



Dear Leaders of Nebraska Colleges of Education,

The **Nebraska Department of Education (NDE)** is excited to announce an upcoming competitive grant opportunity, the **Nebraska “Grow Your Own” Teacher Apprenticeship Competitive Grant**, that will be released publicly in the coming days.

This upcoming competitive grant opportunity will provide competitive grant funding to in-state, approved Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) applicants, who will in turn agree to partner with one or more Nebraska public school districts, educational service units (ESU), or private school employers to design and administer a “Grow Your Own”-style Teacher Registered Apprenticeship Program.

This grant opportunity is expected to be publicly announced by the week of August 19, 2024. The NDE will then host 2 detailed pre-bid conference walkthroughs of the grant opportunity on Monday, August 26 at 2:00 p.m. CST (meeting information below) and Wednesday, September 4 at 9:00 a.m. CST. ***It is strongly recommended that you attend one or both of these pre-bid conferences if you are interested and intend to apply for this opportunity.*** The application deadline is slated to fall in late September 2024, with anticipated grant awards being made in October 2024.

Upcoming Pre-Bid Conference Information

All applicants are encouraged to attend any of the available Pre-Bid Conference meetings, hosted by Nebraska Department of Education and representatives from the National Center for Grow Your Own. In each Pre-Bid Conference meeting, applicants can learn more about competitive grant requirements and ask clarifying questions based on grant contents.

PRE-BID CONFERENCE #1:

Pre-Bid Conference #1 Date: August 26, 2024

Pre-Bid Conference #1 Time: 2:00 p.m. CST

Pre-Bid Conference #1 Format: Virtual

Pre-Bid Conference #1 Meeting Registration Link:

<https://educationne.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcqcOmpzlsE9CqmXSqJbVUOu8c-rRq1yMr#/registration>

PRE-BID CONFERENCE #2:

Pre-Bid Conference #2 Date: September 04, 2024

Pre-Bid Conference #2 Time: 9:00 a.m. CST

Pre-Bid Conference #2 Format: Virtual

Pre-Bid Conference #2 Meeting Registration Link:

<https://educationne.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0rfuuhqT4qHtHqT7c3zJVFzCZeb7iOuwwX>

Thank you for your attention and consideration! We look forward to sharing the full details of this opportunity with you very soon. We hope to see you at our upcoming pre-bid conferences!

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Kent". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jim Kent
Director of Educator Preparation Program Approval
Nebraska Department of Education