



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jessica Bralish, Communications Manager

Office: 303-974-2665, Mobile: 720-313-0179, jessica.bralish@dhe.state.co.us

RELEASE: Three Colorado campuses awarded grants to improve teacher quality

DENVER – October 23, 2015: Three Colorado campuses will soon receive nearly \$630,000 in federal grants to enhance innovative approaches to teacher preparation. Funds will be used to support recruitment of teachers to rural regions of Colorado and enhance professional development in the STEM fields, two areas of need in Colorado educator preparation.

Recipients of the 2015-16 Improving Teacher Quality Grants are:

- Western State Colorado University (\$210,000) – Increasing Statewide Outreach to Improve Rural Teacher Recruitment
- Colorado State University Global Campus (\$210,000) – STEM Professional Development
- Colorado State University – Pueblo (\$209,570) -- Rural District Engagement with the South Central BOCES

“We have a teacher shortage particularly in rural areas of Colorado, and this federal grant will help address this issue,” said Lt. Governor Joe Garcia, executive director of Colorado Department of Higher Education. “Every child deserves access to a thorough, uniform education, and that starts with having talented teachers in the classroom who can help them learn, and teach them the skills they’ll eventually need as they go to college and enter the workforce.”

Representatives from the Colorado Department of Education and Colorado Department of Higher Education selected the grant winners from 11 proposals based upon factors, such as quality partnerships, number of students served, and impact on student growth and achievement.

###