

PRE-APPLICATION CONFERENCE:  
INFLUENCING REPLICATION AND GROWTH

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OPPORTUNITIES AND  
RESULTS (SOAR) ACT COMPETITION  
(RFA #GDO-SA-13)

March 5, 2013

# AGENDA



- Purpose of Grant & Theory of Action
- Grant Details
- Application Content
- Budget Spreadsheet
- Appendices and Assurances
- Evaluation of Applications
- Q&A

# Purpose of Grant

The purpose of funding is to improve school performance and educational outcomes and to provide facility funding in order to increase the number of high-quality public charter school seats.

# Purpose of Grant: Replication & Growth



## Influencing Replication and Growth:

Funds will support:

- The replication and expansion of new charter schools by funding planning and development of a new facility to increase the number of high-quality seats available

# Theory of Action

**Describe how and why your project will work and provide the strategic thinking behind the change you seek to produce.**

- Use an “If, then” statement
- Must include evidence of success

# Grant Details

- **Eligibility**
- **Award Amounts**
- **Important Dates**
- **Source of Funding**
- **Allowable Expenses**

# Eligibility:

## Influencing Replication and Growth



Eligible organizations are:

- Not an eligible applicant for Title V, Part B funding
- Seeking to expand into a New Campus - a school possessing a School NCES ID separate from the main campus/LEA and a DC PCSB Accountability Plan. If this is not the case, please provide a written justification with application on the planning process to obtain a School NCES ID and PCSB Accountability Plan
- DC public charter school or a not-for-profit with final or conditional approval from sole authorized public chartering authority (PCSB).
- Have a Performance Management Framework score of over 50%, or met 50% of Accountability Plan targets as outlined in the Performance Management Report.

# Award Amounts



A total of \$8.9M is available for awards. The itemization is as follows:

**Increasing Academic Quality-** \$3,600,000

- o 3rd Party/Non-Profits- \$1,750,000 (up to \$100,000 per award)
- o Charter School Support Organizations- \$600,000 (up to \$100,000 per award)
- o Public Charter Schools- \$1,250,000 (up to \$100,000 per award)

**Addressing Special Populations-** \$300,000 (up to \$50,000 per award)

**Investing in Public Facility Projects-** \$4,000,000 (up to \$750,000 per award)

**Influencing Replication and Growth-** \$1,000,000 (up to \$100,000 per award)

The duration of this grant is for a period of two (2) years from the grant award date, except for Replication and Growth which is for one (1) year.

# Important Dates



- **Intent to Apply:**                      **March 1, 2013 @ 5:00 pm**
  
- **Application Due Date:**            **March 22, 2013 @ 5:00 pm**
  
- **Expected Awards:**                    **April 12, 2013\***
  
- **End of Grant Program:**            **April 2015\*\***

**\*Award announcements for Replication and Growth will be made after the DC Public Charter School Board petition decisions on May 20, 2013**

**\*\* End of grant program for Replication and Growth will be April 2014**

# Source of Funding



The United States Department of Education, through DC School Choice Incentive Program, 84.370C, Public Law 108-199, III, DC School Incentive Act of 2003; Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act, effective April 15, 2011 (Pub. L. 112-10; 125 Stat. 201).

*\*All grant awards are contingent on the appropriation of funding.*

# Allowable Expenses: Influencing Replication and Growth



Funds can be spent to support projects that are linked to the needs assessment and can be linked to evidence.

Allowable Expenses	Non-Allowable Expenses
<p>✓ Costs used for Replication and Expansion efforts may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Planning (the year before campus opening)</li><li>✓ Implementation year 1 and year 2</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✗ Costs that do not meet the requirements of permissible use of Federal Funds within EDGAR 34 CFR Part 75, Part 76 and Part 80 and applicable OMB Circulars</li><li>✗ Costs that do not align with the principles outlined in the ESEA Waiver</li><li>✗ Costs that do not meet the purpose of this grant</li></ul>

# Application Content

- Tab 1 - Directions
- Tab 2- Contact Info
- Tab 3- Increasing Academic Quality
- Tab 4 - Addressing Special Populations
- Tab 5- Investing in Public Facilities
- Tab 6- Influencing Replication and Growth
- Tab 7 - Assurances
- Tab 8 - Rubric

# Tab One: Directions



Applicants should review this tab and take note of:

- 1) Deadline for grant application,
- 2) Email address where application should be submitted, and
- 3) Various tabs that should be completed based on which funding the applicant desires.

**\*\*Important note—Naming convention of application email subject line:**

**Organization Name\_Grant Category\_Name of Subgrant**

*Example:* ABC Organization\_Increasing Academic Quality\_3<sup>rd</sup> party organization

*Example:* FOSSE PCS\_Increasing Academic Quality\_Public Charter School

# Tab Two: Contact Info.



Applicants should use this section to:

- 1) provide contact information,
- 2) provide grant application information, and
- 3) provide applicant certification of the information contained in the application.

# Application Format



## Each grant section has the same format

- ▣ Narrative
  - Comprehensive Needs Assessment
  - Theory of Action
  - Logic Model
  - Project Description
  - Alignment to the District's ESEA Waiver
  - Partnership Collaboration
- ▣ Itemized Expenditures
- ▣ Budget

# Tab Six: Influencing Replication and Growth



## Narrative

- **Comprehensive Needs Assessment:**
  - This section should be used to substantiate the need for the proposed project, describe your needs and options, and how this specific project will add to providing high quality education to students in high-need areas.
  - Provide any research and evidence that will justify the need for the project.

# Tab Six: Influencing Replication and Growth



## Narrative

### □ Theory of Action:

- Describe how and why your project will work and provide the strategic thinking behind the change you seek to produce by using an "if, then" statement.
- The theory of action must include research and evidence of success.

### □ Logic Model:

- Applicant should complete one logic model for each identified objective.
- Applicant should have a minimum of two (2) objectives.

# Tab Six: Influencing Replication and Growth



## Narrative

### □ Detailed Project Description:

- Describe in detail the new campus vision including location, mission, grade levels, targeted student body, instructional philosophy and focus.
- Describe the students in the neighborhood or area that the school intends to serve and the educational options available.
- Describe your student recruitment plan, your plans for achieving instructional excellence and your plans for recruiting and training staff.

# Tab Six: Influencing Replication and Growth



## Narrative

- **Detailed Project Description – Cont'd:**
  - Describe your plans for managing student and other school data.
  - Describe your financial development plans.
  - Provide information on awarded Replication and Growth Grant Funding in SY11-12.
  - Provide the Performance Management Framework score (%) and Accountability Plan targets met (%) as outlined in the Performance Management Report.
  - Specify if the school is planning to provide 5% or more neighborhood admissions preference.

# Tab Six: Influencing Replication and Growth



## Narrative

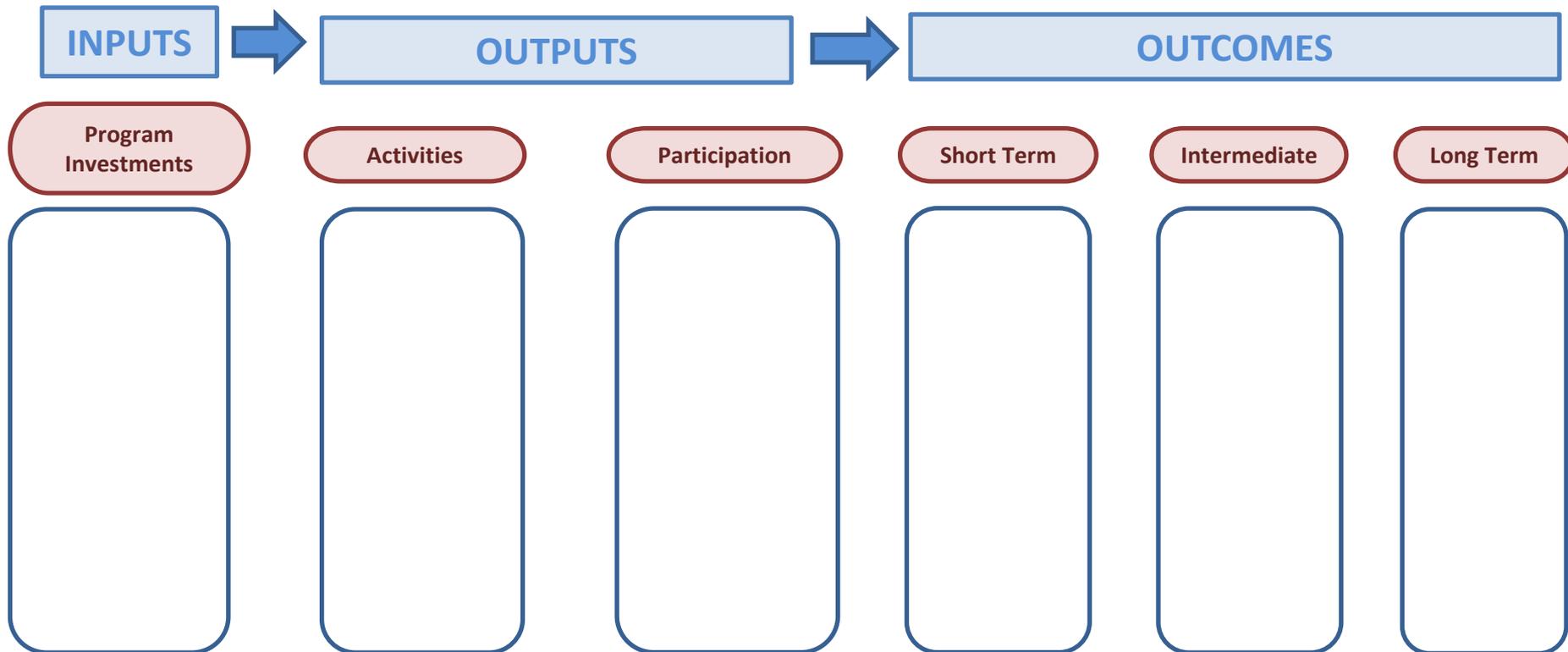
- **Alignment to the DC's ESEA Flexibility Waiver – Principles 1, 2 & 3:**
  - Describe how this project aligns to Principles 1, 2 and 3
  
- **Partnership Collaboration:**
  - Explain who the applicant plans to partner with to implement the project above (if applicable)

# Logic Model



## SOAR ACT Grant Logic Model

Category:  
Objective:



# Budget Spreadsheet

## **How will you pay for the proposed project?**

- Align the budget with permissible use of funds and proposed outcomes
- Provide a link between the narrative of the applicant's plan for the use of funds and the budget for the use of these funds

# Budget Details



## Itemized Budget Spreadsheet

- Provide detailed expenditures for the proposed project.
- Provide a description for each line item
- Align the budget with permissible use of funds and proposed outcomes

## Budget

- Summary of costs by program category
- This table is pre-filled with information from the Planned Expenditures tab

## Sources and Uses

- List all project sources and uses in detail.
- Total sources should equal total uses.

# Assurances



- The full list of assurances is on Tab 7C.
- Ensure that all applicable assurances are checked.
- Tab 7C contains full list, but some examples are:
  - ▣ The applicant assures the SEA that they will:
    - administer the funds covered by this application in accordance with all applicable statutes, regulations, program plans, and applications.
    - use such fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as will ensure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, federal funds allocated to the applicant, as set forth in all applicable federal and state laws and regulations.
    - expend all funds by two years from the reward date.
    - comply with all applicable OMB Circulars, including, but not limited to: OMB Circular A-87, Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments; OMB Circular A-102, Grants and Cooperative Agreements with State and Local Governments; and OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.

# Appendices



**The following appendices are required in order for the application to be considered complete:**

- **Collaboration Letter**
- **Completed Logic Models**
- **Signed Assurances**
- **W-9 Form**
- **Letter of Conditional Approval *(for Replication and Growth only)***
- **Executed Lease/Purchase Agreements *(for Public Facility only)***
- **Audited Financial Statements for FY 11 and FY12 *(for Public Facility only)***
- **Architectural Plans/Surveys/Appraisals *(for Public Facility only)***
- **General Contractor's Detailed Construction Budget *(for Public Facility only)***
- **Senior Lender and/or Subordinated Lender Commitment Letter *(for Public Facility only)***

# Evaluation of Applications

- ❑ A Review Panel comprised of individuals with expertise in the field of public charter schools will review applications according to the Scoring Rubric.
- ❑ Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding.

# Review Panel



- All grants are competitive.
- A review panel for all categories will be convened to review, score, and rank each applicant's application.
- The review panel will be composed of neutral, qualified, professional individuals who have been selected for their unique related experiences.
- Upon completion of its review, the panel shall make recommendations for awards based on the scoring rubric(s).
- OSSE will make the final decisions.

# Rubric



- 70% of weight on needs assessment/narrative.
- 30% of weight on budget.
- Preference points will be given for addressing specific identified areas of priority.
- Available on OSSE website:

<http://osse.dc.gov/publication/scholarships-opportunity-andresultsoaractcompetition>



Questions?