



Colorado Center for Rural Education

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CCRE was established in 2016 to help improve rural education in the state.

Rural Colorado Needs Teachers!

In 2020-21, rural/small rural districts made up less than a fifth of the teaching force. However, these districts had about a third of unfilled positions (or filled by a shortage mechanism). In the same year, these districts had over 400 unfilled positions (or filled by shortage mechanism). Of those, 66 rural/small rural positions were unfilled the whole year.

The Center for Rural Education has awarded

\$3.2 million
in stipends

to recruit teacher candidates and retain practicing rural educators. Our work increased the number of:

- student teachers
- alternative teacher licensure candidates
- advanced credential educators

What are we doing to improve rural education?

The Center for Rural Education's commitment to connect, convene and build the capacity of rural educators aims to improve rural student outcomes by strengthening the teacher pipeline.

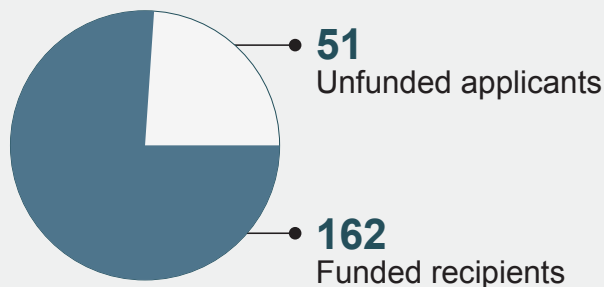
We support secondary students, teacher candidates, career changers and practicing teachers—to improve recruitment, collaborative preparation and retention in rural Colorado schools. We are committed to meeting Colorado's need for rural teachers.

“I never would have considered a rural district without the stipend. However, now that I am teaching in a rural school district, I love it! The students are fantastic and the district is very supportive.”

— Stipend Recipient

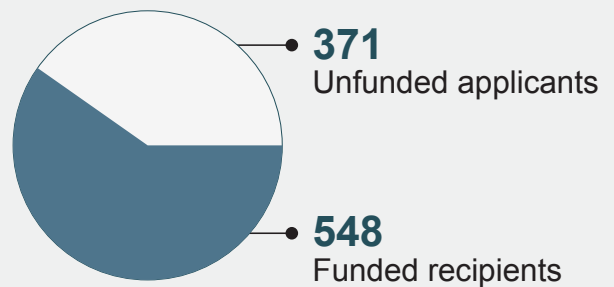
213 practicing teachers applied for retention stipends from 2017-2021.

Only 162 were funded.¹



919 preservice teachers applied for retention stipends from 2017-2021.

Only 548 were funded.¹



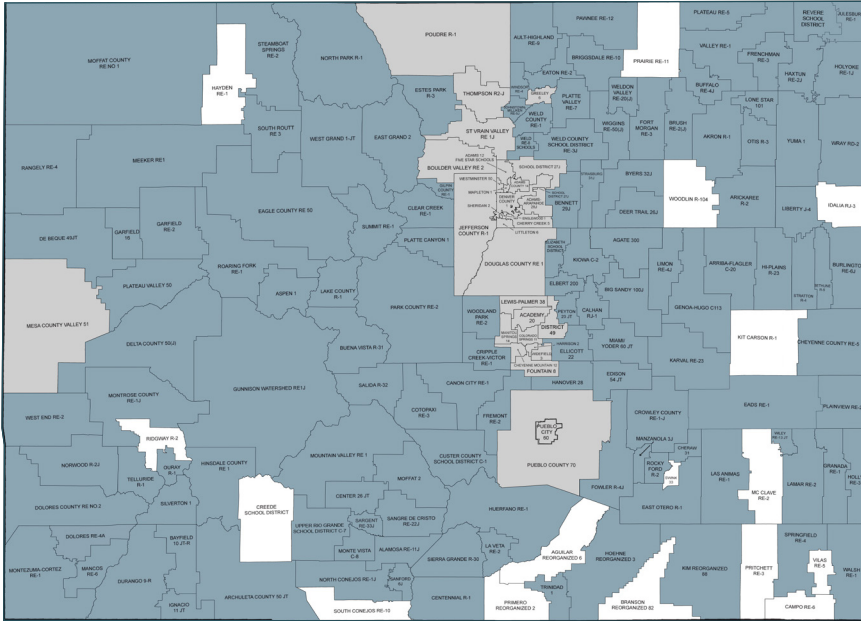
Connect with us to learn more

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¹ Data source: CCRE Recruitment Stipend Applications

Rural Stipend Success

In 2022, Marzano Research analyzed data from CCRE and the Colorado Department of Education, administered a survey to stipend recipients, and conducted interviews with partners and beneficiaries. Analysis revealed key findings about the initiative's positive impact.



2016-22 Colorado Stipend Recipients

- Rural districts *with* stipend recipients
- Rural districts *without* stipend recipients
- Nonrural districts

“Any support that rural educators can get changes the lives of the kids. Especially in a school like ours, where relationships are key.”

— Stipend Recipient

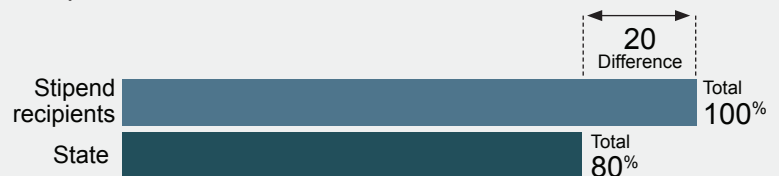
Do stipends have a long-term effect?



of the 2017-18 inservice stipend recipients were still in the same school 3 years later.

Teachers who received CCRE retention stipends in 2019-20 had 100% one-year retention.

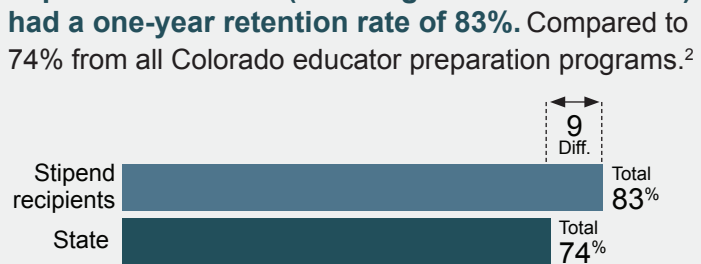
Compared to 80% for all rural Colorado teachers.²



“When we eliminate the stressors from a teacher’s life, such as a financial stress... we are filling up a teacher’s cup. And then when we fill up that teacher’s cup, that teacher is able to fill up all of the cups of all of their students.”

— Stipend Recipient

Teachers who received CCRE recruitment stipends in 2018-19 (and taught in CO in 2019-20) had a one-year retention rate of 83%. Compared to 74% from all Colorado educator preparation programs.²



² Data source: CCRE Stipend Recipient data and data from the Colorado Department of Education