Collaborative Regional Education Investing in Innovation (i3) Grant

Sub-Agreement with Jacksonville State University For CORE Academy

Request for Proposals
Publication Date: July 21, 2016
Proposal Deadline: August 15, 2016
www.jsu.edu
www.corepartners.org

Who We Are

Jacksonville State University (JSU) in Jacksonville, Alabama is a leader in education reform. Through the university's Red Balloon Initiative, JSU strategically implemented new methodologies and technologies in university classrooms and began collaborating with local PK-12 partners who were interested in doing the same. As a result, the Collaborative Regional Education (CORE) PK-20 initiative seeks to improve student outcomes through comprehensive services that include active learning, technology, change management and other student, teacher, and administrator services. In 2013, JSU was awarded an Investing in Innovation (i3) validation grant from the US Department of Education to study CORE and expand the model nationally. In 2015, JSU was awarded a second Investing in Innovation (i3) validation grant to study CORE and expand the model nationally to rural high schools.

The goal of JSU's i3 grant is to improve college and work readiness among students in high-need and rural schools. We are seeking **three** regional universities to participate in expanding CORE Academy to their university campuses. CORE Academy is a three-day conference hosted on the campus of Jacksonville State University. These universities will host the three-day conference on their campuses during 2017 and beyond.

CORE Academy History

CORE Academy, the three-day conference, is a key professional development feature of the CORE Model. The first CORE Academy was held on the JSU campus in 2013 with 280 attendees. Of the attendees who responded to an online survey, 91% reported that the CORE Academy met their needs, 90% reported that the technologies and methodologies shared were useful, 91% planned to implement what they learned, and 92% said the three-day conference met their expectations. In 2014, more than 300 teachers, faculty, students, administrators, sponsors, and other partners attended CORE Academy. In 2015, 450 attended with 91% reporting that the content was of high quality and 96% reporting that the content was relevant.

With a cap for attendance set at 480-500, JSU realized that instead of increasing the attendance of CORE Academy by holding it at a

conference hotel, having teachers "come home" where most achieved their teaching credentials was too important to give up. At this time is was decided that replicating CORE Academies at other regional universities was the direction needed.

The CORE Model

There are six CORE components that through a network of key partners builds capacity of school systems, teachers, and administrators to improve student readiness for college and career. These six components are: partnership building, technology, active learning, classroom support, change management, and college readiness. Figure 1 depicts the CORE model, the partners, and primary service components.

Partnership Building—CORE begins with partnership building. It is the belief in all involved that working together is more likely to result in positive outcomes.

Technology—In a report of the Apple Classroom of Tomorrow-Today (ACOT): Learning in the 21st Century (2008), a culture of innovation and technology is acknowledged as the fuel that not only drives today's economy, but is also vitally important to student learning and the school environment.

Active Learning—Project-based learning (PBL) is one form of active learning supported by CORE. PBL is grounded in constructivism (Piaget, 1969; Perkins, 1991), which holds that learning is constructed through interaction with the environment through investigations, conversations, and activities that build on current knowledge in individualized ways.

Classroom Support—CORE classroom support includes providing an ecosystem of electronic objects, lessons, and media that teachers can share with each other.

Change Management—The primary framework for this change management strategy is based on the administration of the Change Diagnostic Index (CDI) Index, identification of stress areas within the school system, and mitigation of organizational instability through leadership, professional development, and other strategies.

College Readiness—JSU provides remediation to first-year students who are not prepared for college through its work with NROC and the EdReady project. EdReady allows students to test on math and soon, English, skills; identify deficiencies; take online instruction specific to those deficiencies; and test again to show remediation has taken place.
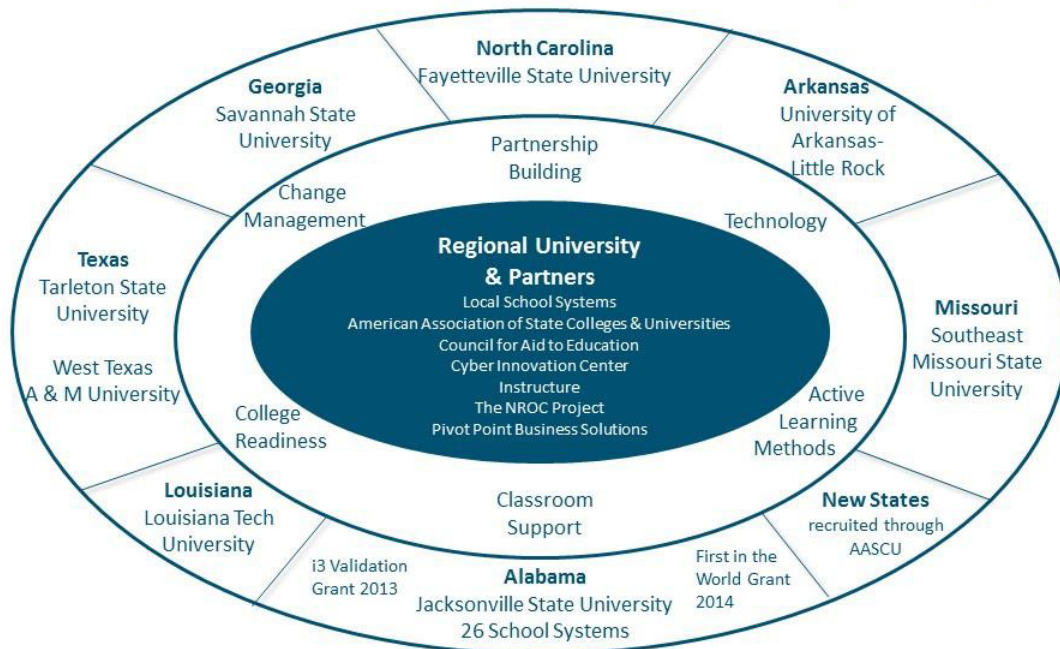
Collaborative Regional Education(CORE)

North Carolina
Fayetteville State University

Georgia
Savannah State University

Arkansas
University of Arkansas-Little Rock

Partnership Building

Change Management

Technology

Texas
Tarleton State University

West Texas A & M University

Regional University & Partners
Local School Systems
American Association of State Colleges & Universities
Council for Aid to Education
Cyber Innovation Center
Instructure
The NROC Project
Pivot Point Business Solutions

Missouri
Southeast Missouri State University

College Readiness

Active Learning Methods

Louisiana
Louisiana Tech University

Classroom Support

New States
recruited through AASCU

i3 Validation Grant 2013

Alabama
Jacksonville State University
26 School Systems

First in the World Grant 2014

Figure 1. CORE Model

Expansion of CORE Academy

Applicant eligibility

JSU is seeking **three** regional universities interested in partnering in a national effort to reform education. A proven track record of collaborating with K-12 partners, technology innovation, collaboration and coordination, and campus support are required.

Each university will
- Assign a regional university liaison to work directly with Jacksonville State University.
- Participate in monthly webinars.
- Have an entire team that attends bi-annual meetings coordinated through a partnership with the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (February 2017 & July 2017; February 2018 & July 2018).
- Explain the resources available to host a three-day conference.
- Recruit presenters and presentations (60 concurrent sessions) and arrange keynote presenters.
- Provide Continuing Education Units (CEU) (or equivalent) for teachers that complete the CORE Academy conference.
- Create a sustainability plan for 2019 and beyond.

Resources Available

What we would like to know about you

Please provide responses to the following items in a brief proposal of no more than 15 double-spaced pages.

Significance
(1) Explain the following characteristics of CORE Academy at your regional university: readiness for change, a commitment to collaboration and involvement across the regional university, a grassroots PK-20 approach, a commitment to learning from each other, providing national keynote speakers, involving students, involving technology sponsors, and broadly represented and engaging sessions.
(2) Explain the following for CORE Academy
   a. Plan to attract at least 200 attendees from local school systems.
   b. Plan to attract at least 60 presentations with 2 presenters for each presentation.
   c. Do you have relationships with local school systems? Discuss these relationships.
   d. What does technology integration mean on your campus? With your local school systems?
   e. Facilities available for hosting CORE Academy.
   f. Plan to coordinate food, shuttles and other logistics.
(3) Provide a sustainability plan for 2019 and beyond.

Key Personnel/Management
   (1) Among your faculty and staff, who do you propose to be involved with the CORE Academy conference? The JSU team will have some assistance available, however, list the regional university personnel and describe how their work experience and skills relate to this project. Include the principal investigator, regional university study liaison, and conference support personnel.
   (2) In what ways does your university's climate and culture support interdisciplinary collaboration & support for CORE Academy?

Registration Fee
   (1) Partner schools (participating in study) will be charged a lower fee than other schools. Please include a proposed cost in your response. Take the following into consideration when calculating the costs: food and special events not covered by the grant.
   (2) Explain what resources your university has in order to facilitate taking payments.

Special Events
   (1) Explain your availability to be able to host a reception on the second night of CORE Academy, including food, entertainment and door prizes.

Resources/Budget
   (1) The i3 budget includes providing each university approximately $100,000 to host CORE Academy on their campus. Using the major tasks outlined in the timeline section, submit a budget that utilizes this amount. Include indirect costs as a cost of the project (based on your institution's federally negotiated rate). A copy of your institution's indirect rate agreement should accompany the response. If the subrecipient has no negotiated rate, 10% of the subaward's modified total direct costs must be paid as the F&A rate, unless the subrecipient is able to direct charge 100% of their costs and has no indirect costs.
   (2) Explain what resources your university would provide in support of this project. Resources should include support for CORE Academy to include additional personnel available to assist with registration, some logistics, etc.
   (3) CORE Academy attracts sponsors on local, state, and national levels. Describe how you will attract and support sponsors. How would you use these funds?
   (4) Explain how you will provide CORE Academy 2019 and beyond.

Appendices
1) Provide curriculum vitae for each key personnel to work on this project.
2) Include a letter of support from your university leadership team, including the President, Provost and/or Dean of Education. The letter should specifically outline their support of the project and what resources they can pledge to ensure a successful CORE Academy.

Characteristics of CORE Academy
Address the following characteristics that make CORE Academy unique:
(1) Collaboration
(2) Support Systems
(3) Passion

Timeline

JSU staff will be available for support during each phase of the logistic planning for CORE Academy. CORE Academy at JSU will be hosted June 6-8, 2017. Please choose another timeframe (subject to approval) for your university to host a CORE Academy.

In your proposal, include the following tasks in your timeline:

Select Theme (12 months in advance)
- Theme must be approved by JSU staff (CORE national office.)

Keynote Speaker Selection (10-12 months in advance)
- One motivational speaker; easiest through a speakers bureau (Premiere Speakers Bureau, AEI, Washington Speakers Bureau).
- One subject matter expert speaker.

Call for Proposals
(JSU has a website available and can assist with this task.)
- Open 8-10 months prior to event with web-based form submission.
- Promote via social media and email marketing.
- Allow presenter and co-presenter free registration to event as incentive.
- Require contact information of both presenter and co-presenter.
- Provide presenter with A/V equipment that will be available.
- Form team of peers to review and accept submitted proposals.
- Contact primary presenter with acceptance email.

- Ensure all information needed is received from the primary presenter.

Event Registration Page
- *JSU will establish a Constant Contact account and mentor regional universities.*
- Set-up 6-8 months prior.
- Set-up to allow all registrants to complete registration process to include selecting a payment type.
- Allow purchase order information to be included (purchase order number, contact person to receive purchase order, contact person's email address).

Catering
- Meet with catering.
- Order breakfast, snacks, lunch, reception food/drinks, and linens through catering.
- Alcoholic beverages are not necessary for the receptions.

App
- Begin working with app developer approximately six months prior to CORE Academy to ensure smooth process and release. (*JSU has relationships with app developers and will assist with this task.)*
- Target release date is approximately one month prior to event.
- Enlist at least two individuals to use content management system to enter data for app.

Submission Guidelines

Application narratives should be no more than 15 pages on 8.5" x 11" paper with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides. Double space all text in the narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references and captions. Use a font that is 12 point or larger.

The deadline for transmittal of the narrative is **August 15, 2016.** Selected regional universities will be notified by email no later than September 1, 2016.

Submit questions and proposals via email to Dr. Alicia Simmons, CORE i3 Project Director at asimmons@jsu.edu.

Attachment A

Example Schedule at a Glance

June 7th
10:30am-1:00pm..Registration
1:00pm-2:00pm...Breakout Sessions
2:00pm-2:30pm... Break
2:30pm-4:00pm...Breakout Sessions
4:30pm-6:00pm...Keynote Speaker
6:00pm-7:00pm...Superintendent's Reception

June 8th
8:00am-8:30am...Registration
8:30am-9:30am...Breakout Sessions
9:30am-10:00am... Break
10:00am-11:00am...Breakout Sessions
11:30am-12:30pm..Lunch
12:30pm-2:00pm...Breakout Sessions
2:00pm-2:30pm... Break
2:30pm-4:00pm...Breakout Sessions
4:30pm-6:00pm...Keynote Speaker
6:30pm-8:00pm... CORE Reception

June 9th
8:00am-8:30am...Registration
8:30am-9:30am...Breakout Sessions
9:30am-10:00am... Break
10:00am-11:30am...Breakout Sessions
11:45am-12:45pm.. Watering Holes