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Migrant children focus of effort

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LAWRENCE — A group of universities and community colleges has been collaborating in an effort to obtain federal funding for a program to help college-bound children of migrant workers.

Kansas State University will lead the effort, which will also include the University of Kansas, Emporia State University, Garden City Community College and Kansas City, Kan., Community College.

The \$2.1 million grant request Kansas State submitted would be for five years, reach 148 students and provide tuition for 12 credit hours per semester and a living stipend.

The collaboration began after the U.S. Department of Education denied the University of Kansas' grant request to continue its College Assistance Migrant Program. The CAMP program had paid tuition for six credit hours and \$750 in living expenses per semester for up to 24 students a year.

When the grant renewal was denied, a group of college officials started discussing how to collaborate and provide services throughout the state, Kansas State's Bob Fanning said. Fanning is director of a program that helps children of migrant workers finish high school and assistant director of Kansas State's English as Second Language program.

Under the proposal submitted in the spring to the Education Department, Kansas State would house CAMP and contract the service out to other schools with eligible students.

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