Course/Grants Development  
The Kentucky Center for Middle School Academic Achievement  
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One of the goals and purposes of the CMSAA is to improve the subject knowledge and instructional practice of middle school teachers. A way to achieve this goal is to have educators develop content specific graduate courses for middle school teachers. Grants for up to $5,000.00 will be awarded to colleges and universities across Kentucky.

Criteria for successful RFP’s will include the following:

- Collaboration among education and content area faculty and practicing middle school teachers;
- Flexibility of instructional delivery, including intensive academy formats, web-based formats, action research, and/or directed self-study;
- Content and duration that can be conveniently accessed by practicing teachers during both the school year and/or in the summer;
- Content and performance that is sufficiently rigorous for awarding of graduate credit in one, two, or three hour blocks which can be applied to master’s degrees, rank changes, or endorsements (if approved by the EPSB) at cooperating higher education institutions;
- Evidence that the course will demonstrate research-based instructional methods;
- Evidence that the course will address rigorous content aligned to the Kentucky Core Content for Assessment for middle school and/or research-based instructional strategies;
- An agreement that the curriculum, strategies, and materials developed for the course can be adopted and used by any educators/institutions throughout Kentucky;
- Evidence of a variety of outcome assessment methods, including performance assessments, research, and traditional tests.

These courses should be developed by collaborating teams of academic content specialists and teacher educators, but housed within specific content departments (e.g., math, history, English, biology). Please disseminate this proposal to faculty in the arts, sciences, humanities, and education departments at Kentucky’s colleges and universities.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the CMSAA office at (859) 622-1513 or online at cmsaa@eku.edu.