

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The University Center of Lake County is seeking the services of two or more of its member institutions to work together in a “joint venture” format for the purpose of providing a series of courses, beginning summer 2007, which upon completion, qualify teachers for a middle school endorsement in one or more of the following areas:

- Computer Science
- Mathematics
- Physical Science
- ESL/Bilingual (or teaching approvals)

According to a recent survey conducted by the University Center’s Educators’ Center of Lake County, interest was indicated by a sizeable number of teachers for endorsement, approval, or certification in the above areas.

In response to an immediate need for more ESL/Bilingual teachers in Lake County schools, Northern Illinois University made its Project QUILL Program available to Lake County teachers on a tuition-free basis beginning summer, 2007. Approximately 30 teachers from over 100 applicants were selected for participation in this program, which consists of six courses totaling 18 semester hours. Successful completion of the program will result in the awarding of a State of Illinois ESL and/or Bilingual Teaching Approval that will be “attached” to a valid Illinois teaching certificate.

Your assistance is requested to help provide a similar program of targeted courses that are needed to qualify teachers for endorsements in the above areas. Because of high demand for such programs throughout the state, we anticipate that no single member institution will be able to provide an entire program. We are, therefore, eager to serve as “matchmaker” by bringing together member institutions, each able to bring a part of the whole.

The University Center of Lake County is considering using some of its funding to jumpstart the program by paying for the instructional costs, on a contract basis, for teaching a summer program of two (2) courses for one of the above endorsement areas for interested Lake County teachers. For the future, additional funding will be sought from those school districts who may be referring teachers for this program so that selected teachers may be able to participate in future classes at reduced cost. We would also anticipate that some teacher participants would be paying their own way.

If your institution is interested in offering one or more of the above four programs of study, either alone, or in partnership with another consortium member, you are requested to provide the following information to Ed Gonwa, Director of the Educators’ Center, no later than **March 2, 2007**:

- 1) Endorsement area desired: (i.e. Computer Science, Mathematics, Physical Science, ESL/Bilingual);
- 2) Number of courses in program of study; including titles of courses, learning areas addressed, semester hours for each, and schedule when courses could be offered (beginning with summer, 2007);
- 3) Number of courses in program of study, including titles of courses, learning areas addressed, semester hours for each, and schedule when course could be offered (beginning with summer, 2007) that you would need to have provided by another member institution;
- 4) Number of students to be allowed in program of study;
- 5) Estimated costs for offering program (beginning with summer, 2007). Costs should include: direct instructional costs, including travel expenses to and from instructional site (Grayslake or Waukegan).

In our roles as “matchmaker” for this program, the University Center of Lake County will look at all proposals to see which combination of institutions and courses will bring us closest to our goal and then will get those institutions in communication with each other.

For further information regarding this Request for Proposal, please contact either:

Ed Gonwa, Director of the Educators’ Center, (847) 665-4017, egonwa@ucenter.org, or

Hilary Ward Schnadt, Associate Dean for Academic Services & Programs, (847) 665-4004, hwschnadt@ucenter.org.

Thank you.