



U.S. Department of Education -- Planning and Evaluation Service

The Evaluation of the Partnership Program of Title II HEA

Purpose

The purpose of this evaluation is to assess the impact, strengths and weaknesses of the Partnerships Grants Program of Title II HEA. Specifically, the evaluation will measure the impact of 1999 Partnership grants in helping colleges of education, colleges of arts and sciences, local school districts and other partners to work more closely together to improve the content and structure of the training and education offered to prospective teachers. In addition, the Planning and Evaluation Service (PES) may exercise an optional component of the evaluation to measure the impact of two or three of the most promising preservice teacher education program models on the knowledge, skills and practices on new elementary school teachers from a sample of Partnership programs.

Key Research Questions

1. What are the characteristics of high quality preservice teacher education? What evidence exists that these characteristics contribute to positive learning gains for students?
2. How are Partnership programs making changes in the structure and content of their preservice teacher education programs? What is the quality of these changes?
3. How do working relationships among schools of education, schools of arts and sciences, districts and other partners change over the course of the grant period? What roles do each partner play, and what are the characteristics of effective partnerships?
4. What efforts are taking place among programs to institutionalize the partnership after federal funding has ended? How will program funding and activities be sustained over time?
5. What are the effects of Partnership programs on districts? To what extent do the grants help districts meet staffing and instructional needs?

General Evaluation Design and Data Collection Activities

The evaluation will include the following key tasks:

- 1) Literature Review on high-quality preservice teacher education
- 2) Survey of Partnership program project directors
- 3) Baseline and follow-up surveys of faculty members from Partnership institutions of higher education
- 4) Baseline and follow-up surveys of Partnership School Districts
- 5) Case studies

- 6) Review and analysis of annual program performance reports and institutional reports from the *State Accountability Reports on the Quality of Teacher Education*
- 7) Four annual reports on findings

Timeline

The evaluation is being conducted from September 2000 through spring/summer 2005.

1999 Partnership Grantees: Lead Institutions

Arizona State University (AZ)
Ball State University (IN)
Boston College (MA)
Graceland College (IA)
Illinois State University (IL)
Jackson State University (MS)
Johns Hopkins University (MD)
Kansas State University (KS)
Kean University (NJ)
Mississippi State University (MS)
North Carolina Central University (NC)
Our Lady of the Lake University (TX)
Saginaw Valley State University (MI)
South Carolina State University (SC)
Southwest Missouri State University (MO)
Texas A & M University System (TX)
University of Alaska at Anchorage (AK)
University of Miami (FL)
University of South Carolina (SC)
University of Southern Colorado (CO)
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (TN)
University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee (WI)
Washington State University (WA)
Western Kentucky University (KY)
Youngstown State University (OH)