

What is it?

The Minority Teacher Recruitment Project (MTRP) is a local effort established in response to the national shortage of minorities entering the teaching profession. The Project is a cooperative effort involving the schools of Bloomington-Normal, Heartland Community College, Illinois State University, and Illinois Wesleyan University.

Why?

The MTRP recognizes the importance diversity plays in the overall education of all students. Reflective of the national dilemma, there remains a shortage of minority teachers within our local public school system. The Project aims to rectify this situation. This project addresses Bloomington District 87 School Board Goal #6: ***We will recruit, retain, train, support and recognize an outstanding diverse teaching staff, support staff and administration that reflects the student population of Bloomington Public Schools District 87.***

How will this be accomplished?

Selected students will be recommended for assistance to attend Heartland Community College, Illinois State University, or Illinois Wesleyan University. The exact amount of financial award will be determined by the college/university and may vary between institutions. In return, the students must agree to remain in good academic standing while pursuing a course of studies leading to Illinois State Teaching Certification. Once students receive certification, they must also agree to teach in the Bloomington-Normal community for a minimum of two years.

Who will Qualify?

High school seniors in the Bloomington-Normal community qualify for the MTRP. High school graduates who meet specified criteria will also be considered. As the MTRP Steering Committee reviews applications, the following factors will be considered:

- ACT/SAT scores
- High school class rank
- Transcripts
- Personal character
- Community involvement
- Admissibility to Heartland Community College, Illinois State University, or Illinois Wesleyan University.