

OFFICE OF STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFA)

FISCAL YEAR 2016 and FISCAL YEAR 2017

SAT Preparation Expansion Grant 2016-17

Request for Application (RFA) Release Date: June 17, 2016

Grant Application Submission Deadline: July 18, 2016

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) - Division of Postsecondary and Career Education, is soliciting grant applications for the District of Columbia SAT Preparation Expansion Grant 2016-17. The goal of the SAT Preparation Expansion Grant is to increase the number of District high school students receiving high quality test preparation services in school year 2016-17. Additionally, OSSE seeks to understand which type or types of SAT preparation programs have the greatest positive impact on student scores for the greatest number of District students as well as which type or types of SAT preparation programs may be most effective for specific student populations. The grant is supported through local funds as part of a strategic citywide effort to ensure all District students are college and career ready.

Eligibility: OSSE will make these grants available through a competitive process. Eligible applicants include SAT preparation companies, in partnership with District of Columbia local education agencies (LEAs), who shall provide professional development and planning services between August 1, 2016 and September 30, 2016 (FY16):

- Teacher/leadership professional development: OSSE will fund professional development and training programs for teachers, administrators, and counselors at partner LEAs and schools.
 Professional development and planning should be directly connected to planned school year programs (program option 1 or program option 2, as detailed below).
- School Year Planning: OSSE will fund planning and preparation time by test preparation companies, for SAT related programs that will take place during school year 2016-17. Planning and preparation time should include collaboration with partner LEAs. Planning can include purchase of supplies and materials for 2016-17 planned programs.

Additionally, between October 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 (FY 17), partnerships shall provide one or more of three specific SAT preparation program options:

- Option 1: Curriculum Integration: OSSE will fund programs that train academic subject area teachers to integrate SAT strategies and content into pre-existing classroom curriculum.
- Option 2: LEA-provided SAT Test Preparation Course: OSSE will fund programs that support school-employed staff to teach a standalone SAT course or courses as part of the school day.

• Option 3: Company-provided SAT Preparation Course: OSSE will fund programs that provide an external instructor or instructors directly from the test preparation company to teach a standalone SAT preparation and strategy course for students. Applicants interested in option three must provide a funding match of 2:1, with the applicant providing the 1/3 portion.

SAT preparation companies may choose to apply for as many options as they see fit in partnership with one or more LEAs. Eligible applicants shall offer the SAT preparation course during the school day and for credit (at least ½ credit).

Local Educational Agencies (LEA) are not eligible for this funding, however eligible applicants must secure partnerships with the LEAs with which they intend to work and will be required to verify these partnerships through a signed Partnership Agreement that details the parameters of the partnership and demonstrates each partner's role in the planning and implementation of programs and services. Any qualified test preparation company may serve as the lead applicant for funding and will be fully responsible for fiscal management of funds awarded by OSSE.

OSSE will be holding information session to answer questions about the RFA and grant competition. Please see the full RFA for a detailed timeline of events.

Length of Award: The FY16 grant award period is from August 1, 2016 – September 30, 2016. The FY17 grant award period is October 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

Available Funding for Award: The total funding available for the FY16 award period is \$35,000. The total funding available for the FY17 award period is \$225,000. Eligible applicants may apply for any amount up to the full amount but may be awarded amounts less than requested.

An external review panel or panels will be convened to review, score, and rank each application. The review panel(s) will be composed of neutral, qualified, professional individuals selected for their expertise, knowledge or related experiences. The application will be scored against a rubric and each application will have multiple reviewers to ensure accurate scoring. Upon completion of its review, the panel(s) shall make recommendations for awards based on the scoring rubric(s). OSSE's Division of Postsecondary and Career Education will make all final award decisions.

For additional information regarding this grant competition, please contact:

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The RFA will be available on <u>www.osse.dc.gov/sat-preparation-grant</u>. Applications will be submitted through the <u>Enterprise Grants Management System</u> (EGMS).