

***EveryTeacher* Executive Summary**

South Dakota's *EveryTeacher* grant increases the capacity of the state's teaching force to advance student learning. Aligned with the "highly qualified teachers" component of NCLB and based on the National Board Professional Teaching Standards, *EveryTeacher* emphasizes content knowledge and pedagogical skills of teachers as essential for effective teaching and learning. *EveryTeacher* is a systemic effort engaging K-20 leaders in collaboration to ensure coherence and effectiveness across the career continuum from preparation programs for teaching through professional development for experienced professionals.

Led by South Dakota's Department of Education (DOE), the three-year grant is invested in a set of activities to accomplish the grant's goal of "increased capacity of the teaching force." DOE is leading activities to train paraprofessionals and to enhance teachers' knowledge base and skills in core subject areas such as reading and math. As a primary partner in the grant, the Board of Regents, with public universities, is analyzing and aligning teacher preparation curriculum with local, state, and national standards and assessments. Technology and Innovations in Education (TIE), in a management role for the grant, is directing a mentoring program designed to support new teachers, teachers pursuing National Board Certification, and teachers seeking alternative certification.

With the support and involvement of a host of partners such as professional organizations, private and tribal colleges, and high-need schools, grant leaders are establishing a Teacher Development Planning Team. The team identifies connections across the community of partners invested in teacher quality and plans activities for more cooperatively and effectively conducting teacher training. The efforts of the Planning Team in conjunction with the work of *EveryTeacher* leaders position the grant as a sustainable, statewide project with the potential to influence policies and practices impacting teaching quality across the state in the remaining two years of the grant as well as well beyond the grant period.