

**OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION**

**NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY**

**FY24 Scholarships for Opportunity and Results (SOAR) Act Facilities Grant**

**Request for Applications Release Date: April 5, 2024, 3 p.m.**

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) will issue Request for Applications (RFAs) for SOAR Act grant funds. SOAR Act funds are available to District of Columbia (DC) charter local education agencies (LEAs) through the SOAR (Pub. L. 112-10). The purpose of the funds is to support the improvement and expansion of high-quality public charter schools. This notice provides information regarding the facility's competitive opportunity.

**Eligibility and Selection Criteria:** Eligible applicants are high-quality DC public charter schools. Applicants must use funds to support the renovation of facilities occupied by charter schools. Eligible applicants must provide documentation of site control (ownership or at least a 50-year lease). Applicants are encouraged to submit a notice of intent to apply.

Applications will be scored in the following selection criteria: (1) project data; (2) needs assessment; (3) project description; (4) theory of action; (5) equitable access and participation; (6) logic model; and (7) budget.

**Length of Award:** The total award period for this grant is two years. The initial award period begins on the date of the award and ends on Sept. 30, 2024. Applicants will be required to complete a continuation application in the second year. Continuation of awards in year two is contingent upon: 1) availability of funds; 2) recipient's implementation and/or operation of the program as submitted in the application; 3) recipient's demonstration that substantial progress has been made toward meeting the objectives set forth in the approved application, based on ongoing monitoring and review of the recipient's reports; 4) compliance with District and federal laws, regulations, and guidance; and 5) appropriate expenditure of funds throughout the grant award period.

**Available Funding for Award:** The funding available is \$3,500,000 for FY24 awards through this RFA. OSSE will provide up to \$750,000 per award. Determinations regarding the number of competitive grant awards will be based on the quality and number of applications received and available funding. OSSE anticipates awarding approximately five to eight awards. Successful applicants may be awarded amounts less than requested. Awards are limited to one per LEA. Grant funds shall only be used to support activities authorized by the relevant statutes and included in the applicant's submission.

**Application Process:** Applications for this grant must be submitted prior to 3p.m. on Monday, May 20, 2024. OSSE expects to make awards by Monday, July 1, 2024. Please allow additional time for any issues you may experience, as well as the consistency check to run, prior to submission.

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.

The pre-application webinars will be held on the following dates:

- Friday, April 26, 2024, from 10-11 a.m.
- Friday, April 26, 2024, from 1-2 p.m.

Webinar registration links will be included in the RFA.

The notice of intent to apply will be available in the RFA. Applicants are encouraged to submit the notice of intent to apply by Friday, May 10, 2024.

To receive more information on this grant, please contact:

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The RFA for this competitive grant program will be available on **Friday, April 5, 2024, 3 p.m.** on OSSE's website at [www.osse.dc.gov](http://www.osse.dc.gov) and the [District's Grants Clearinghouse](#). All applications will be submitted through EGMS at [grants.osse.dc.gov](http://grants.osse.dc.gov).