REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS
RFA # GD0–QSI-50

FY 2010 QUALITY SCHOOLS INCENTIVE GRANTS

District of Columbia

Office of the State Superintendent of Education

Office of Public Charter School Financing and Support

RFA RELEASE DATE: MAY 7, 2010

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINE

JUNE 7, 2010

Checklist for Application
FY 2010 Quality Schools Incentive Grant

- ❑ The applicant is submitting one (1) completed electronic version emailed to opcsfs.funding@dc.gov. **The applicant may submit (1) original paper application, if electronic procedures are not available. The RFA should be submitted in a sealed envelope. A sealed application must be clearly identified on the outside of the envelope as an "*Application in Response to FY 2010 Quality Schools Incentive Grant RFA # GD0-QSI-50*".**

- ❑ The applicant completed form QSI-50, "Quality Schools Incentive Grant" Application (Accompanying this RFA).

- ❑ The application is submitted to the OSSE no later than 5:00 p.m. on the deadline date of **June 7, 2010**.

Applications received at or after 5:01 p.m. EST, on June 7, 2010 will not be forwarded to the Review Panel. Any additions or deletions to an application will not be accepted after the deadline of 5:00 p.m. Applicants will not be allowed to assemble application materials on the premises of the OSSE. Applications must be ready for receipt by the OSSE.

FY 2010 Quality Schools Incentive Award
REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Checklist for Application

1. General Information 4
    - 1.1 Introduction 4
    - 1.2 Purpose of Grant 4
    - 1.3 Eligibility 4
    - 1.4 Pre-Application Conference 5
    - 1.5 Source of Grant Funding 5
    - 1.6 Grant Award 5
    - 1.7 Funds Availability and Funding Period 5

2. Submission of Application 6
    - 2.1 Application Form Submission Date and Time 6
    - 2.2 Messenger Delivery 6
    - 2.3 Review Panel 6

3. Application Content 6

4. General Provisions 6
    - 4.1 Audits 7
    - 4.2 Nondiscrimination in the Delivery of Services 7
    - 4.3 Additional Information 7
    - 4.4 Monitoring and Reporting 7
    - 4.5 Cooperation with OSSE 7
    - 4.6 Conflict of Interest 7

5. List of Eligible Public Charter Schools Campuses **Attachment A** 8

Office of the State Superintendent of Education
Request for Applications RFA #GD0-QSI-50
FY 2010 Quality Schools Incentive Grant

1 GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Introduction

The Office of Public Charter School Financing and Support (OPCSFS), within the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) seeks applications from each District of Columbia LEA public charter school for the ***Quality Schools Incentive Grant***. The application should be developed to address a self-identified area of improvement for each of the public charter school campuses. Each campus application must address how the funds will be used to strengthen the identified area of improvement and lead to improved student academic achievement and/or other outcomes directly correlated with improved student academic achievement.

All public charter school campuses open during SY 2009-'10, which will also be open in SY 2010-'11 are eligible for funding and will be awarded a grant subject to satisfactory completion of an application and meeting the requirements expressed in the RFA.

While schools are being offered flexibility in selecting projects for this grant, we expect schools to perform an honest appraisal of academic performance where the data indicates that a school needs to improve and target activities that are directly correlated to increasing student academic achievement. A Decision Matrix and DC-CAS AYP Target information to guide and assist your application completion will be distributed at the Pre-Application Conference. In addition, the Public Charter School Board may be included as a member of the review committee and/or consulted regarding application review.

The OPCSFS reserves the right to reject proposals and require schools to resubmit applications if the review team believes that a project is not appropriate, relevant, or feasible. As this will delay funding, please apply the appropriate attention and care to the preparation of the application, and selection of the project.

Applications are due no later than **Monday, June 7, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.**

1.2 Purpose of Grant Funds

The purpose of the grant is to provide each public charter school campus with funds to improve the quality of education for its students by addressing an area of improvement.

Sample areas of improvement include, but are not limited to, improved supports for students with special needs; improved use of interim assessment; improved systems and tools for using data to inform decision-making and instruction; targeted professional development; improved efforts to educate students at risk; and/or developing a clearly aligned strategic action plan among management and the governing board.

1.3 Eligibility

All District of Columbia public charter schools and campuses are eligible to apply for the Quality Schools Incentive Grant. A single LEA must submit a separate application for each campus.

Please note that new campuses opening for the next school year (2010-2011) are not eligible for this grant. ***New campuses opening in 2010-2011 may be eligible for the upcoming Replication and Growth grant fund.***

1.4 Pre-Application Conference

We strongly suggest LEA representation at a two hour Pre-Application Conference. It will be held on **Friday, May 14, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.**, 441 4th Street NW, 11th Floor, Room 1107, Washington, DC 20001.

1.5 Source of Grant Funding

The United States Congress appropriates funds to the Office of the State Superintendent of Education to provide sub-grants to eligible District of Columbia public charter schools. While this grant will be treated as an entitlement an application must be complete and satisfactorily reviewed. At that point a campus will then become eligible to receive funds.

1.6 Grant Award

Grant award payments will be made in accordance with the approved grant application, accompanying budget, and budget narrative for the project or service. A final accounting for the entire project shall be submitted to the Office of the State Superintendent of Education no later than ninety (90) days after either the final expenditure of grant funds or by the end of the grant period, whichever comes first.

1.7 Funds Available and Funding Period

A total of **$50,000** in grant funds will be available for each public charter school campus (**See List of Eligible Public Charter School Campuses "Attachment A"**) that submits a qualified proposal. The sub-grant is offered for activities from date of award through June 30, 2011. If the public charter school successfully meets the performance objectives, the Office of Public Charter School Financing and Support may extend the funding period to finalize data collection or assessment or for the purpose of grant close out.

Contact Person

For further information, please contact:

Matthews W. Wright
Office of Public Charter School Financing and Support
Office of the State Superintendent of Education
810 First Street, NE, 9th Fl.
Washington, DC 20002
202-724-8320

2 SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

2.1 Application Form Submission Date and Time

Applications are due no later than June 7, 2010 at 5:00pm. Applications (Form QSI-50) received at or after 5:01 p.m., June 7, 2010, will not be forwarded to the review panel for funding consideration. Any additions or deletions to an application will not be accepted after the deadline of 5:00 p.m. **June 7, 2010**.

A total of one (1) completed electronic version of Form QSI-50 should be emailed to **opcsfs.funding@dc.gov**. If the applicant cannot submit the requested electronic copies, a clearly labeled paper copy of Form QSI-50 can be delivered to the following location.

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education
810 First Street, NE, 9th Floor
Washington, DC 20002
Attention: Stefan Huh, Director, Office of Public Charter School Financing and Support

2.2 Messenger Delivery

Any paper applications that are delivered by Messenger services **must be** sent in sufficient time to be received no later than the 5:00 p.m. deadline on **June 7, 2010**, at the above location. Applications arriving via messenger services after the posted deadline of **5:00 p.m., June 7, 2010 will not be forwarded to the review panel by the OSSE.**

2.3 Review Panel

A review committee comprised of individuals with expertise in the field of public charter schools will review the applications for completeness. The Office of the State Superintendent of Education will make the final decisions. The OPCSFS may also request that members of the DC PCSB review applications.

3 APPLICATION CONTENT

Application Form

Applicants must fill in each field and/or respond to the questions in the Application (Form QSI-50 Accompanying RFA). The Application can also be found in electronic form at www.osse.gov.

4 GENERAL PROVISIONS

4.1 Audits

At any time or times before final payment and three (3) years thereafter, the District and respective jurisdictional administrative agencies may have the applicant's expenditure statements and source documents audited.

4.2 Nondiscrimination in the Delivery of Services

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Public Law 88-352), as amended, no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, religion, nationality, sex, or political opinion, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under, any program activity receiving funding through any Congressional Appropriations Acts.

4.3 Additional Information

The OSSE reserves the right to request and be provided with additional information, such as general ledger reports related to this grant, should the need occur.

4.4 Monitoring and Reporting

The OSSE may monitor the sub-grantee through site visits. The specific schedules, monitoring protocol, and format will be established and agreed upon immediately after the grant is awarded.

Monitoring provides an opportunity for public charter schools to promote their success with increasing student achievement. It also provides an opportunity for OSSE to review each school's progress in addressing grant objectives and to review the types of internal controls for managing grant funds.

4.5 Cooperation with OSSE

The sub-grantee will:

- cooperate with the OSSE in evaluating the program; and
- maintain appropriate financial management practices as required, including tracking activity for this project separately in the sub-grantee's Chart of Accounts.

4.6 Conflict of Interest

Sub-grantees must avoid apparent and actual conflicts of interest when administering grants.

Attachment A

List of Eligible Public Charter School Campuses

For the purposes of this grant, the eligible campuses are as follows:

Academy for Learning through the Arts (ALTA) PCS
Achievement Preparatory Academy PCS
Appletree Early Learning PCS
- Amidon Campus
- Columbia Heights Campus
- Riverside Campus

Arts and Technology Academy (ATA) PCS
Booker T. Washington PCS (HS)
Bridges PCS
Capital City PCS
- Lower School Campus
- Upper School Campus

Carlos Rosario International PCS
Center City PCS
- Brightwood Campus
- Capitol Hill Campus
- Congress Heights Campus
- Petworth Campus
- Shaw Campus
- Trinidad Campus

Cesar Chavez PCS
- Chavez Prep Campus – Middle School
- Capitol Hill Campus – High School
- Parkside Campus

Children's Studio PCS
Community Academy PCS
- Amos I
- Amos II
- Amos III
- Butler
- Rand
- Online

DC Bilingual PCS
DC Preparatory PCS
- Edgewood Middle Campus
- Edgewood ElementaryCampus
- Benning Elementary Campus

Eagle Academy PCS
Early Childhood Academy PCS

Education Strengthens Families (ESF) PCS
Elsie Whitlow Stokes PCS
Euphemia L. Haynes PCS
Excel Academy PCS
Friendship PCS

- Collegiate Academy – Woodson Campus
- Junior Academy – Blow Pierce Campus
- Chamberlain Campus
- Woodridge Campus
- Southeast Elementary Campus
- Tech Prep

Hope Community PCS

- Tolson Campus
- Lamond Campus

Hospitality PCS
Howard Road Academy PCS

- Main Campus/ Martin Luther King Avenue Campus
- Pennsylvania Avenue Campus
- G Street

Howard University Middle School (MS)
Hyde Leadership Academy PCS
Integrated Design & Electronic Academy (IDEA) PCS
Ideal Academy PCS
Imagine Southeast PCS
KAMIT Institute for Magnificent Achievers PCS
KIPP DC PCS

- KEY Academy
- LEAP Academy
- AIM Academy
- WILL Academy
- Promise Academy
- Discover Academy
- College Preparatory

Latin American Montessori Bilingual (LAMB) PCS
Mary McLeod Bethune PCS
Maya Angelou PCS

- Evans Campus
- Shaw Campus
- Middle School Campus

Meridian PCS
National Collegiate Preparatory PCS
Nia Community PCS
Next Step/El Proximo Paso PCS
Options PCS
Paul Junior High PCS
Potomac Lighthouse PCS

Roots PSC
The School for the Arts in Learning (SAIL) PCS
The SEED School of Washington PCS
Septima Clark PCS
St. Coletta Special Education PCS
Thea Bowman Preparatory Academy PCS
Thurgood Marshall Academy PCS
Tree of Life PCS
Two Rivers PCS

- Elementary School
- Middle School

Washington Latin PCS

- High School
- Middle School

Washington Math, Science & Technology (WMST) PCS
Washington Yu Ying PCS
William E. Doar, Jr. PCS

- Edgewood Campus
- Northwest Campus

YouthBuild LAYC