



OSSE LEA LOOK-FORWARD: April 4, 2013—April 11, 2013 Key Events, Announcements, Updates and Deadlines

Division of Wellness & Nutrition

School Grants for Healthy Kids

Through partners CSX Transportation, Kellogg Company, and the Wal-Mart Foundation, Action for Healthy Kids is pleased to release its *School Grants for Healthy Kids* opportunities for the 2013-2014 school year. Around 400 schools will be awarded funds that will range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 with significant in-kind contributions from Action for Healthy Kids in the form of people, programs, and school breakfast and physical activity expertise. They will also provide schools with management expertise and support to develop strong alternative and universal breakfast or physical activity programs. Award amounts will be based on building enrollment, project type, potential impact, and a school's ability to mobilize parents and students around school wellness initiatives.

For more information, go to <http://www.actionforhealthykids.org/upcoming-events/grant-opportunities/school-grants-for-healthy.html>.

Community Eligibility Option (CEO)

CEO is a new alternative to the traditional meal application process associated with the USDA National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP).. Under the CEO provision, schools are required to offer both breakfast and lunch for free to all students. Reimbursement for these meals is based on the percent of students in your school that are direct certified for free meals times 1.6. Thus, if 60% of your students are direct certified, your school would be reimbursed for 96% of the meal served at the free rate and 4% of the meals at the paid rate. CEO alleviates the burden on families by eliminating household applications, while helping schools reduce costs associated with collecting and processing those applications. If you are interested in learning more information, please attend our upcoming information session(s) on **April 18th** (3:30pm-4:30pm), **April 23rd** (10:00am-12:00pm) and **April 25th** (2:00pm-4:00pm). Please RSVP to Program Specialist Wayne Gardiner at 202-724-7866 or wayne.gardiner@dc.gov. The training will take place at the OSSE Offices, 810 1st Street, NE, in Room 4012.

Grant Application Solicitation for DC PAY Program—Deadline April 9th

OSSE is soliciting grant applications for the District of Columbia Physical Activity for Youth (DC PAY) program. The purpose of this program is to increase the capacity of DC schools to provide physical activity to all students before, during, or after the school day.

Eligibility: Applications will be accepted from DC Public Schools, DC Public Charter Schools and organizations participating in the Healthy Schools Act (2010). Past award recipients are eligible. The total funding available for this award period is \$200,000; eligible schools may apply for an award amount up to \$10,000. The Request for Applications can be found on the OSSE website at <http://osse.dc.gov/publication/2013-dc-pay-request-applications>. Please contact Erin Watts at (202) 481-3755 or erin.watts@dc.gov with questions.



Division of Wellness & Nutrition (Continued)

DC Free Summer Meal Program –Renewing and New Sponsors and Sites

LEAs--Want to continue your sponsorship of the FSMP? Or, do you want to sponsor or even be a site in the FSMP? Remember, the FSMP offers children free meals when schools are closed for the summer. New to the FSMP--Did you know that you can receive a higher reimbursement for meals served in the summer if you participate in the FSMP? Come hear more about this program. Attend the training to learn what's new for the 2013 summer program and discuss the application process.

The training will be held **Wednesday, April 17** and **18** at **OSSE**.

Location: 810 First Street, N.E.

Washington, D.C. 20002 (near Metro Union Station – Red Line)
4th Floor, Conference Room 4012

Time: **Renewing Sponsors** (*for those participating since 2012 summer*)

April 17 from 9 am – 12 pm

April 18 from 12 PM – 4 PM

New Sponsors or Sites (*for those who have submitted intent to participate or who want to participate*)

April 17 from 1 pm – 4 pm

April 18 from 9 am – 12 pm

Registration is required. Please contact Elisabeth Sweeting at Elisabeth.Sweeting@dc.gov or call on (202) 724-7628

Healthy Schools Act School Health Profile – Past Due

Under Section 602 of the Healthy Schools Act of 2010, each public school and public charter school within the District of Columbia is required to complete and submit the Healthy Schools Act School Health Profile form to OSSE on or before **February 15th** of each year. This is an online form, located in Quickbase (<https://octo.quickbase.com>), and links to the form and access instructions were sent to principals on January 10, 2013. If your school did not receive the link or someone other than the principal needs access, please call 202-481-3755 or email osse.hsahealthform@dc.gov.

The information in the profile is reported annually to the Mayor and the City Council. Schools who do not submit will be out of compliance, and this will be noted in the report as well as on the OSSE website.

A print version of the 2013 School Health Profile form can be found [here](#); however, the form must be submitted online through Quickbase. Please call if you would like to confirm OSSE's receipt of your school's School Health Profile.



Division of Wellness & Nutrition (Continued)

Julie Ost of OSSE and Diana Bruce of DCPS Winners of Sheroes of the Movement Award

The Mayor's Office of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) Affairs' second annual Sheroes of the Movement Awards, on March 27, 2013, honored five women who have made a significant contribution to the GLBT movement and community in the District. Among the winners were Julie Ost, Sexual Health Education Specialist for the Office of the State Superintendent of Education and Diana Bruce, Director of Health and Wellness for the District of Columbia Public Schools.

Julie Ost received an award for her leadership on the Youth Risk Behavior Survey and technical assistance training of school-based staff regarding the unique needs of students of color who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, gender non-conforming, and questioning. In addition, Ms. Ost works with community-based organizations which serve adult populations who face the chronic health conditions of HIV/AIDS and viral hepatitis.

Diana Bruce leads DCPS's school health office, developing policies, programs, systems and partnerships that enable local schools to provide school health services and supports for students. In this capacity, Diana initiated the development of DCPS's efforts to make its school welcoming and inclusive of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, gender non-conforming and questioning students, staff and families. She also leads the community engagement process to develop DCPS's framework and approach to preventing, identifying and responding to bullying. For more information, visit <http://ossedc.wordpress.com/2013/04/01/julie-ost-of-osse-and-diana-bruce-of-dcps-winners-of-sheroes-of-the-movement-award/>.

Division of Elementary & Secondary Education

Newly, Adopted Common Core Aligned Early Learning Standards Now Available

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is pleased to announce and share the newly, adopted Common Core Aligned Early Learning Standards, which can be accessed at <http://osse.dc.gov/service/division-early-learning>.

OSSE Trainings on Teacher and Leader Evaluation Design and Implementation

OSSE is working with the Mid-Atlantic Comprehensive Center and the Center on Great Teachers and Leaders to offer a number of technical assistance sessions for LEA staff as they design and implement teacher and leader evaluation systems that meet Race to the Top and ESEA Waiver requirements. So far, OSSE has offered two sessions on Principal Evaluation Design and a session on addressing common teacher evaluation challenges including ensuring inter-rater reliability and having the capacity to conduct observations. The PowerPoint presentations for both sessions are available at <http://osse.dc.gov/page/teacher-and-leader-evaluation>.

If you have questions, please contact Robin Chait at robin.chait@dc.gov.



Division of Elementary & Secondary Education (Continued)

Annual Homeless Liaison Conference

The Homeless Children and Youth Program under the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education will host its first annual Homeless Liaison Conference on May 10, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The conference will bring together homeless liaisons, community-based organizations, and government agencies that serve homeless youth in DC Public Schools and DC Public Charter Schools. This is an opportunity to discuss pressing issues that homeless youth face such as school enrollment, transportation assistance, pre-school enrollment, higher education and career readiness attainment to name a few.

Homeless liaisons can register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BL2NC6K>.

Limited seating is available, so we request that no more than two representatives from each LEA register to attend. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ja'Sent Brown at Jasent.brown@dc.gov or 202-654-6123.

Professional Development Grant Opportunity

On March 1, 2013, OSSE released the Teacher Quality Improvement (TQI) competitive application. The purpose of the TQI grant is to fund programs designed to provide teachers with skills needed to positively enhance student learning and improve the quality of instruction.

The application deadline is Monday, April 22, 2013 at 5:00pm. OSSE encourages District of Columbia LEAs, and schools of education and arts and sciences departments within institutions of higher education to form eligible partnerships and apply. Please visit [OSSE's website](#) for more information on this grant opportunity and to download the Teacher Quality Improvement RFA. For more information regarding this opportunity, please contact Orman Feres at orman.feres@dc.gov.

Online Professional Development Opportunity-Digital Learning Transition

OSSE is excited to share the opportunity to register for the free, Project 24 MOOC-Ed, "Digital Learning Transition" at <https://www.mooc-ed.org/dlt> with local educators. The Alliance for Excellent Education and the [Friday Institute for Educational Innovation](#) at North Carolina State University opened enrollment for a first-of-its-kind Massive Online Open Course for Educators (MOOC-Ed).

Ensuring that our students are college and career ready means ensuring that our students graduate with technological literacy and yet one of the greatest challenges for teacher can lie in keeping up with current technology and learning to infuse these new resources into the instructional process.

Each of the seven course sessions will include core resources and supplemental materials around a specific topic, while also allowing for a great deal of personalization and flexibility. The District of Columbia's State Technology Standards are available [here](#).



Division of Elementary & Secondary Education (Continued)

Competitive Grant Opportunity for RTTT LEAs: Expanded Growth Assessments

OSSE is re-launching the Expanded Growth Assessment Competitive Grant this spring. Local education agencies (LEAs) that signed on to participate in Race to the Top (participating LEAs) are eligible to compete for the grant. The purpose of this grant is to support the development of assessments, assessment items, or growth measures from existing assessments for use in teacher and leader evaluations. These assessments will be aligned to common core or next generation science standards where applicable and will address the priority grades and subjects previously identified. Eligible applicants may apply for up to \$500,000. Both the request for applications and budget workbook are posted on [the OSSE website](#).

Applications are due no later than May 22, 2013. A pre-application conference is scheduled for May 3, 2013 from 12:00-1:00 in conference room 9014, 9th floor 810 First St, NE.

All applicants are required to attend the pre-application conference in order to be considered for the grant. If you have questions, please contact David Hendrie at david.hendrie@dc.gov.

Highly Effective Teacher Incentive Program Is Recruiting Highly Effective Teachers

Public schools in DC need talented teachers to contribute their time and energy to make a difference for students in high-needs schools. To accomplish this, OSSE has launched a pilot program to recruit 20 highly-effective educators to teach in four high-needs schools beginning in the 2013-14 school year.

Educators must make a commitment to teach for three years and will receive a range of incentives, including a \$10,000 bonus, \$5,000 in tuition assistance or loan repayment, and access to homebuyer assistance (details are forthcoming). Candidates must have been rated highly effective by their LEA's evaluation system, have come from a low-poverty school (less than 50% free or reduced-price lunch) or from outside the classroom, and have taught for at least two years.

Applications will be accepted between March 4th- April 19th with in-person interviews scheduled for April 29 or April 30 from 2:00PM-6:00PM. You may find more information about the program and an application at <http://osse.dc.gov/page/teacher-and-leader-evaluation>. If you have questions, please contact Robin Chait at robin.chait@dc.gov.

Resources on Aligning Assessments to the Common Core State Standards from the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and Student Achievement Partners

On March 19, CCSSO, Student Achievement Partners, and the Council of Great City Schools held a webinar focused on providing high-level guidance on aligning interim/benchmark assessments to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The CCSS Draft Rubrics for Interim/Benchmark Assessments they presented on the webinar are currently posted on the CCSSO web site.

- Click here for the [CCSS Draft Rubric for Interim/Benchmark Assessments](#) in ELA/literacy.
- Click here for the [CCSS Draft Rubric for Interim/Benchmark Assessments](#) in Mathematics



Division of Elementary & Secondary Education (Continued)

A copy of the **webinar recording** and the **slides presented** on March 19 can be found [here](#). For additional materials to support implementation of the CCSS, see the list below. You may also find these materials helpful in providing further support for using the rubrics.

ELA/literacy

- The [Revised Publishers' Criteria for the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts and Literacy, Grades 3–12](#) at achievethecore.org.
- The [Quality Criteria Checklist for ELA items](#) and the [Quality Criteria Checklist for Passages](#) created by Student Achievement Partners for guidance on evaluating items for alignment to the CCSS.
- The [Supplement to Appendix A of the Common Core State Standards for ELA/Literacy: New Research on Text Complexity](#) for information on text complexity and the conversion table for the text complexity measures. For additional supports on text complexity see the [Text Complexity Collection](#) at achievethecore.org.

Mathematics

- The [K-8 Publishers' Criteria for the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics](#) on www.achievethecore.org. Check back this spring for a revised version of the K-8 Publishers' Criteria in Mathematics and the High School Publishers' Criteria in Mathematics.
- The [Quality Criteria Checklist for Mathematics items](#) created by Student Achievement Partners for guidance on evaluating items for alignment to the CCSS.
- The attached one-pager on Technology and Tools in the Common Core Standards for Mathematics, which was referenced during the webinar.

Office of Grants Management and Compliance

Enrollment Audit Report, SY 2012-2013

The annual enrollment verification process for the 2012-2013 School Year is complete. The final enrollment audit report was sent by F.S. Taylor and Associates, an independent contractor that conducts the enrollment audit, and is available on the OSSE website at <http://osse.dc.gov/publication/2012-fall-enrollment-audit-report-district-columbia-public-schools-and-district-public>.

OSSE Charter School Closure Policy

The OSSE Charter School Closure policy sets expectations and provides guidance and technical assistance with regard to the state-level issues related to the closure of a District of Columbia public charter school, also referred to as a Local Educational Agency (LEA). The policy is now available on the OSSE website at <http://osse.dc.gov/publication/charter-school-closure-policy>.



Division of Specialized Education

**OSSE Releases for Public Comment FFY 2013 Draft State Grant Applications for IDEA Part B
Draft Applications for Public Comment****

In order to receive a grant award under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to support the provision of special education services to children with disabilities, each state must complete an annual grant application. To ensure an opportunity for the public to provide input, this application must be posted for 60 calendar days and open for public comment for 30 days within the 60 day period. OSSE's Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2013 draft state application for IDEA Part B will be posted for 60 days on the OSSE website (from March 11, 2013 to May 9, 2013). Members of the public have the opportunity to make comments on the application until April 9, 2013.

**Please Note: The US Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) has requested that OSSE notify the public that it does not have an appropriation yet. States should use last year's Part B spreadsheet for public participation purposes. As the FFY2013 allocations are not yet available, the numbers posted to meet the 60-day public participation requirement are "draft" and the State will post its 2013 spreadsheet as soon as it becomes available.

Individuals who wish to comment so should direct their comments to Ms. Desirée Brown, Special Assistant - Community and Parent Relations, Division of Specialized Education, by email at: osse.publiccomment@dc.gov. Should you have questions regarding this application or the public comment period, please direct them to the attention of Desirée Brown by email at desiree.brown@dc.gov or at (202) 741-0271.

Extended School Year Certification – Webinar Resource

The Division of Specialized Education (DSE) recently hosted two Extended School Year (ESY) Certification webinars on February 13, 2013 and February 27, 2013. These webinars were designed to assist local education agencies (LEAs) in successfully completing the annual ESY certification requirements. Please reference the link to the webinar PowerPoint presentation that contains information regarding federal and state ESY requirements, ESY eligibility framework and IEP documentation requirements, annual certification process requirements, and the Division of Student Transportation's (DOT) new Transportation Online Tool for ESY (TOTE). To view the link, please click [here](#).

Special Education Data System (SEDS)

As a result of LEA feedback, the OSSE has relaxed the rule requiring the selection of a Common Core standard for academic IEP goals in preschool and pre-kindergarten grades. Users are not required to associate a Common Core standard for academic goals for students in these grades though may do so if they wish. This flexibility will allow IEP teams to both take advantage of quality assurance checks while having the ability to adequately document information for exceptional cases. OSSE will continue to respond to the needs of LEAs in order to ensure that SEDS is a tool that supports the very important work of developing appropriate programs for students with disabilities.



Division of Specialized Education (Continued)

Special Education Data Audit: TTA Tier I Trainings

Recently, your LEA received a communication regarding the results of OSSE's recent special education data audit. As a result of this audit, LEAs were placed into three performance categories (Tier I, Tier II, and Tier III) which correspond with increasingly intensive interventions and supports.

LEAs that have not met all required compliance thresholds in Tier I (universal support) are required to attend a special education quality improvement training series conducted via three strands, as follows:

1. Use of the Special Education Quality Review (SEQR) Assessment to Inform Improvement
Required Training Participants: LEA Leadership Team
2. Improving Special Education Data Quality in SEDS to Enhance Student Outcomes
Required Training Participants: Special Education Case Managers, Coordinators, and Teachers
3. Using Student Data to Conduct a Root Cause Analysis
Required Training Participants: LEA Leadership Team

Each session of this training series will be scheduled multiple times in April (around the DC CAS testing window) to ensure that your LEA can access the sessions at times that are most convenient. Please note that these trainings are recommended even for LEAs that have met all requirements, in order to support continued excellence.

The training sessions began the week of March 25, 2013, beginning with SEQR and Data Quality. Please see the training dates below to begin scheduling your attendance at available Tier I training sessions. Additional sessions will be scheduled.

These updates will be shared via the OSSE Look Forward, the TTA list serve, and the SEDS Resource Site at <https://sites.google.com/a/dc.gov/seds-help-resources/home/tier-i-t-ta-calendar>. We look forward to continuing to support your efforts to improve outcomes for children with disabilities.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Dr. Amy Maisterra, Assistant Superintendent, at amy.maisterra@dc.gov or 202-481-3757.

Division of Post-Secondary & Career Education

General Education Diploma Announcement

OSSE is letting adult learners in the District of Columbia know — *Your future is calling. With the GED test, you can answer the call!* The current GED® test is expiring at the end of 2013 and learners' partial passing scores will expire too if the test is not successfully completed by then. For learners who don't feel prepared, OSSE and local programs can help. The OSSE Adult and Family Education Office and the DC Office of Cable Television (OCT) have partnered to produce a public service announcement encouraging District residents to finish the GED before the current test series expires on December 31, 2013.

The PSA is running on DC cable television. View the GED message at <http://youtu.be/83olkMqsZHc>. Learn more about the GED campaign at <http://www.gedtestingservice.com/finishtheged/>.



Office of Data Management

Policy Guidelines for Calculating the Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate

OSSE is beginning the Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR) verification process. On Friday, March 15, 2013, LEAs received the ACGR policy documentation, which includes a “DETAILED TIMELINE” and processes.

The timeline includes important deadlines. LEA(s) will have from April 1, 2013 to May 20, 2013 to verify students and provide documentation.

Responsibility	Process	Timeline
Phase I: Project Timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit project timeline to LEA(s) • Contact LEA(s) 	March 15, 2013
Phase II: Username & Password Dissemination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEAs receive username & passwords • DCPS receives data file format 	March 27, 2013
Phase II: Verification Tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEA cohort verification begins • LEA(s) submit documentation 	April 1, 2013 – May 20, 2013
Phase III: Cohort Assignment and Verification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are verified and assigned to their appropriate cohorts • OSSE reviews documentation submitted by LEA(s) • Preliminary ACGR conducted 	May 30, 2013 – July, 2013
Phase IV: Graduates Data submission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCSB and DCPS submits official certified graduates 	June 8, 2013 – June 15, 2013
Phase VI: Graduates Data Submission II (Summer Graduates)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCSB and DCPS submit official certified graduates (summer graduates) 	Aug 1, 2013- Aug 8, 2013
Phase VII: Data Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSSE conducts data analysis 	Aug 8, 2013-Sept 1, 2013



Office of Data Management (Continued)

DC CAS Roster Verification Process – Two weeks remaining!

The DC CAS Roster Verification process is currently underway! All LEA SLED Security Administrators should be able to access the Roster Verification tab in SLED. Guidance documents for this process are posted on <http://osse.dc.gov/page/dc-cas-roster-verification-sy2012-13>. Roster verification must be complete by 4/19/13.

As a reminder, all changes in the student information system may take 24-48 hours to reflect in SLED.

Please contact Jessica Enos (202-535-2651, jessica.enos@dc.gov) with any questions. Thank you for all of your hard work.

ACCESS for English Language Learner (ELL) Roster Verification Process Information

In an effort to ensure that all student data is accurate and complete, OSSE will provide LEAs with student rosters for verification prior to LEAs' ordering ACCESS testing materials.

On Thursday, February 28th OSSE held a webinar to outline the 2013 process for verifying the student rosters and pre-ordering Pre- test booklet ID labels for students. The slides and information from this webinar, and webinar FAQs will be posted at the following website address:

<http://osse.dc.gov/service/access-ells>.

For additional questions about this process, please contact Michelle Blakey-Tuggle at michelle.blakey-tuggle@dc.gov.