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P.O. Box 1469  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
Phone 573-751-2361  
Fax 573-751-6635  
[www.dhe.mo.gov](http://www.dhe.mo.gov)

**Contact: Kathy Love**  
Phone: 573-522-1463  
[kathy.love@dhe.mo.gov](mailto:kathy.love@dhe.mo.gov)

**Improving Teacher Quality Grant Letters Due November 13, 2012**

Jefferson City – The Missouri Department of Higher Education is accepting grant proposals to fund projects that provide teacher and/or administrator development to increase student academic achievement in science and math.

A letter of intent to apply for the Cycle 11 Improving Teacher Quality Grant is due by November 13, 2012. The completed application is due Dec. 17, 2012. The Request for Proposals may be obtained on the Missouri Department of Education Website at <http://www.dhe.mo.gov/documents/Cycle11RFP.pdf>

The purpose of the Improving Teacher Quality Grant program is to increase the academic achievement of students by helping schools and districts improve K-12 teacher and administrator quality and by helping to ensure that all K-12 teachers are highly qualified.

For Cycle 11, approximately \$300,000 will be available for new projects. The grant amounts generally range from \$70,000 to \$200,000 per project, depending on the number of participants and the extent and quality of the professional development provided by each project. Cycle 11 proposals will have a competitive focus on environmental education, data system competencies, and the Missouri Core Academic Standards for math and English language arts.

The grant program is funded by and operates under the federal legislation known as the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. It is the largest federal initiative that supports professional development projects for teachers and principals, with a focus on high-

need school districts and higher education institutions. Through this legislation, state education agencies, local education agencies and state agencies for higher education receive funds on a formula basis.

A technical workshop will be held on October 18, 2012 in Jefferson City, Mo. For more information and registration for the workshop contact the grant administrator, Liz Valentine at [elizabeth.valentine@dhe.mo.gov](mailto:elizabeth.valentine@dhe.mo.gov).

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