CALL FOR TRAINER APPLICATIONS
LAYING THE FOUNDATION

Purpose of the Call: To create a team of AdvanceKentucky Trainers in Laying the Foundation¹ (LTF) – a training program for Pre-AP² teachers in grades six through 11.

Total Number of Trainers: 12 total: four in each subject area of math, science and English (MSE). Approximately half of the team will have middle school experience and half will have high school experience in these subjects.

2008 Summer Training: To become a Trainer, candidates are required to attend -- at NO COST to them -- a seven-day training session from July 8-14 (arrive July 7th and depart afternoon of July 14th) in Dallas, TX. All travel, registration fees, and per diem are paid by AdvanceKentucky for up to 12 trainees selected to become part of its LTF Team of Trainers.

Eligibility: Eligible candidates are educators with a demonstrated commitment to an inclusive approach to all students’ rigorous learning across grades 6 to 12. Eligibility requires a commitment to serve as a contractor for AdvanceKentucky, through its parent, non-profit company Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation (KSTC), to provide LTF training to Kentucky teachers in math, science and English. Eligible candidates may include retired MSE teachers, current district personnel with MSE experience, as well as current teachers and others with relevant school experience.

Trainer Commitments: Each AdvanceKentucky LTF Trainer will be asked to commit to providing up to 16 days of LTF training per year over the next three years at various Kentucky locations depending on demand for LTF training. These days may be during the academic year and summer. KSTC will pay each certified LTF trainer a rate of $500 per day to conduct LTF training in Kentucky (inclusive of preparations) and reimburse expenses for travel to various training locations in Kentucky.

Application Process: Letters of interest and any questions should be sent to Joanne Lang at jlang@kstc.com or call 859-233-3502 ext 236. Letters of interest should explain briefly your: (1) background as an educator serving grades 6-12 in math, science or English; (2) any experience training or teaming with other teachers; (3) current interest in becoming an LTF trainer; (4) future likelihood of being able to devote time as a Trainer (i.e., KSTC contractor) over the next three years; (5) AP experience, if any. Selected trainer applicants will be invited to formally apply in coordination with Laying the Foundation (for more information see www.layingthefoundation.org).

Application Deadline: Letters of Interest should be emailed no later than 5pm on May 15, 2008. By May 21, AdvanceKentucky will notify selected candidates who will be invited to formally apply to LTF and attend the July training in Dallas.

(See next page for background on AdvanceKentucky and Laying the Foundation.)

¹ Laying the Foundation is a registered trademark of Laying the Foundation, Inc.
² Advanced Placement, AP and Pre-AP are registered trademarks of the College Entrance Examination Board, which was not involved in the preparation of, nor does not endorse, this product.
Background

AdvanceKentucky is a new statewide initiative to accelerate students' participation and success in AP courses in math, science and English to help develop the pipeline of college-ready high school graduates who will become future generations of scientists, engineers, entrepreneurs. The program is emulating the highly successful model created by AP Strategies, Inc. and endorsed by the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) that is premised on an inclusive approach to more students preparing for and participating in rigorous coursework in high school. The NMSI Model is based on an interrelated set of elements designed to support students’ path to success and college-readiness, starting with the Pre-AP experience.

Laying the Foundation, Inc. (LTF) is a non-profit corporation with the goal of supporting teachers as they prepare students in grades six through 11 to excel in Advanced Placement and other college-level courses. As part of the AdvanceKentucky program, our Trainers will introduce to Kentucky this Pre-AP programming for teachers created by LTF. This will offer Kentucky teachers from grades six through 11 a comprehensive Pre-AP training program including resource and planning guides, local or regional training, summer institutes, conferences, and online resources for English, math, and science.

This company was formed and its training was inspired by AP teachers in Texas who recognized the need for Pre-AP teacher training and rigorous Pre-AP materials to support the Advanced Placement Strategies, Inc. teacher training and incentive programs in Texas, which AdvanceKentucky is emulating through a six-year grant from the National Math and Science Initiative. The LTF program provides training for teachers in best strategies and classroom practices, as well as ongoing support to help make teachers’ classrooms successful, engaging and rigorous.

In Kentucky, providing for more rigorous classroom practices is essential. With the new Kentucky Core Content being aligned with Depth of Knowledge levels, teachers, more than ever need support in how to engage their students to think and perform at those deeper levels. Teachers are also concerned with ways to cover the entire Program of Studies. Laying the Foundation is set up similarly to Kentucky’s Program of Studies, in that it is skill-based, not content based, so Kentucky teachers should be able to make ready use of the training and program materials. In fact, LTF has completed a cross-walk of its Pre-AP skills progression to the Kentucky Core Content and Program of Studies to directly assist Kentucky teachers as they infuse their LTF training experience into meeting their current instructional demands.

Laying the Foundation is not just for Pre-AP teachers but for any teachers who want to improve their teaching practices to help all students. And while more and more schools are adding Advanced Placement courses to help set their standards higher, they are finding a need for more training for both high school and middle school teachers to prepare students earlier for the more rigorous AP coursework. Laying the Foundation is designed support all of those needs.

Laying the Foundation is a four-day annual training program over three years so participants are asked to make a three-year commitment this training sequence. The annual training sessions may be either four days during the summer or broken into multiple one- or two-day sessions during the academic year. This training will be made available to schools participating in AdvanceKentucky (currently 12 and expected to grow each year through support from NMSI) and teachers from any other interested Kentucky schools. The cost of the annual four-day training is expected to be approximately $500/person/year over three years plus a one-time charge of $50 for guides and materials. AdvanceKentucky will support training for up to a certain number of Pre-AP teachers per participating school.