KENTUCKY INNOVATION IN ELEMENTARY TEACHER PREPARATION—
Seven Kentucky universities and the Kentucky Center for Mathematics partner to design an innovative approach to elementary mathematics teaching methods

Faculty members from seven Kentucky post-secondary institutions and the Kentucky Center for Mathematics staff have worked to refine mathematics elementary teacher preparation. Given the importance of numeracy foundations for later success, the PTP Collaborative has created five free class presentations with Kentucky student video, titled “Noticing Numeracy Now (NNN),” focused on helping undergraduate, pre-service teachers gain tools and strategies, in alignment with the new Kentucky Core Academic Standards, for tracking formative progress and designing differentiated, targeted instruction for advanced mental computation.

Beginning in fall 2010, NNN will be integrated into elementary methods courses and mathematics content courses for elementary teachers, impacting between 495 and 990 Kentucky pre-service teachers during the two-year pilot. Considering that these pre-service teachers will ultimately each serve approximately 25 students per year, at least 12,000 may benefit annually from improved teaching practices. If the PTP Collaborative is successful in receiving funding from the National Science Foundation, they will work toward further improvements and more rigorous measures of program success.

The Pre-service Teacher Preparation (PTP) Collaborative is a direct outgrowth of the Kentucky Primary Grades Mathematics Achievement Intervention Program launched by Kentucky Legislators through 2005 House Bill 93.