



## KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

### **KSU- Project TRUST (Training for Rural & Urban School Teachers)**

**Project Summary/Abstract:** The *Training for Rural and Urban School Teachers (TRUST)* project will license 30 new elementary teachers for rural and urban schools by fall 2022. When fully implemented, Project TRUST will cast a wide net in search of new educators for rural and urban schools, a net extending from high school teaching pathways courses and community colleges seeking candidates for degree completion through the KSU Elementary Bachelor of Science Online Program (BSO) and the Rural/Urban Yearlong Residency. As part of the BSO, Project TRUST will assist future elementary teachers to be better trained.

Teaching is contextual; schools are reflections of their communities with unique stressors and needs. Our existing program provides quality teacher preparation; however, this grant addresses specific challenges and potential opportunities unique to rural and urban contexts. It would support a grow-your own program with students starting the program at their local community college (either Kansas City Kansas Community College or Seward County Community College), staying in their home district, completing the degree online, and student teaching in their home district, while addressing specific teacher needs in **hard-to-fill disciplines and underserved areas**.

Thirty students will complete the program and be prepared as classroom teachers during the first year. Participants will receive tuition scholarships for 12 hours toward their undergraduate degree. *KSU COE is developing two new BSO certificates that will expand this focus and preparation by allowing students to have content and pedagogical knowledge and skills delivered through a uniquely urban or rural lens, making our degree more responsive to the unique needs of those educational contexts.*

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