

NEWS RELEASE

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MISSISSIPPI STATE, Miss.—The office of Program for Research and Evaluation for Public Schools (PREPS) at Mississippi State University has been named the external evaluator of a grant program, Institutes for Chemistry and Physics (ICaP), designed to improve the content knowledge of teachers and the performance of students in the areas of mathematics and science.

PREPS is partnering with the University of Tennessee at Martin on the Tennessee Department of Education grant, as part of the Mathematics and Science Partnership Program. Partnerships between high-need school districts and the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics faculty in institutions of higher education are at the core of these improvement efforts. The goal of these grants is to encourage states, institutions of higher learning, local school districts, elementary and secondary schools to participate in programs that:

- Improve and upgrade the status and stature of mathematics and science teaching by encouraging the universities to improve mathematics and science teacher education;
- Focus on the education of mathematics and science teachers as a career-long process;
- Bring mathematics and science teachers together with scientists, mathematicians, and engineers to improve their teaching skills; and
- Provide summer institutes and ongoing professional development for teachers to improve their knowledge and teaching skills.

Sarah Howard at PREPS will direct the evaluation of the project on behalf of PREPS.

“Evaluations are an essential part of the grant process, measuring the effectiveness of the work. This is the third large-scale evaluation project we have conducted for the University of Tennessee at Martin, and we are proud that this alliance will continue over the life of the three-year project,” stated Howard, Director of Research, Evaluation, and Technology at PREPS.

For more information about PREPS, go to www.preps.msstate.edu.

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