

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

Scholarships for Opportunity and Results (SOAR) Act Teacher Pipeline Grants

Request for Applications Release Date: Friday, Feb. 17, 2023

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) will issue a Request for Applications (RFA) for Scholarships for Opportunity and Results (SOAR) Act Teacher Pipeline grants. SOAR Act Teacher Pipeline grants are available to District of Columbia (DC) charter local education agencies (LEAs) and third-party non-profit charter support organizations. The purpose of the grant program is to impact the quality and quantity of the teacher supply for DC charter schools.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria: Eligible applicants are non-profit third-party charter school support organizations that have a demonstrated history of success working with DC charter schools on similar teacher pipeline programs. Applicants must use funds to support projects designed to a) recruit, or partner with at least two LEAs or other organizations to recruit, high-quality candidates new to teaching for DC charter school teacher residency or teacher roles, and b) train and/or certify these teachers.

or

Eligible applicants are DC public charter LEAs, or a consortia of DC public charter LEAs, working with non-profit third-party charter school support organizations that have a demonstrated history of success working with DC charter schools on similar teacher pipeline programs. Applicants must use funds to support projects designed to a) partner with at least one non-profit third party organization to recruit, high-quality candidates new to teaching for DC charter school teacher residency or teacher roles, and b) train and/or certify these teachers.

Applications will be scored in the following selection criteria: partner data, needs assessment, project description, theory of action, equitable access and participation, logic model, and budget.

Length of Award: The duration of the Teacher Pipeline grant is for a period of two years from the grant award date.

Available Funding for the Award: At least \$2,250,000 is available for awards through this RFA. OSSE will provide up to \$500,000 per award. Grant awards may not exceed \$7,500 per teacher. Determinations regarding the number of competitive grant awards will be based on the quality and number of applications received and available funding. Successful applicants may be awarded amounts less than requested. Awards are limited to one per organization. Grant funds shall only be used to support activities authorized by the relevant statutes and included in the applicant's submission.

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Application Process: A review panel or panels will be convened to review, score, and rank each application for a competitive grant. The review panel(s) will be composed of external, neutral, qualified, professional individuals selected for their expertise, knowledge or related experiences. Each application will be scored against a rubric and applications 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 will make all final award decisions. Applications must be submitted prior to 3pm EST on April 3, 2023. OSSE expects to make awards by May 31, 2023.

Pre-application webinars will be held on the following dates:

- Tuesday, March 7, 2022, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.
- Thursday, March 9, 2022, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Webinar registration links will be included in the RFA. Each interested organization must have at least one representative attend one of the above webinars in order to meet the attendance requirement for this grant. Webinar attendance is tracked electronically through registration and online attendance. The organization representative should be someone who is familiar with the organization's past teacher pipeline work with charter schools or a representative from the applicant LEA(s).

To receive more information on these grants, please contact:

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The RFA for these competitive grant programs will be available on OSSE's website at www.osse.dc.gov. All applications will be submitted through the Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS) at grants.osse.dc.gov.