents, State University Education Deans, and the Ohio Association for Private Colleges for Teacher Education. (See accompanying material for full list of members.)

***Project Description***

The purpose of this project is to promote school and college or university partnerships throughout the state of Ohio by providing funding to sponsor partnership meetings between schools and universities. These meetings are intended to develop strategies that extend and strengthen early clinical experiences. During these meetings schools and universities will collaborate on ways to add capacity to schools and strengthen teacher preparation by creating sustained clinical experiences. These initiatives should be developed to address the specific needs of the participating schools and universities.

### **Requirements**

To receive funding applicants must submit a one to two page application proposal to the Ohio Clinical Alliance for Educator Preparation Leadership Committee. Funding recipients must also 1) submit a final report at the conclusion of the project funding and 2) be willing to share their experiences at a meeting of the Ohio Clinical Alliance, local or state meetings or conferences, or through other venues as needed. The format for the application proposal and final report are provided below:

#### *Application Proposal*

**Purpose and Goals:** The application proposal must include a section that explains the purposes and goals of the project. The focus of these projects is on extending clinical experiences at the early field experience level. Projects must expand partnership arrangements, extend clinical experiences, and/or start new clinical experiences. Examples include extending student teaching to a year of professional internship, creating more sustained clinical experiences in earlier years, or adding early clinical experiences so that time in the field is continuous.

**Partnership Plan:** The application must include a description of how the partnership between schools and universities will be fostered. The plan must be in conformance with the National Association for Professional Development Schools standards. This section must also include a statement that says this partnership is being developed in a program area without an existing partnership. For example, the partnership plan may consist of a plan for conducting a series of meetings to establish a new partnership between one or more schools and a college or university. In such cases, the partnership plan should propose a series of no less than three meetings.

**Budget:** The primary purpose of the project funding is to sponsor the costs associated with funding partnerships. For example, costs may include meeting expenses and substitute pay so that teachers can participate.

#### *Final Report*

Each group will be required to file a final report that will need to be submitted concerning their activities. The final report should provide a description of how this work has made a difference, accompanied by some evidence, anecdote, or description of program improvements.

#### *Budget*

The anticipated expenses associated with this budget are meeting expenses and substitute pay for teachers so they can attend meetings during the school day. However, some projects may propose innovative approaches to forming partnerships with associated expenses that are not anticipated by this proposal.

Meeting Expenses	\$600
Substitute Pay	<u>\$2,400</u>
Total Funding Request	\$3,000

Proposals should be submitted no later than November 1<sup>s</sup> to John Henning  
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