

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

FISCAL YEAR 2018

DC EARLY LITERACY INTERVENTION GRANTS

Request for Application (RFA) Release Date: Friday, September 22, 2017 (12:00 noon EST)

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is soliciting grant applications for the District of Columbia Early Literacy Intervention Grant, as defined in the “Early Literacy Grant Program Amendment Act of 2015,” effective October 22, 2015 (D.C. Law 21-36; D.C. Code 38-2602(b)(24)), as amended. The purpose of this grant is to implement research-based early literacy interventions to increase proficiency of District students in the early grades. The overall goal of the Early Literacy Intervention Grant is to provide resources that will enable the grantee to partner with local education agencies (“LEAs”) in which they would provide direct, developmentally appropriate, research-based reading programs.

Eligibility: OSSE will make these grants available through a competitive process. An eligible entity must be a nonprofit community based organization that provides early literacy services. Applicants must be able to provide a full continuum of early literacy intervention services, through professionally coached interventionists, for all grades pre-K through 3rd grade consisting of developmentally appropriate components for each grade. Eligible applicants must also use a comprehensive evidence-based intervention model and must provide a rationale for the intervention based on data that demonstrates need. This funding is intended to build capacity and may not be used to supplant existing services. In addition, eligible applicants will be expected to demonstrate prior effectiveness through a rigorous program evaluation and will be expected to include an evaluation plan as a component of its application. Finally, eligible applicants must be able to provide direct services each day that school is in session and collect data on student progress monthly.

Local Educational Agencies (LEA) are not eligible for this funding, however eligible applicants must secure partnerships with the LEAs with which they intend to work and will be required to verify these partnerships.

Length of Award: The grant award period is two years, subject to continued availability of funding and compliance with the grant requirements.

Available Funding for Award: The total funding available for this award period is \$1,600,000 per grant year, subject to continued availability of funding. Each applicant may apply for up to \$1,600,000, per year.

An external review panel or panels will be convened to review, score, and rank each application. The review panel(s) will be composed of neutral, qualified, professional individuals selected for their expertise, knowledge or related experiences. The application will be scored against a rubric

and each application 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's Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education will make all final award decisions.

For additional information regarding this grant competition, please contact:

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The RFA and applications will be available in OSSE's Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS) at www.grants.osse.dc.gov.