Appendix G: Interview Guide for Early Drop-out Teachers

Prepared by the University of Chicago Survey Lab

Interview Guide for teachers who dropped out of the program prior to the end of the first course

Before we begin the interview I want to remind you that your participation is voluntary, that you may refuse to answer any question, and that you may end the interview at any time. The purpose of the interview is to understand why you first enrolled in the math program and why you left it. What you tell us remains confidential. Results will be reported in summary form and not connected with your identity. Before we begin, do you have any questions?

So, the program began in the late summer of 200X – where were you teaching that year? What else was going on that year?

1. What do you remember first hearing about this program?
   • Who told you or where did you learn about it?
   • What did you hear about it?
   • What else was taking up your time then, in and out of school

2. Why did you decide to enroll initially?
   • How much time did you take to make the decision?
   • What sorts of things did you consider before enrolling?
   • Who, if anyone, did you consult with prior to enrolling?
   • Did you know about others who were enrolling? Others who were considering enrolling? Did you talk to any of them about it? What did you discuss?
   • How many teachers from your school eventually enrolled? Were any of these people who you had been friends with before the program began?

3. What did you hope to get out of the program at the time you enrolled?
   • What sorts of activities or program did you expect?
   • Was anything not what you were expecting? How so?
   • How did the initial activities of the program meet or fall short of your expectations?

4. Please describe everything you remember about what the program consisted of during the time you were part of it.
   • What events were there to attend? How many people were at these? What happened there? Did you enjoy these events? Did you learn anything from them? What was the schedule—what days and times?
   • Some materials were distributed as part of the program. Do you remember getting those? Can you describe them? Were they helpful? Why or why not?
   • There was a project coordinator who came to your school as part of the program to help you implement the various materials they provided you with. Did you ever meet with the coordinator individually? As part of a group? What did you think about this person’s help?
Appendix G: Interview Guide for Early Drop-out Teachers

Prepared by the University of Chicago Survey Lab

• Can you tell me about the coursework? Was it easy or hard? Was it what you expected? How so? What was the instructor like? How many people were in the classes? Did you know any of them?

5. When and why did you leave the program?
   • Was there one key event or problem that was the reason you left or was it a cumulative result of many things? What were those reasons?
   • Did others you know also leave the program? Was your decision influenced in any way by whether or not others remained in the program? How so?
   • Is there anything that might have kept you in the program? What was that?

6. What, if anything, did you get out of the program during the time you were in it?
   • Did you ever use any of the materials from the program?
   • Do you still use any of the materials you got at the start of the program?

7. Have you enrolled in any other programs in the past or since leaving this one? How did those compare to this one?
   • Would you consider enrolling in a similar program in the future? Why or why not?
   • What do you think are reasonable expectations for such programs – what should they be trying to achieve?

8. Is there anything else you can tell me about this program and your decision to enroll in it or leave it?

We thank you very much for your time. Sometimes when we talk to people about things that happened some time ago, they continue to think about them and remember more details later. If you remember things you want to add or think might be helpful for evaluating this program, please call or send me email (GIVE CARD).