



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF

EDUCATION

Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE)

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)

RFA # GDO—SAF—26

**Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) Scholarships for Opportunity and Results (SOAR) Act
Facilities Grant**

RFA Release Date

Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at 12 p.m. ET

Pre-Application Technical Assistance Webinars

Tuesday, April 7, 2026, from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Thursday, April 9, 2026, from 1 - 2 p.m.

Notice of Intent to Apply Deadline

Friday, May 1, 2026

Application Submission Deadline

Friday, May 15, 2026, at 3 p.m. ET

LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE REVIEWED OR CONSIDERED FOR AN AWARD.

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**Competition Checklist for Applicants
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- Verify that the person responsible for submitting the SOAR Facilities grant application in the Enterprise Grants Management System ([EGMS](#)) has valid login credentials and is assigned the “authorized representative” role in the system.
 - Only authorized representatives are permitted to submit applications on behalf of an organization.
 - Refer to the [EGMS User Manual](#) on how to submit a login credentials request and/or permissions request. The approval process can take up to three business days.

- Attend one of the two pre-application webinars. Webinar attendance is not required for grant eligibility. Webinars will be held:
 - Tuesday, April 7, 2026, from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Register [here](#).
 - Thursday, April 9, 2026, from 1–2 p.m. Register [here](#).The same information will be shared in both webinars.

- Submit a Notice of Intent to Apply form to OPCSFS.Funding@dc.gov on or before **Friday, May 1, 2026**. The Notice of Intent to Apply form can be found in [Appendix A](#) and on OSSE’s [SOAR Facilities webpage](#). While you do not need to submit this form to be eligible for the competition, those who submit an Intent to Apply form will receive direct email updates regarding competition information.

- Submit a complete application in [EGMS](#) by **3 p.m. ET on Friday, May 15, 2026**, that contains all required information and attachments and adheres to all directions and criteria for each section as detailed in this RFA. Please see [RFA Section 3](#) for an overview of the application components.
 - Once submitted, you may not make changes to the application.
 - Documents submitted outside the EGMS system will not be reviewed.
 - Late or incomplete applications will not be reviewed or considered for an award.

Please note: All required application elements must be submitted by entering information directly into the required sections in EGMS. Unless otherwise stated in the application, information submitted via attachment will be considered as supplemental materials only.

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PLEASE NOTE

Applications are due by 3 p.m. ET on Friday, May 15, 2026.

The application deadline will be strictly enforced. Applications submitted after 3 p.m. ET on Friday, May 15, 2026, will not be reviewed.

All application materials must be submitted through [EGMS](#).

This application will be open for at least 30 business days. OSSE strongly recommends submitting your application at least one day early to ensure that avoidable technical issues do not cause you to miss the submission deadline.

For more information about EGMS, please visit grants.osse.dc.gov.

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Section 1: General Information

1.1 Background Introduction

Overview of the SOAR Act

As a part of a three-sector federal funding approach, the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results (SOAR) Act, Pub. L. 112-10, 125 Stat. 199 (as amended), is a federal law that authorizes funding for District of Columbia (District) public charter schools or District-based nonprofit organizations “to improve and expand quality public charter schools in the District of Columbia” (§ 3004(b)(2)). Federal SOAR Act funds for District public charter schools are provided to OSSE through the US Department of Education (USED) as a grant. The SOAR Act also provides funding for District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) and the Opportunity Scholarship Program (OSP) for District students to attend private schools.

1.2 Purpose of Funds

Through this RFA, OSSE is soliciting proposals from eligible District public charter schools for the following grant program:

- **Facilities Grant**
 - The purpose of this funding program is to provide high-quality public charter schools with funds to renovate facilities occupied by public charter schools.
 - Proposed projects must 1) increase the total number of seats available at a high-quality charter school, and/or 2) increase the quality of existing seats at a high-quality public charter school.

1.3 Source of Funding

USED, through the District of Columbia School Choice Incentive Program, CFDA/ALN: 84.370C, Public Law 108-199, III, District of Columbia School Incentive Act of 2003; Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act, effective April 15, 2011 (Pub. L. 112-10; 125 Stat. 201), as amended.

1.4 Requirements of Funding

In addition to the requirements of this RFA, the assurances made in the submitted application, and the terms of the grant award notification (GAN) issued by OSSE to the grantee, a key condition for receiving these funds is compliance with activities necessary to carry out a mandated evaluation of the OSP, as specified in Section 3011(a)(1) of the SOAR Act. Pursuant to this section, USED’s Institute of Education Sciences (IES) is required to evaluate annually the performance of students who applied to the OSP (Sec. 3009). Because some OSP applicants will

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be enrolled in public charter schools, it will be necessary for IES and its evaluation contractor to collect data on and from public charter school campuses once each school year during the applicable grant period. Please be advised that noncompliance of the charter school with the terms and conditions stated in the SOAR Act GAN may result in the withholding of SOAR Act funds administered by OSSE. All awardees must also comply with the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts (40 U.S.C. 3141 *et seq.*), as applicable.

1.5 Funds Available and Funding Period

At least \$3,500,000 is available for awards through this RFA. OSSE will provide up to \$750,000 per award. Awards are limited to one per public charter local education agency (LEA). 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, 2026. Grantees will need to complete a continuation application for FY27 and FY28 to access any carryover funds. Continuation of funding is contingent upon:

- Availability of funds;
- Implementation and/or operation of the program as submitted in the application;
- 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 grantee's reports;
- Compliance with applicable District and federal laws, regulations, and guidance; and
- Appropriate expenditure of funds throughout the grant award period.

1.6 Eligibility

An eligible applicant meets all the following criteria:

- Must be a District public charter school.
- May not use funds under this program for a facility project at a school that was designated in 2024 by OSSE for any of the school improvement categories*:
 - Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI);
 - Comprehensive Support and Improvement: Low Graduation Rate (CSI-Grad);
 - Comprehensive Support and Improvement: Student Group (CSI-SG);
 - Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI); or
 - Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI).
- If an applicant is proposing to use funds for construction (defined at 34 CFR 77.1): must own the facility being supported by the proposed project, or have a long-term lease that ensures possession for at least 25 years after the completion of the project or the useful life of the construction, whichever is longer.
 - Awarded applicants will be required to provide site control evidence for the facility within 180 days of award. Funds may only be used for the site described in the original application. If site control evidence is not provided, the grant

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award will be terminated in full and the LEA must return any reimbursed funds. Site control evidence may include executed lease agreements, purchase agreements, building permits, and mortgage deeds of trust.

Please note that former grantees of the SOAR Facilities grant or other SOAR Act grants are eligible to apply.

*For a complete list of schools under each designation in 2024, please visit [School Improvement Plans under Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\)](#).

1.7 Permissible Use of Funds

The funds associated with this RFA are available strictly on a reimbursement basis and may only be used for allowable grant project expenditures during the grant period as follows:

- All costs must:
 - Meet requirements of permissible use of federal funds within EDGAR 34 CFR Part 75, 2 CFR Part 200 as adopted in 2 CFR Part 3474, 2 CFR Part 180 as adopted in 2 CFR 3485;
 - Align with and support the project described in the charter LEA’s application; and
 - Support construction and/or minor remodeling, which may include:
 - Preparation of drawings and specifications for school facilities;
 - Erecting, building, altering, remodeling, repairing, or extending school facilities, including creating outdoor classroom space and installing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant ramps;
 - Inspecting and supervising the construction of school facilities;
 - Minor remodeling (e.g., re-wiring of outlets, extending utility lines); and
 - Adding trailers, modular units, or portable structures.

All grant project budgets will be reviewed by a review panel and OSSE staff to ensure that planned expenditures are allowable and are appropriate, reasonable, and necessary to support the grant objectives.

Section 2: Schedule

2.1 Timeline of Activities

Date	Activity
March 13, 2026	Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) release date
April 1, 2026	Request for Applications (RFA) release date
April 7, 2026	Pre-application technical assistance webinar 1

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April 9, 2026	Pre-application technical assistance webinar 2
April 10, 2026	Questions due to OSSE for inclusion in FAQs
May 1, 2026	Notice of Intent to Apply deadline (optional)
May 15, 2026	Application deadline
May–June 2026	External review of applications
July–August 2026	Distribution of GANs (anticipated)
August 2026	Post-award webinar (anticipated)
Sept. 30, 2026	Deadline to obligate funds for FY26

2.2 RFA Release

The release date of the RFA is Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at 12 p.m. ET. The RFA is available on OSSE’s [SOAR Facilities webpage](#) and the [District’s Grants Clearinghouse](#).

2.3 Pre-Application Technical Assistance Webinars

Applicants are strongly encouraged to attend one of the pre-application technical assistance webinars hosted by OSSE. Each session will include the same overview of the SOAR Facilities grant competition, application completion, and submission process. The pre-application webinars will be held on the following dates and times:

- Tuesday, April 7, 2026, from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. [Register here](#).
- Thursday, April 9, 2026, from 1 - 2 p.m. [Register here](#).

2.4 Intent to Apply

All eligible public charter LEAs seeking to receive funding under this RFA are encouraged to submit a Notice of Intent to Apply ([Appendix A](#)), signed by an authorized official of the LEA, via email to OPCSFS.Funding@dc.gov by **Friday, May 1, 2026**. While applicants do not need to submit this to be eligible for the competition, those who submit a Notice of Intent to Apply will receive direct email updates regarding competition information.

2.5 Public Contact and FAQs

For questions or additional information regarding this RFA and the associated competitive process, please email Safa Babikir at Safa.Babikir@dc.gov. Questions received during the pre-application webinars or via email by Friday, April 10, 2026, will be included in the FAQs that will be posted to OSSE’s [SOAR Facilities webpage](#).

2.6 Applications Due

Applications are due Friday, May 15, 2026, by 3 p.m. ET and must be submitted through [EGMS](#). **OSSE strongly encourages submitting applications at least one day early to ensure that avoidable technical issues do not cause you to miss the submission deadline. Applicants must**

agree to EGMS' FY26 Central Data Assurances prior to creating a grant application. Late or incomplete applications will not be reviewed or considered for an award.

2.7 Updates

Information and updates regarding the grant competition will be emailed to all potential applicants who submit a Notice of Intent to Apply to this grant.

2.8 Awards Announcement

Awards will be announced via EGMS and email. OSSE will disseminate GANs following the awards announcement.

Section 3: Application

3.1 Application Content

The application in EGMS contains all the following sections, or "tabs." Unless noted, each section must be completed in the system as instructed:

- Section 1 – Overview Pages (*informational; nothing to complete*)
 - General Information (*informational; nothing to complete*)
 - Scoring Rubric (*informational; nothing to complete*)
- Section 2 – Contact Information
- Section 3 – Abstract
- Section 4 – Project Data
- Section 5 – Main Application
 - Data Sources
 - Needs Assessment
 - Project Description
 - Theory of Action
 - Equitable Access and Participation
 - Logic Model
- Section 6 – Budget
 - Budget Narrative
 - Salaries and Benefits
 - Professional Services
 - Equipment
 - Supplies and Materials
 - Other Objects
 - Budget Summary

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- Section 7 – Budget Amendments (*nothing to complete; this tab is only used after the grant is awarded*)
- Section 8 – Supporting Documentation
- Section 9 – Assurances
 - Program Specific Assurances
 - Facilities Construction Assurances
 - Assurances Agreement Summary
- Section 10 – Submit (*application is not complete until it is submitted through this tab*)
- Section 11 – Application History (*the history of who has accessed and modified the application may be viewed through this tab*)
- Section 12 – Application Print (*hard copies of applications may be printed through this tab*)

Section 4: Review and Scoring Process

4.1 Review Process

The grant described in this RFA will be awarded competitively. Applications will be screened initially by OSSE staff to determine whether all application and eligibility requirements have been met. Only applications that meet all eligibility and application requirements will be evaluated, scored, and rated by the review panel. A panel of three external reviewers will read and score the applications received for this RFA. After reviewing the recommendations of the reviewers and any other information considered relevant, OSSE shall decide which applicants to fund, as well as the funding amount.

4.2 Review Panel

One or more panels of external reviewers will be convened to review, score, and rank each application. The review panels will be composed of neutral, qualified, professional individuals selected for their expertise, knowledge, and/or related experiences. All external reviewers must sign a conflict of interest statement. Applications will be scored using the rubric provided in [Appendix B](#), and each application will have at least three external reviewers. The complete rubric can also be found in EGMS for review. OSSE will convene a panel to conduct a facilitated discussion of the reviewers' scores and comments if the variance between the highest and lowest scores is 20 points or more. A facilitated discussion provides an opportunity for reviewers to hear other panel members' reasoning for their scores and comments. A reviewer is not required to change their scores or comments after a facilitated discussion.

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Upon completion of the panel reviews, the panels shall make recommendations for awards based on the scoring rubric. The state superintendent of education or their designee will consider those recommendations, but all final award decisions are left to the discretion of the superintendent or their designee.

Winning applicants may be required to make amendments to their budget or other application sections to meet grant requirements. A denied applicant may file an appeal of OSSE's award determination within 30 days of receipt of award denial notification on the grounds that OSSE violated a District or federal statute or regulation. Denied applicants may contact OSSE's program contact for information on the appeal process.

4.3 Funding Priority

Funding priority may be given to LEAs that have never received a SOAR-funded competitive facilities grant. OSSE may elect to fund priority projects at a higher level than non-priority projects. If there are more quality applications than available funds, OSSE may elect to fund priority projects instead of one or more non-priority projects that received a higher score.

Section 5: Award Administration

5.1 Decision and Notifications of Awards

In order to be awarded a grant, organizations must establish eligibility by submitting an application to OSSE in accordance with relevant program statutes and this RFA. Each awarded applicant will receive a GAN generated through OSSE's EGMS that will include the award amount, award agreement, terms and conditions of the award, and any supplemental information required. Once OSSE has fully approved the application and issued an official GAN, grantees may receive payment for allowable expenditures for which obligation was made during the grant period.

Grantees must follow OSSE's reimbursement process and [reimbursement request submission policy](#). In accordance with this policy, grantees must submit at least one reimbursement request per fiscal quarter in which the grantee expended funds. Program costs must be paid by the grantee to the payee before requesting reimbursement; it is not sufficient for costs merely to be incurred. Compliance with programmatic and fiscal implementation and reporting will be considered in paying reimbursement requests. To receive reimbursement for grant program expenditures, OSSE grantees must complete and submit a reimbursement request electronically using EGMS.

5.2 Audits

At any time before final payment and during the required record retention period, the District and/or federal governments may audit the applicant's expenditure statements and source documentation.

5.3 Program Monitoring and Reporting

All awards will be reviewed during the grant period for compliance with programmatic and fiscal requirements. OSSE will use a coordinated, risk-based monitoring approach. This monitoring will include OSSE analyzing and approving semi-annual narrative reports, budget amendments, continuation applications, and closeout reports. OSSE may conduct announced and unannounced site visits to grantees. For the announced monitoring visits, grantees will be required to present additional pertinent information that will allow OSSE to conduct a constructive, proficient, and successful site visit for program compliance. Please review the [annual grants monitoring guidance](#) for more information.

Monitoring efforts are designed to determine the grantee's level of compliance with federal and/or District requirements and identify specifically whether the grantee's operational, financial, and management systems and practices are adequate to account for program funds in accordance with federal and/or District requirements. Failure to maintain compliance with such requirements may result in payment suspension, disallowance of costs, or termination of the grant.

The grantee shall be required to cooperate with all requirements and information requests by OSSE relating to evaluation of the program and the collection of data, information, and reporting on outcomes regarding the program and activities carried out with grant funds. The grantee shall be required to reply and acknowledge OSSE's information requests within 48 hours and to provide requested information within 10 business days.

5.4 Confidentiality

Except as otherwise provided by local or federal law, no grantee shall use or reveal any research, statistical information, or personally identifiable information (PII) furnished by OSSE for any person or for any purpose other than that for which such information was obtained in accordance with the OSSE program funded. Any PII and any copy of such information shall be immune from legal process and shall not, without the written consent of the person identified in the information, be admitted as evidence or used for any purpose in any action; suit; or judicial, legislative, or administrative proceeding. The grantee will protect any PII received in administering the grant and follow all applicable laws regarding the protection and use of the PII. Before disclosing PII to any other party, the grantee must first receive approval from OSSE.

5.5 Nondiscrimination in the Delivery of Services

The grantee shall comply with the District of Columbia Human Rights Act of 1977, as amended (DC Official Code § 2-1401.01 *et seq.*), which prohibits discrimination based on race; color; religion; national origin; sex; age; marital status; personal appearance; sexual orientation; gender identity or expression; familial status; family responsibilities; matriculation; political affiliation; genetic information; source of income; disability; sealed eviction record status as a victim of an intra-family offense; place of residence or business; status as a victim or family member of a victim of domestic violence, a sexual offense, or stalking; and homeless status.

5.6 Conflict of Interest

All grantees shall ensure that no individual in a decision-making capacity will engage in any activity, including participation in the selection of a vendor, the administration of an award, or an activity supported by award funds, if a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest would be involved. A conflict of interest would arise when the individual, any member of the individual's immediate family, the individual's partner, or an organization that employs or is about to employ any of the aforementioned has a financial or personal interest in the firm or organization selected for a contract.

5.7 Terms and Conditions

- Funding for this award is contingent on available funds. The RFA does not commit OSSE to make an award.
- OSSE reserves the right to accept or deny any or all applications if OSSE determines it is in the best interest of OSSE to do so. OSSE shall notify the applicant if it rejects that applicant's proposal. OSSE may suspend or terminate an outstanding RFA pursuant to its own grantmaking rules or any applicable federal or local regulation or requirement.
- OSSE reserves the right to issue addenda and/or amendments subsequent to the issuance of the RFA, or to rescind the RFA.
- OSSE shall not be liable for any costs incurred in the preparation of applications in response to the RFA. Applicant agrees that all costs incurred in developing the application are the applicant's sole responsibility.
- OSSE may conduct pre-award on-site visits to verify information submitted in the application and to determine if the applicant's facilities are appropriate for the services intended.
- OSSE may enter negotiations with an applicant and adopt a firm funding amount or other revision of the applicant's proposal that may result from negotiations.
- OSSE shall provide the citations to the statute and implementing regulations that authorize the grant or subgrant; all applicable federal and District regulations; payment

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provisions identifying how the grantee will be paid for performing under the award; reporting requirements, including programmatic, financial and any special reports required by OSSE; and compliance conditions that must be met by the grantee.

- If there are any conflicts between the terms and conditions of the RFA and any applicable federal or local law or regulation, or any ambiguity related thereto, then the provisions of the applicable law or regulation shall control, and it shall be the responsibility of the applicant to ensure compliance.

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Appendix A: Official Intent to Apply Notification

Due Friday, May 1, 2026

PDF fillable form available [here](#)

TO: Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE)
OPCSFS.Funding@dc.gov

FROM: _____
(Local education agency [LEA] or organization name)

RE: Intent to Apply for Fiscal Year 2026 Scholarships for Opportunity and Results
(SOAR) Act Facilities Grant

LEA or organization name: _____

LEA or organization address: _____

Contact person name: _____

Contact person telephone: _____

Contact person email: _____

I understand that the deadline for these grant applications is 3 p.m. on Friday, May 15, 2026, and that late or incomplete applications will not be reviewed or considered for an award.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
(LEA official)

Appendix B: Scoring Rubric

The table below clarifies the phrases “compelling,” “complete,” and “clear,” which appear throughout the remainder of the rubric. Applicants and reviewers should reference this table when reaching sections in the rubric where one of these three words is underlined. Please see the rest of the rubric below.

Criterion/Level	Score Not Assignable	Weak	Good	Strong
Compelling	Inappropriate or off-topic answer; no evidence-based ideas; approach does not seem at all feasible	Approach is somewhat evidence-based; significant portions of approach do not seem feasible	Approach is evidence-based, though some parts of the proposal may not seem feasible	Highly evidence-based project or approach; shows an extremely detailed and relevant path to success
Complete	No response or information, or information doesn't answer prompt question	Attempts to answer prompt; includes some details	Fully answers prompt; provides relevant details	Answers prompt in depth; extremely detailed
Clear	Very difficult to comprehend; very little or none of the response is clear	Mostly difficult to comprehend; contains moments of clarity	Answers prompt with clarity and specificity throughout	Highly focused and provides exceptional clarity on the proposed project

Project Data (Maximum 4 points)

Criterion	No	Yes
The applicant provided a thoughtful description of the current and anticipated enrollment at the facility, including how quantity and/or quality of seats will be impacted by the project.	0	4

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Needs Assessment (Maximum 18 points)

Criterion	Score Not Assignable	Weak	Good	Strong
The applicant demonstrated a <u>clear</u> , specific, and <u>compelling</u> need for the proposed project.	0	4	8	12
The applicant used recent quantitative and/or qualitative data to substantiate the need.	0	2	4	6

Project Description (Maximum 42 points)

Criterion	Score Not Assignable	Weak	Good	Strong
The applicant described the proposed project and activities in detail.	0	4	8	12
The applicant provided a <u>compelling</u> and <u>clear</u> description of the site and/or facility, including the current condition and proposed renovations, if applicable.	0	2	4	6
The applicant provided a <u>clear</u> rationale for why the proposed site and/or facility is suitable for the targeted student body and anticipated enrollment growth, if applicable.	0	2	4	6
The applicant <u>clearly</u> described all financing sources for the project. Sources of financing seem sufficient to complete the proposed project as described.	0	2	4	6

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The applicant named all key partners on the project.	0	2	4	6
The applicant included a realistic project timeline and explained how the applicant and each partner will have the capacity and ability to complete the project.	0	2	4	6

Theory of Action (Maximum 6 points)

Criterion	Score Not Assignable	Weak	Good	Strong
The theory of action statement uses sound logic to demonstrate how and why the project will be successful in improving academic outcomes for students and is based on credible research and/or evidence.	0	2	4	6

Equitable Access and Participation (Maximum 6 points)

Criterion	Score Not Assignable	Weak	Good	Strong
The applicant <u>clearly</u> described how it will ensure equitable access to and participation in grant-funded activities.	0	2	4	6

Logic Model (Maximum 12 points)

Criterion	Score Not Assignable	Weak	Good	Strong
All elements of the logic model (SMART goal, inputs, outputs, outcomes, assumptions, and external	0	2	4	6

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factors) are <u>complete</u> and well-defined.				
The logic model <u>clearly</u> demonstrates how the proposed project will produce the intended academic outcomes for students.	0	2	4	6

Budget (Maximum 12 points)

Criterion	Score Not Assignable	Weak	Good	Strong
The budget describes specific costs that <u>clearly</u> align with the proposed project.	0	2	4	6
Budgeted costs are reasonable and necessary for the proposed project.	0	2	4	6

Appendix C: Assurances

Program-Specific Assurances

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant, if awarded the grant:

- Will comply with activities necessary to carry out a mandated evaluation of the Opportunity Scholarship Program (OSP) as specified in Section 3011(a)(1) of the SOAR Act;
- Will comply with the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts (40 U.S.C. 3141 et seq.), as applicable;
- Will submit semi-annual narrative reports describing the implementation of the proposal as well as its impact on educational outcomes;
- Will expend all funds by the end of the grant period;
- Will seek and receive approval from OSSE before implementing any project changes with respect to the purposes for which the proposed funds are awarded;
- Will submit at least one reimbursement request per quarter in which the grant recipient makes an expenditure;
- Acknowledges and agrees that the completion of this application, or the approval to fund an application, will not be deemed to be a binding obligation of OSSE until such time as the GAN is delivered to the recipient;
- Recognizes that OSSE approval of an application does not relieve the public charter school of its responsibility to comply with all applicable requirements;
- Will administer each program covered by the application in accordance with all applicable statutes, regulations, program plans, and applications;
- Will use fiscal control and fund accounting procedures that will ensure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, federal funds paid to the grant recipient under each program;
- Will make reports to OSSE and USED as may reasonably be necessary to enable them to perform their duties, and that the grant recipient will maintain such records, including the records required under section 1232f of the General Education Provisions Act, and provide access to those records as OSSE or USED deem necessary to perform their duties;
- Will provide reasonable opportunities for participation by teachers, parents and other interested agencies, organizations, and individuals in the planning for and operation of each program;

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- Agrees that any application, evaluation, periodic program plan, or report relating to each program will be made readily available to parents and other members of the general public; and
- Agrees that none of the funds expended will be used to acquire equipment (including computer software) in any instance in which such acquisition results in a direct financial benefit to any organization representing the interests of the purchasing entity or its employees or any affiliate of such an organization.

Facilities Construction Assurances

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant, if awarded the grant (as applicable):

- In planning the construction project—
 - Will ensure that the design is functional, economical, and not elaborate in design or extravagant in the use of materials compared with facilities of a similar type constructed in the District;
 - May consider excellence of architecture and design and inclusion of works of art and will not spend more than 1 percent of the cost of the project on works of art; and
 - Will make reasonable provision, consistent with the other uses to be made of the construction, for areas that are adaptable for artistic and other cultural activities.
- In developing the proposed budget for the construction—
 - Will ensure sufficient funds are available to meet any non-federal share of the cost of the construction project;
 - Will include sufficient funds for commissioning of energy, HVAC, and water systems and to train personnel in the proper operation of such building systems;
 - For new construction and major rehabilitation projects, may consider life-cycle cost analysis for major design decisions to the extent possible;
 - May budget for reasonable and predictable contingency costs consistent with 2 CFR § 200.433; and
 - May budget for school and community education about the construction project including its energy, environmental, and health features and benefits (34 CFR § 75.602).
- Will begin the work on the construction project within a reasonable time after the grant application is approved and will follow all applicable procurement standards in 2 CFR part 200, subpart D, when advertising or placing the project on the market for bidding (34 CFR § 75.603).

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- During the construction—
 - Will maintain competent architectural engineering supervision and inspection at the construction site to ensure that the work conforms to the approved final working specifications;
 - Will complete the construction in accordance with the approved final working specifications unless a revision is approved;
 - If a revision to the timeline, budget, or approved final working specifications is required, the grantee will request prior written approval consistent with 2 CFR § 200.308(h);
 - Will comply with federal laws regarding prevailing wages on construction and minor remodeling projects assisted with USED funding, including, as applicable, subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the “Davis-Bacon Act”; as applied through section 439 of GEPA; 20 U.S.C. § 1232b); and
 - Will submit periodic performance reports regarding the construction project containing information specified by the US Secretary of Education consistent with 2 CFR § 200.329(d).
- After the construction—
 - Will ensure that sufficient funds will be available for effective operation and maintenance of the facilities after the construction is complete;
 - Will operate and maintain the facilities in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local requirements; and
 - Will maintain all financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and other non-federal entity records pertinent to the construction project consistent with 2 CFR § 200.334 (34 CFR § 75.605).
- In using grant funds for real property acquisition—
 - Will comply with the Real Property Standards of the Uniform Guidance (2 CFR §§ 200.310 through 200.316);
 - Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title, or other interest in the site and facilities without written permission and instructions from the US Secretary of Education;
 - In accordance with USED directives, will record the federal interest in the title of the real property in the official real property records for the jurisdiction in which the facility is located and include a covenant in the title of the real property to ensure nondiscrimination; and
 - Will report at least annually on the status of real property in which the federal government retains an interest consistent with 2 CFR § 200.330.

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- Has full title or other interest in the site (such as a long-term lease), including right of access, that is sufficient to ensure the grantee's undisturbed use and possession of the facilities for at least 25 years after completion of the project or for the useful life of the construction, whichever is longer (34 CFR § 75.610).
- When the project is considered a "Major Federal Action," as defined in 40 CFR § 1508.1(q), will include an assessment of the impact of the proposed construction on the quality of the environment in accordance with section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. § 4332(2)(C) and Executive Order 11514 (35 FR 4247) (34 CFR § 75.611).
- In planning the construction or real property project, will evaluate flood hazards in connection with the construction, consistent with Executive Order (E.O.) 11988 of May 24, 1977, E.O. 13690 of Jan. 30, 2015, and E.O. 14030 of May 20, 2021; as far as practicable, will avoid uneconomic, hazardous, or unnecessary use of flood plains in connection with the construction; will mitigate flood hazards through design such as elevating systems and first floor elevations above flood level plus freeboard; and will summarize remaining flood risks in a memorandum (34 CFR § 75.612).
- Will not use, within the Coastal Barrier Resources System, funds made available under a program administered by the US Secretary of Education for any purposes prohibited by the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3501-3510). (34 CFR § 75.613).
- Will describe the relationship of the proposed construction to, and probable effect on, any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in the National Register of Historic Places or eligible under criteria established by the US Secretary of the Interior for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (34 CFR § 75.614).
- Will comply with the requirements of the Build America, Buy America Act, Pub. L. 117-58, § 70901 through 70927, and implement regulations as applicable (34 CFR § 75.615).
- To the extent practicable, will design and construct facilities to maximize the efficient use of energy and will comply with ASHRAE 90.1-2022 in their construction project. A grantee that is constructing a new school building or conducting a major rehabilitation of a school building may evaluate life-cycle costs and benefits of highly efficient, all-electric systems or a net zero energy project in the early design phase (34 CFR § 75.616).
- Will comply with the following federal regulations on access by individuals with disabilities that apply to the construction of facilities: 24 CFR part 40 for residential facilities and 41 CFR §§ 102-76 to 102-76.95 for non-residential facilities (34 CFR § 75.617).
- In planning for and designing a construction project, will comply with the standard under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (See 29 CFR part 1910) and state and local codes, to the extent that they are more stringent. A grantee may use

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additional standards and best practices to support health and wellbeing of students and staff (34 CFR § 75.618).