

**GROW YOUR OWN TEACHER EDUCATION INITIATIVE
FISCAL YEAR 2011 ALLOCATION**

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: This item requests approval of the allocation of grants to the 16 consortia participating in the Grow Your Own Teacher Education (GYO) Initiative. The goal of the GYO Initiative is to recruit and prepare parent and community leaders and paraeducators statewide to become effective teachers 1) in hard-to-staff schools serving a substantial percentage of low-income students, and 2) in hard-to-staff teaching positions in schools serving a substantial percentage of low-income students.

The GYO Initiative is new to the Board of Higher Education (IBHE). Prior to fiscal year 2011, the GYO Initiative was funded and administered by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). Senate Bill 2487 provides that as of July 1, 2010, all powers and duties of the ISBE under the Grow Your Own Act are transferred to the IBHE, and that all rules, standards, guidelines, and procedures adopted by the ISBE shall continue in effect as the rules, standards, guidelines, and procedures until they are modified or abolished by the IBHE. The Governor signed the bill on July 29, 2010.

While administration of the program has passed to IBHE for fiscal year 2011, the actual amount to be allocated by the Governor's office for the GYO Initiative is not yet determined. As a result, final grant amounts may vary from the amounts recommended in this item. The staff recommendation for fiscal year 2011 grants is based on the amounts allocated for GYO grants in fiscal year 2010.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approve grants to 16 GYO consortia for fiscal year 2011 totaling \$2.8 million.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**GROW YOUR OWN TEACHER EDUCATION INITIATIVE
FISCAL YEAR 2011 ALLOCATION**

Background

This item requests approval of the allocation of grants to the 16 consortia participating in the Grow Your Own Teacher Education (GYO) Initiative. The goal of the GYO Initiative is to recruit and prepare parent and community leaders and paraeducators statewide to become effective teachers 1) in hard-to-staff schools serving a substantial percentage of low-income students, and 2) in hard-to-staff teaching positions in schools serving a substantial percentage of low-income students.

The GYO Act was passed in 2004 and received its first wave of funding in fiscal year 2006 from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). Since 2006, 16 consortia in communities across the state have provided support to local community members who desire to become teachers in hard-to-staff neighborhood schools. Consortia are comprised of community organizations, school districts, community colleges, and four-year institutions of higher education. There are currently 387 active teacher candidates involved in the GYO program. Candidates may receive up to \$25,000 for college expenses in the form of loans which are forgiven if a graduate completes five years of service in a qualifying school. Candidates also may receive transportation assistance, tutoring, technology assistance and, if necessary, child care support. The consortia and their members are permitted to use grant funds to offset their costs of providing services to the teacher candidates.

According to the latest evaluation report compiled by Philliber Research Associates, which was contracted by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to evaluate the GYO Initiative, the majority of teacher candidates are female, members of a racial or ethnic minority group, and speak English at home. Teacher candidates have an average age of 39 years. Half of the teacher candidates have an annual household income of less than \$30,000. Most teacher candidates are employed full time.

Transition from the ISBE

The GYO Initiative is new to the IBHE. Senate Bill 2487 provides that as of July 1, 2010, all powers and duties of the ISBE under the Grow Your Own Act are transferred to the IBHE, and that all rules, standards, guidelines, and procedures adopted by the ISBE shall continue in effect as the rules, standards, guidelines, and procedures until they are modified or abolished by the IBHE. The Governor signed the bill on July 29, 2010.

To ensure a smooth transition from the ISBE to the IBHE, both agencies have worked together to develop a continuation application that resembles the continuation application and attachments used in the past. The continuation application was released on July 6, 2010. As the Governor's office has not yet allocated funds for the GYO program, consortia were asked to develop budgets based on their FY2010 award amounts as show on Table 1. Executive Director

Erwin and staff shared a draft copy of the continuation application with the consortia at a retreat in Chicago on June 29, 2010.

In addition to making grants to the GYO consortia, the ISBE has annually provided support for a statewide GYO Initiative Coordinator and an external program evaluator. The external program evaluation is required by statute. Following the statutory mandate in SB 2487 to maintain all rules, standards, guidelines, and procedures implemented by the ISBE, for fiscal year 2011, the IBHE will continue past ISBE practice by contracting with a GYO Coordinator and an external program evaluator provided that sufficient funding is provided by the Governor.

The staff recommends adoption of the following resolution:

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby approves the fiscal year 2011 Grow Your Own Teacher Education Initiative Grants as described above. The Board authorizes the Executive Director to make pro rata adjustments to consortia grant awards in the event that appropriated funds are reduced or unavailable.

Grow Your Own Teacher Initiative
Consortia list with targeted school districts
Table 1

| | <u>Consortia/Institution(s)</u> | <u>Targeted School Districts</u> | <u>FY 2010 Award</u> |
|----|--|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | Chicago State University | Scott Joplin, Clara Barton, Richard Oglesby, Chicago International Longwood Academy | \$180,500 |
| 2 | East St. Louis District 189 - SIU Edwardsville, Southwestern Illinois College | Lincoln Middle School, East St. Louis Senior, Mason/Clark Middle School, Alternative | \$175,554 |
| 3 | Focus of Southern Illinois - SIU Carbondale, Shawnee Community College | 17 schools located in several school districts in Southern Illinois | \$172,429 |
| 4 | Governors State University | Cook County, Crete-Monee, Dolton/Riverside, Harvey, Patton | \$170,367 |
| 5 | Greenville College | Alton, East Elem., Eunice Smith, Gilson Brown, Lewis & Clard, Lovejoy, North and West Elem. | \$117,967 |
| 6 | Hands That Help - National Louis University, Rockford Valley College | 50 Schools in the Rockford School District #205 | \$175,750 |
| 7 | Illinois State University | Rosario Castellanos, Eli Whitney, Madero, Florence Price, Jackie Robinson, Ariel | \$185,250 |
| 8 | NEIU - Maestros sin Fronteras | Ames, Avondale, Chase, Darwin, Funston, Kelvyn Park, McAuliffe, Monroe, Mozart, Schneider | \$185,250 |
| 9 | NEIU - Nuevo Generacion | Ames, Avondale, Chase, Darwin, Funston, Kelvyn Park, McAuliffe, Monroe, Mozart, Schneider | \$175,725 |
| 10 | NEIU - NLawndale Action Now | North Lawndale, Matthew Henson, Hertzl, Penn | \$180,500 |
| 11 | NEIU - Southwest Organizing Project | Everhart, Morril Math/Science, Talman, Marquette | \$185,231 |
| 12 | NEIU - Organization of the Northeast | Gale Math and Science Academy, Graeme, Daniel Boone, Goudy | \$175,750 |
| 13 | Peoria District 150 - Bradley University, Illinois Central College | Peoria Public Schools | \$185,250 |
| 14 | Springfield District 186 - U of I at Springfield, Lincoln Land Community College | 37 schools in the Springfield School District #186 | \$185,300 |
| 15 | Western Illinois University | 19 schools in the Moline District # 40 and 14 schools in the Rockford District # 41 | \$175,750 |
| 16 | Youth Connection Charter School - Chicago State University | 22 schools in the Chicago Public Schools district # 299 | \$175,750 |
| | Total Grants: | | \$2,802,323 |