



Dear Nebraska PreK-12 leaders,

The **Nebraska Department of Education (NDE)** is excited to announce an upcoming informational webinar for district, ESU, and school leaders that will take place on **September 4, 2024** from **3:00 - 4:00 p.m. CST**.

This upcoming informational webinar opportunity will provide Nebraska PreK-12 leaders with more information about how they can partner with approved Educator Preparation Provider's to design competitive applications for the [Nebraska "Grow Your Own" Teacher Apprenticeship Competitive Grant](#).

This exciting competitive grant opportunity is available 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. EPP applicants will utilize awarded grant funds to cover all tuition, textbooks, and fees on behalf of candidates who are selected by Nebraska LEAs to earn their certification while remaining employed in a paraprofessional (or equivalent) position during their training and preparation.

**If you have already been contacted by one or more EPP partners about this opportunity, or if you'd like to learn more about this opportunity, NDE strongly recommends that you attend this informational webinar.** During this informational webinar session, you will be able to learn more about the responsibilities and opportunities available for LEA and schools who are taking part in a Nebraska "Grow Your Own" Teacher Registered Apprenticeship Program.

The current competitive grant application deadline is September 27, 2024. As such, we highly encourage you to attend this upcoming session in order to learn more about how you can engage with EPPs as soon as possible to submit successful applications for award.

### ***Upcoming Informational Webinar Information***

District, ESU, and school leaders interested in learning more about this grant opportunity and their role in the application process are encouraged to attend the informational webinar being held on Sept. 4, 2024, hosted by Nebraska Department of Education and representatives from the [National Center for Grow Your Own](#). See below for registration information.

#### **Informational Webinar #1:**

**Pre-Bid Conference #1 Date:** September 4, 2024

**Pre-Bid Conference #1 Time:** 3:00 p.m. CST

**Pre-Bid Conference #1 Format:** Virtual (Recording will be available)

**Pre-Bid Conference #1 Meeting Registration Link:**  
**[https://educationne.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwof-6oqTgoH9CqWq\\_32ESxzGo93uyh3ju](https://educationne.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwof-6oqTgoH9CqWq_32ESxzGo93uyh3ju)**

Thank you for your attention and consideration! We hope to see you at our upcoming informational webinar! Please reach out with any questions in the meantime.

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  
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