Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23)

Scholarships for Opportunity and Results (SOAR) Act Formula Combined Consolidated Grant

Nov. 2022| Brianna Griffin

By the end of this presentation, attendees will…

- Understand the purposes of SOAR Act Academic Quality and Early Childhood grants and distinctions among their purposes.

- Be prepared to complete and submit a SOAR Formula Combined Consolidated application, including knowing what information should be gathered and prepared in advance.

- Understand the basics of project budgeting and allowable expenses.

Agenda

- FY23 Grant Details

- Purpose of SOAR Formula Grants

- Review of Application

- Application Evaluation

- Important Dates and Contacts

- Q&A

FY23 Grant Details

Allocations

- Allocations were published on the OSSE website under FY23 Resources

- Applications available in Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS)

Scholarships for Opportunity and Results (SOAR) Fiscal Year 2023 Academic Quality and Early Childhood Allocations				
LEA Name	**Academic Quality**	**Early Childhood**	**Total**	**Program Contact**
Academy of Hope Adult PCS	113,983.14		113,983.14	Stacy Kirk
Achievement Preparatory Academy PCS	73,140.38		73,140.38	Marie Hutchins
AppleTree Early Learning PCS	104,958.39	338,191.55	443,149.94	Stacy Kirk
BASIS PCS	125,206.22		125,206.22	Marie Hutchins
Breakthrough Montessori PCS	86,908.90		86,908.90	Marie Hutchins
Bridges PCS	89,917.15		89,917.15	Marie Hutchins
Briya PCS	137,123.51	49,093.58	186,217.09	Stacy Kirk
Capital City PCS	167,090.30		167,090.30	Marie Hutchins
Capital Village PCS	60,413.17		60,413.17	Stacy Kirk
Carlos Rosario International PCS	269,139.36		269,139.36	Stacy Kirk
Cedar Tree Academy PCS	105,768.31		105,768.31	Marie Hutchins
Center City PCS	210,709.91		210,709.91	Marie Hutchins
Cesar Chavez PCS	94,313.82		94,313.82	Marie Hutchins
Community College Preparatory Academy PCS	115,255.86		115,255.86	Stacy Kirk
Creative Minds International PCS	114,098.84		114,098.84	Marie Hutchins
DC Bilingual PCS	106,693.92		106,693.92	Marie Hutchins
DC International PCS	227,370.98		227,370.98	Marie Hutchins

Award Period

- The award period for the Academic Quality and Early Childhood grants will be from the date of the award to Sept. 30, 2023.

- OSSE will allow for the reimbursement of pre-award costs to the extent that they would have been allowable if incurred after the date of the federal award.

  - The grant recipient incurs pre-award costs at its own risk and will not be reimbursed if OSSE does not approve the recipient's application.

- Any pre-award costs must have been obligated no earlier than July 1, 2022.

Purpose of SOAR Formula Grants

Background: Purpose of Formula Grants

Academic Quality	Early Childhood
Projects designed to have a **direct impact on student achievement**, either school-wide or for specific subgroups of students	Supplementary activities that **support school readiness**, including the development of literacy and mathematics skills for early childhood students

Allowable Uses

- All costs must be supported by the needs assessment and be aligned with the proposed grant activities

- Strategies funded by the grant should have a direct impact on student achievement and be supported by research and/or evidence

- Examples:
  - NWEA MAP software and data analysis support for teachers to improve data-driven instruction
  - Extended Day coordinator to provide training and support for staff to promote effective extended day programming

- For more examples of allowable uses, see the Allowable Uses reference document

Review of Application

Application Logistics

- **Submission:** All applications must be submitted through EGMS.

- **Deadline:** 3 p.m. EST on Friday, Jan. 20, 2023

  ▪ Highly encouraged to submit early

  ▪ Contact your SOAR grant manager if you have questions or for assistance

- **Consolidated Application**

  ▪ The application combines two grants: Academic Quality and Early Childhood

  ▪ Review the allocation table to see which sections in the application your LEA should complete

If an LEA does not submit an application in EGMS by 3 p.m. on Jan. 20, the allocation will be forfeited and redistributed to other SOAR programs.

Main Application Section

SOAR Formula Combined Consolidated ▼

| OVERVIEW | CONTACT INFORMATION | SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION | AWARD ADMINISTRATION | ALLOCATIONS | FUNDING DISTRIBUTION | ASSURANCES | SUBMIT | APPLICATION HISTORY | APPLICATION PRINT |

- Read through all content and assurances carefully

- Complete contact information for your local education agency (LEA)

- Supporting documentation is not required

- Be sure to agree to all assurances before saving/submitting

Academic Quality Application

Academic Quality

| AQ APPLICATION | PROJECT OBJECTIVE AND ACTIVITIES | BUDGET | BUDGET AMENDMENTS |

- **AQ Application**
  - Main application content

- **Project Objective and Activities**
  - Should align with the needs assessment and project description on the previous tab

- **Budget**
  - Specific planned expenditures for the Academic Quality grant

- **Budget Amendments**
  - Leave this tab blank when submitting the original application. Complete this tab when submitting an application amendment.

Narrative

| AQ APPLICATION | PROJECT OBJECTIVE AND ACTIVITIES | BUDGET | BUDGET AMENDMENTS |

- **Comprehensive Needs Assessment**
  - Quantitative and qualitative data sources
  - Summary of needs identified using the selected sources

- **Project Description**
  - Should align with the needs identified above
  - Strategies should have a direct impact on student achievement

- **Theory of Action**
  - If/Then/Because statement
  - Supported by research and/or evidence

- **Equitable Access and Participation**
  - Describe how the public charter school will remove barriers to ensure equitable access and participation in grant-funded activities

Narrative

| AQ APPLICATION | PROJECT OBJECTIVE AND ACTIVITIES | BUDGET | BUDGET AMENDMENTS |

- Be clear and concise.

- Make a clear link between the data, the needs, the project and research-based strategies.

- Theory of Action:

  - "IF [we do X], THEN [we will see X], BECAUSE [research/evidence shows X]. [citation]"

  - *Example: Classroom based intervention will be provided by Teachers and Assistant Teachers for [RtI] Tier 2-* **IF** *you provide teachers with high quality, on-going training and support that includes in-class coaching and mentoring,* **THEN** *teachers will change and improve their teaching practices resulting in stronger academic outcomes for students.* **Research supports** *that quality coaching for teachers and strengthen cultural competence for teachers results in stronger academic outcome for students. Joyce & Showers' study (2002)*
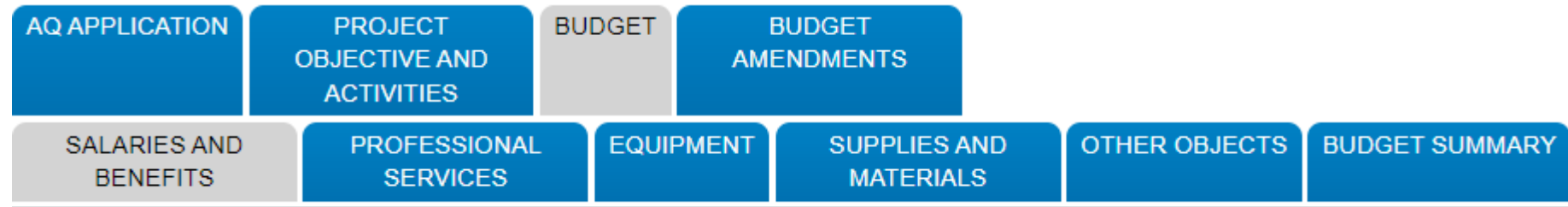
Project Objective and Activities

AQ APPLICATION	PROJECT OBJECTIVE AND ACTIVITIES	BUDGET	BUDGET AMENDMENTS

- Projective Objective should be Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time-bound (SMART)
  - Intended outcome of the project
  - Should align with the needs assessment and project description on the previous tab

- Project Activities
  - At least three specific activities for each reporting period
  - Anticipated completion dates
  - Evidence of Completion (i.e., documentation that can be provided to OSSE to demonstrate that the activity was completed)

Budget

AQ APPLICATION	PROJECT OBJECTIVE AND ACTIVITIES	BUDGET	BUDGET AMENDMENTS			
SALARIES AND BENEFITS	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	EQUIPMENT	SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS	OTHER OBJECTS	BUDGET SUMMARY	

- Complete planned expenditures for the entire award period

- **Provide enough detail to determine allowable, reasonable and allocable**

- Each row should give enough detail to clearly link to allowable uses:

  - Number of items planned to be purchased (e.g., 400 iPads)

  - Length of time and frequency of service (e.g., weekly reading intervention professional development)

  - Timeframe staff paid out of SOAR funds (e.g., 50 percent of salary from Oct. 1, 2022 – Sept. 30, 2023)

Early Childhood Application

Early Childhood

| EC APPLICATION | PROJECT OBJECTIVE AND ACTIVITIES | BUDGET | BUDGET AMENDMENTS |

- **EC Application**
  - Main application content

- **Project Objective and Activities**
  - Should align with the needs assessment and project description on the previous tab

- **Budget**
  - Specific planned expenditures for the Early Childhood grant

- **Budget Amendments**
  - Leave this tab blank when submitting the original application.

Application Submission

- **Please avoid technical issues by submitting early. Alert your program contact as soon as possible if you are experiencing any issues.**

- Make sure to do the following:
  - Save all pages as you go
  - Review each tab to ensure completeness
  - Run the "consistency check" to lock the application
  - Submit the application to OSSE

- The submit button will be **unavailable** after 3 p.m. EST on **Jan. 20, 2023**.

- **Application History**: Available to see all actions involving the application

- **Application Print**: Available if you need a hard copy of the application
  - *Please note: EGMS generates PDFs only once per hour*

Application Evaluation

Application Evaluation

- **Formula application**

- **OSSE internal review**

  - Applications are reviewed on a standard checklist to ensure quality of proposed projects

  - Reviewers determine whether enough detail is provided to ensure that expenditures are reasonable, necessary and appropriate

  - If revisions are needed, you will be given an opportunity to make the necessary change(s) to receive approval

Important Dates and Contacts

FY22 SOAR Formula Combined: Important Dates

Application Submission Deadline: 3 p.m. EST on Friday, Jan. 20, 2023

Grant Name	Award Period Begins	Award Period Ends
SOAR Academic Quality	July 1, 2022	Sept. 30, 2023
SOAR Early Childhood	July 1, 2022	Sept. 30, 2023

If an LEA does not submit an application in EGMS by 3 p.m. on Jan. 20, the allocation will be forfeited and redistributed to other SOAR programs.

Contact Information

Contact	Contact Information
Marie Hutchins	Marie.Hutchins@dc.gov
Stacy Kirk	Stacy.Kirk@dc.gov
Brianna Griffin *Manager, Office of Federal Programs and Strategic Funding*	Brianna.Griffin@dc.gov (202) 355-8194
EGMS Helpdesk	OSSE.Callcenter@dc.gov (202) 719-6500

*Program contacts are listed by LEA in the allocations document on the OSSE website

Q&A