REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

RFA # GD0—SAF—18

District of Columbia

Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE)

FFY 2018 Scholarships for Opportunity and Results (SOAR) Act
Facilities Grant

Request For Application (RFA) Release Date
July 26, 2019

Pre-Application Conferences (Mandatory)
August 5 and August 6, 2019

Notice of Intent to Apply Deadline (Mandatory)
August 9, 2019

Application Submission Deadline
September 6, 2019
# Table of Contents

Application Checklist 3

1. General Information 4
   1.1 Introduction 4
   1.2 Purpose of Funds 5
   1.3 Source of Funding 5
   1.4 Requirements of Funding 5
   1.5 Funds Available and Funding Period 5
   1.6 Eligibility 6
   1.7 Permissible Use of Funds 7

2. Schedule 7
   2.1 RFA Release 7
   2.2 Pre-Application Conference (Mandatory) 7
   2.3 Notice of Intent to Apply (Mandatory) 8
   2.4 Contact Person(s) 8
   2.5 Application Submission 8
   2.6 Updates 8
   2.7 Awards Announcement 8

3. Application 8
   3.1 Application Content 8

4. Scoring 9
   4.1 Review Panel 9

5. Award Administration 10
   5.1 Decision and Notification of Awards 10
   5.2 Monitoring 10
   5.3 Corrective Action and Termination of Funding 10
   5.4 Confidentiality 11
   5.5 Nondiscrimination in the Delivery of Services 11
   5.6 Appearance of a Conflict of Interest 11
   5.7 Terms and Conditions 12

Appendix A Notice of Intent to Apply Form 13
Appendix B Scoring Rubric 14
Appendix C Assurances 18
APPLICATION CHECKLIST
FFY 2018 SOAR Act Facilities Grants

☐ The applicant submitted a Notice of Intent to Apply on or before Friday, August 9, 2019. The Notice of Intent to Apply form can be found in Appendix A and on the OSSE website.

☐ The applicant attended one of the two mandatory pre-application webinars. Please see Request for Application (RFA) Section 2 for webinar dates, times, and registration.

☐ The applicant completed all steps required by the RFA and submitted a complete application, through OSSE’s Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS) that contains all the required information and attachments. Please see RFA Section 3 for an overview of the application components.

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.

☐ The application adheres to the directions and criteria of each section of this RFA.

☐ The application was submitted by 3 p.m. on Friday, September 6, 2019, through EGMS.

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**PLEASE NOTE**

Applications are due by 3 p.m. on Friday, September 6, 2019.

The application deadline will be strictly enforced. Applications submitted after 3 p.m. EST on Friday, September 6, 2019, will not be reviewed.

All applications must be submitted through the Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS). For more information about EGMS, please visit [http://osse.dc.gov/service/enterprise-grants-management-system-egms](http://osse.dc.gov/service/enterprise-grants-management-system-egms)

This application will be open for 30 business days. Please avoid last minute technical submission issues by submitting early. 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.
REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA) # GDO-SAF-18

Section 1: General Information

1.1 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 (DC) public charter schools or District of Columbia-based nonprofit organizations “to improve and expand quality public charter schools in the District of Columbia.” § 3004(b)(2). SOAR Act funds for District of Columbia (DC) charter schools are provided to the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (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 DC students to attend private schools.

In April 2012, DC and USED signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) regarding the administration of the SOAR Act funds. The MOU requires OSSE to submit to USED an annual proposal for the use of funds, including funding priorities. In July of 2018, USED approved OSSE to submit an application for FFY18-20. OSSE’s Office of Public Charter School Financing and Support (OPCSFS) conducted stakeholder engagement prior to submitting the application. OPCSFS sought stakeholder feedback during the summer of 2018 prior to submitting the FFY 2018 application for three years of funding. USED approved the application and issued a Grant Award Notice (GAN) to OSSE on May 1, 2019.

Charter Sector SOAR Funding

Through the approved application and grant award, OSSE provides SOAR funding to charter schools through five grant programs and support of the My School DC common online lottery:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Applicant Type</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Grant Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Academic Quality Grants</td>
<td>Charter LEAs</td>
<td>$5,957,397.49</td>
<td>Formula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Grants to Support Early Childhood Education</td>
<td>Charter LEAs</td>
<td>$582,602.51</td>
<td>Formula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Facilities Grants</td>
<td>Charter LEAs</td>
<td>$4,000,000.00</td>
<td>Competitive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Grants to Non-Profit Third-Party Charter Support Organizations</td>
<td>Non-Profit Organizations</td>
<td>$2,000,000.00</td>
<td>Competitive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Grants to Teacher Pipeline Projects</td>
<td>Non-Profit Organizations</td>
<td>$1,500,000.00</td>
<td>Competitive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.2 Purpose of Funds

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

- **Facilities Grants**
  - 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, or 2) increase the quality of existing seats at a high-quality charter school.

1.3 Source of Funding


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 Notice (GAN) issued by OSSE to the subgrantee, a key condition for receiving these funds is compliance 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. Pursuant to this section, the U.S. Department of Education’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 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 $4,000,000.00 is available for awards through this RFA. OSSE will provide up to
$750,000 per award. Awards are limited to one per charter local educational agency (LEA). The duration of the Facility Grant is for a period of two years from the grant award date.

Please note: LEAs must provide site control evidence within 180 days of award. If site control evidence is not provided, the grant award will be terminated in full and the LEA must return any expended funds. Site control evidence may include executed lease agreements, purchase agreements, building permits, and mortgage deeds of trust.

1.6 Eligibility
An eligible applicant meets all of the following criteria:

- Must be a DC public charter school;
- May not have any Tier 3 campus(es) or grade span(s) on any DC Public Charter School Board (PCSB) 2017-18 Performance Management Framework (PMF);
- Must meet a threshold of quality based on the DC Public Charter School Board (PCSB) 2017-18 Performance Management Framework (PMF):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Framework</th>
<th>Eligible 2018 School Tiers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Childhood, Elementary School, and Middle School Performance Management Framework (EC/ES/MS PMF)</td>
<td>Tier 1 or Tier 2 (score of 50 or higher)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Performance Management Framework (HS PMF)</td>
<td>Tier 1 or Tier 2 (score of 50 or higher)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Education Performance Management Framework (AE PMF)</td>
<td>Tier 1 or Tier 2 (all weighted scores at 50% or higher and all mission specific goals at 50%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative Accountability Framework (AAF)</td>
<td>Met 100 percent of academic goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Met 67.7 percent of all other goals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- For LEAs with multiple PMF scores, the school(s) or campus(es) for which the facility grant funds will be used must meet the eligibility requirement.

- Must provide site control evidence of the facility within 180 days of award. If site control evidence is not provided, the grant award will be terminated in full and the LEA must return any expended funds. Site control evidence may include executed...
lease agreements, purchase agreements, building permits, and mortgage deeds of trust.

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:
  - Align with and support the project described in the charter LEA’s application; and
  - Support renovations and reconstruction, both soft and hard costs, which may include exterior reconstruction, interior reconstruction, upgrades to systems, and the creation of new or improved academic and/or physical fitness space.

Please note: Funds may only be used for the site described in the original application. If the charter LEA does not have control of the identified site, the grant award will be terminated in full and the LEA must return any expended funds.

All grant project budgets will be reviewed by a review panel, as well as OPCSFS staff, to ensure that planned expenditures are allowable and are appropriate, reasonable, and necessary to support the grant objectives. Additional guidance about standards for determining costs for federal grants is available from The Federal Register at: https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2013/12/26/2013-30465/uniform-administrative-requirements-cost-principles-and-audit-requirements-for-federal-awards.

Section 2: Schedule

2.1 RFA Release
The release date of the RFA is July 26, 2019. The RFA is available online at www.osse.dc.gov.

2.2 Pre-Application Conference
The mandatory pre-application webinars will be held on the following dates and times:

- Facilities Grants – Tuesday, August 6, 2019, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.
  - To register for this webinar, visit: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6158903787652632588

- Facilities Grants – Wednesday, August 7, 2019, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Each interested charter local educational agency (LEA) 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 though registration and online attendance. The LEA representative should be someone who is employed directly by the charter LEA. Each attendee may only represent one charter LEA.

2.3 Intent to Apply
All eligible charter LEAs seeking to receive funding under this RFA must submit a Notice of Intent to Apply (Appendix A), signed by an authorized official of the LEA, via email to opcsfs.funding@dc.gov on or before August 9, 2019. Failure to submit a Notice of Intent to Apply will result in disqualification and the LEA’s application will not be reviewed.

2.4 Contact Person(s)
Applicants are advised that the following OSSE staff members are the authorized contact persons for this grant competition:
- Adam E. Morris, program analyst, AdamE.Morris@dc.gov

2.5 Applications Due
Applications are due September 6, 2019, by 3 p.m. and must be submitted through EGMS. Applicants are encouraged to submit applications early to avoid any technical difficulties. OPCSFS strongly encourages submitting applications at least one day early to ensure that avoidable technical issues do not cause you to miss the submission deadline.

2.6 Updates
Information and updates regarding the grant competitions will be emailed to all potential applicants that submit a Notice of Intent to Apply and attend the mandatory pre-application conference webinar specific to this grant.

2.7 Awards Announcement
Awards will be announced via EGMS, email, and the OSSE website. OSSE will disseminate grant award notifications following the awards announcement.

Section 3: Application
3.1 Application Content
The application in EGMS, contains all of the following sections or "tabs." Unless noted, each section must be completed as instructed in the system:

- **Section 1 – Overview Pages** *(informational; nothing to complete)*
  - General Information *(informational; nothing to complete)*
  - Review Panel *(informational; nothing to complete)*
  - Scoring Rubric *(informational; nothing to complete)*

- **Section 2 – Contact Information**

- **Section 3 – Project Description**
  - Project Description

- **Section 4 – Project Data**
  - Data Sources
  - Project Need
  - Project Description
  - Theory of Action
  - OSSE Priority Question
  - Logic Model

- **Section 7 – Detailed Planning Expenditures**
  - Budget Overview
  - Summary of Planned Expenditures
  - Salaries and Benefits
  - Professional Services
  - Equipment
  - Supplies and Materials
  - Other Objects
  - Sources and Uses
  - Budget Summary

- **Section 8 – Supporting Documentation**

- **Section 9 – Assurances**

- **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: Scoring**

**4.1 Review Panel**
The grants described in this RFA will be awarded competitively. A panel of external reviewers will be convened to review, score, and rank each application. The review panel 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. The complete rubric can be found in EGMS for review and as Appendix B of this RFA. Upon completion of the panel’s review, the panel(s) shall make recommendations for awards based on the scoring rubric(s). OSSE will make all final award decisions.

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 the relevant program statute(s) and this RFA. Each awarded applicant will receive a Grant Award Notification (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 then receive payment for allowable expenditures for which obligation was made during the grant period. OSSE has implemented a reimbursement process for all grantees. Grant award payments are reimbursable on a monthly (and no later than quarterly) basis. Program costs must be paid by the grantee to the payee prior to 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, or times, before final payment and during the required record retention period, the District and/or the federal government may audit the applicant’s expenditure statements and source documentation.

5.3 Monitoring and Reporting

The recipient will cooperate with any evaluation of the program, such as providing OSSE requested data and access to records and pertinent staff. OSSE’s Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Specialized Education uses a coordinated, risk-based monitoring approach. The type of monitoring that the recipient will receive (desktop or on-site) will vary depending on its
Facilities Grants

designation as a high, medium, or low risk recipient. Please review the risk-based monitoring
guidance for more information: https://osse.dc.gov/publication/risk-based-monitoring-guidance. Monitoring efforts are
designed to determine the recipient’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 recipient 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
recipient shall be required to reply and acknowledge OSSE’s information requests within 48
hours and to provide requested information within ten (10) business days.

5.4 Confidentiality
Except as otherwise provided by local or federal law, no recipient of the grant shall use or
reveal any research, statistical information, or personally identifiable information 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 identifiable personal information,
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.

5.5 Nondiscrimination in the Delivery of Services
The recipient shall comply with the District of Columbia Human Rights Act of 1977, as
amended, (D.C. 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, status as a victim of an interfamily
offense, place of residence or business, or credit information.

5.6 Appearance of a Conflict of Interest
All grant recipients 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 the appearance of a conflict of interest would be
involved. An appearance of 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 grant making rule(s) 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 into 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 sub grant; all applicable federal and District regulations; payment 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.
Appendix A

Official Intent to Apply Notification
(Must be received by OSSE no later than August 9, 2019)
(PDF Submission Preferred)

TO: OSSE Office of Public Charter School Financing and Support
opcsfs.funding@dc.gov

FROM: ____________________________________________________________
(LEA or Organization Name)

RE: Intent to Apply for FFY2018 Scholarships for Opportunities and Results (SOAR) Act Grant(s)

LEA or Organization Name: ____________________________________________
LEA or Organization Address: ____________________________________________

____________________________________________
Contact Person: ____________________________________________
Contact Person Telephone: ____________________________________________
Contact Person Email: ____________________________________________

This Intent to Apply is for the following SOAR Act Grants:
Please place an “x” next to all of the grants for which the LEA or organization intends to apply:

_____ Facilities Grant
_____ Third Party/Charter Support Organization Grant

I understand that the deadline for these grant applications is 3 p.m. on Friday, August 30, 2019, and that late applications will not be reviewed.

Signature: __________________________ Date: _____________
(LEA or Organization Official)
Appendix B

Scoring Rubric

Instructions:

Choose the radio button that corresponds with your answer to the rubric question. Justify your answer in the comments section.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Not Assignable</th>
<th>Limited/ Weak</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Strong/ Exceptional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No response or information/ information doesn’t answer prompt question</td>
<td>Attempts to answer prompt</td>
<td>Mostly answers prompt</td>
<td>Fully answers prompt</td>
<td>Answers prompt in depth; reviewer has no questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information, if provided, is unclear or hard to understand</td>
<td>Missing a lot of requested information/ unclear</td>
<td>Missing some of requested information/ mostly clear</td>
<td>All requested information provided/ clear</td>
<td>All requested information provided/ clear, highly focused, coherently integrated answers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inappropriate answer</td>
<td>Appropriate answer with limited details</td>
<td>Appropriate answer with details; answer is not well expressed</td>
<td>Appropriate answer with details; answer is well expressed</td>
<td>Appropriate, well-articulated answer that is extremely detailed and shows a clear and relevant path to success</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly disagree</td>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>Slightly agree</td>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>Strongly agree</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The applicant has received a prior SOAR facilities grant. (Yes/No radio button worth 0 points)

Project Data (8):

The applicant has clearly shown that the project will increase the number of high-quality seats offered or the quality of current seats. (max 4)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Score Not Assignable</th>
<th>Limited/Weak</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Strong/Exceptional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Needs Assessment (12):</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The applicant gave a clear description of the data used to assess need, including each quantitative and qualitative data source marked in the data sources checklist. (max 6)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is a clear link between the data used and the need described. (max 6)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Description (24):</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is a clear link between need(s) and the project. (max 4)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All four sections are answered comprehensively. (max 4)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The project is clearly described. (max 16)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theory of Action (8):</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The if-then-because statement clearly shows how and why the project will be successful. (max 4)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The success of the project is based on credible research and/or a history of demonstrated success. (max 4)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSSE Priority Question (4):</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The description of how the LEA will ensure that facility renovations are accessible to all students, including students with disabilities, is realistic. (max 4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Logic Model (8):</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At least one logic model is provided (Yes/No). (max 2)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| All elements of the logic models (Inputs, Activities, Outcomes, Outputs, and Measurements/Tools) are well-defined. (max 2) | 0  | 0.5 | 1  | 1.5 | 2  |
| The outcomes and outputs are feasible within a two year timeline. (max 2) | 0  | 0.5 | 1  | 1.5 | 2  |
| The logic models demonstrate a clear overview of the described project. (max 2) | 0  | 0.5 | 1  | 1.5 | 2  |
| Overall (16): | Score Not Assignable | Limited/Weak | Fair | Good | Strong/Exceptional |
| 1. The overall project is well thought out. (max 4) | 0  | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   |
| 2. The project is likely to be successful. (max 8) | 0  | 2   | 4   | 6   | 8   |
| 3. The project is designed to ensure sustainability. (max 4) | 0  | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   |
| Budget (20): | Score Not Assignable | Limited/Weak | Fair | Good | Strong/Exceptional |
| 1. Costs seem allowable (necessary to the project, allocable, and reasonable). (max 8) | 0  | 2   | 4   | 6   | 8   |
| 2. Budget line items and summary of costs align with the described project. (max 8) | 0  | 2   | 4   | 6   | 8   |
3. Proposed budget can reasonably be expended within two years. (max 4)
Appendix C

Program Specific Assurances
Applicants will be required to attest to the following program specific assurances:

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant I certify that the applicant:

1. 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.
2. Will comply with the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts (40 U.S.C. 3141 et seq.), as applicable.
3. Will seek and receive approval from OSSE before implementing any project changes with respect to the purposes for which the proposed funds are awarded. This includes any changes to key personnel specified in the application. Retroactive amendments are not allowable.
4. Will submit reports describing the implementation of the proposal as well as its impact on improving school performance and educational outcomes and/or increasing the number of high quality public charter school seats as outlined in the performance agreement.
5. We will ensure that the facilities under our school or organization’s ownership, lease or supervision, which shall be utilized in the accomplishment of the project are compliant with all District statutes, codes, and regulations.

Central Data Assurances
Applicants will be required to attest to the following specific assurances:

1. If the grant is federally funded, recipient assures that it shall file a disclosure form at the end of each calendar quarter in which there occurs any event that requires disclosure or that materially affects the accuracy of any previously filed disclosure under 28 CFR Part 69, “New Restrictions on Lobby.” See 28 CFR § 69.110(c).

2. If the grant is federally funded, recipient assures that it shall give immediate written notice to OSSE if it failed to disclose information required by federal regulations implementing 2 CFR Part 180, “Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement),” or if due to changed circumstances, the applicant or any of its principals now meet any of the following criteria:

   A. Are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, excluded, disqualified, declared ineligible, sentenced to a denial of Federal benefits by a State or Federal Court, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency.
B. Have within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes; or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, or receiving stolen property, making false claims, or obstruction of justice; or commission of any other offense indicating a lack of business integrity or business honesty that seriously and directly affects your present responsibility.

C. Are presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity (Federal, State, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in subparagraph (B) of this certification.

D. Have within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more public transactions (Federal, State, or local) terminated for cause or default. See 2 CFR §180.350.

3. We will immediately notify OSSE, in writing, if either of the following occurs during the grant period:

   A. We or any of our officers, partners, principals, members, or key employees is indicted or has charges brought against them and/or is convicted of (i) any crime or offense arising directly or indirectly from the conduct of the applicant’s organization; or (ii) any crime or offense involving financial misconduct or fraud;

   B. We or any of our officers, partners, principals, members, or key employees becomes the subject of legal proceedings arising directly from the provision of services by the organization.

4. We shall comply with all terms and provisions of the OSSE Subrecipient Monitoring Policy, as may be amended.

5. We shall provide, upon request and pursuant to any timelines and/or formatting requirements established by OSSE in the LEA Data Management Policy, as applicable, or other OSSE data collection directive or policy, any records or data for the purposes of compliance with the federal or state data collection and reporting requirements, including EDFacts, compliance with federal or state grant administration requirements, inclusion, and/or preparation of the Annual School Report Card.

6. We are able to maintain adequate files and records and can and will meet all grant reporting requirements;

7. Our fiscal records are kept in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and account for all funds, tangible assets, revenue, and expenditures whatsoever; that all fiscal records are accurate, complete and current at all times; and that these records will be made available for audit and inspection as required.
8. We have demonstrated administrative and financial capability to provide and manage the proposed services and ensure an adequate administrative performance and audit trail;

9. If required by the grant making agency, we are able to secure a bond, in an amount not less than the total amount of the funds awarded, against losses of money and other property caused by fraudulent or dishonest acts committed by any employee, board member, officer, partner, shareholder, or trainee;

10. We have the financial resources and technical expertise necessary for the production, construction, equipment and facilities adequate to perform the grant or sub grant, or the ability to obtain them;

11. We have a satisfactory record performing similar activities as detailed in the award or, if the grant award is intended to encourage the development and support of organizations without significant previous experience, that we have otherwise established that we have the skills and resources necessary to perform the grant;

12. We have a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics;

13. We have the necessary organization, experience, accounting and operational controls, and technical skills to implement the grant, or the ability to obtain them;

14. We are in compliance with the applicable District licensing and tax laws and regulations;

15. We meet all other qualifications and eligibility criteria necessary to receive an award under applicable laws and regulations;

16. We agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Government of the District of Columbia and its authorized officers, employees, agents, and volunteers from any and all claims, actions, losses, damages, and/or liability arising out of this grant, or sub grant from any cause whatsoever, including the acts, errors, or omissions, of any person and for any costs or expenses incurred by the District on account of any claim therefore, except where such indemnification is prohibited by law;

17. We will retain all records, supporting documents, statistical records, and all other records pertinent to a Federal or local award for a period of five years from the date of submission of the final expenditure report or other required report, as appropriate. DC City-Wide Grants Manual and Sourcebook §8.8 Agency Post-Award Responsibilities; 34 CFR §81.31(c).

18. If the grant is locally funded, the recipient assures that it will (1) maintain effective control over, and accountability for, all personal property purchased with local grant funds by adequately safeguarding all assets, particularly equipment and any computing devices, and assuring that they are used solely for authorized purposes and (2) seek disposition instructions from OSSE when equipment (property with a purchase price of greater than $5,000) acquired under an award is no longer needed. OSSE further reserves the right to require the grantee to return the grant-funded share of any equipment or residual inventory of unused supplies (all tangible
property other than equipment) exceeding $5,000 in total aggregate value at the end of the grant period.

19. Recipient assures it will abide by the prohibitions and protections required by the District of Columbia December 18, 2017 Mayor’s Order 2017-313, Sexual Harassment Policy, Guidance and Procedures, as applicable to grantees.

20. Recipient assures it can comply with the required or proposed delivery or performance schedule, taking into consideration all existing and reasonably expected commercial and governmental business commitments;


22. The recipient may copyright any work that is subject to copyright and was developed, or for which ownership was acquired, under the award. If the grant is locally funded, the recipient grants OSSE a worldwide, non-exclusive, royalty-free, perpetual, and irrevocable license for any copyrightable work to (i) access, reproduce, publicly perform, publicly display, and distribute the copyrightable work; (ii) prepare derivative works and reproduce, publicly perform, publicly display and distribute those derivative works; and (iii) otherwise use the copyrightable work, provided that in all such instances attribution is given to the copyright holder.

Acknowledgement Assurances

The recipient shall comply with all applicable District and Federal statutes and regulations as may be amended from time to time, including, but not necessarily limited to:

6. The Hobbs Act (Anti-Corruption), Chap 537, 60 St. 420 (18 U.S.C. § 1951)
13. Assurance of Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity (29 CFR § 34.20)
15. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
Facilities Grants

23. Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Act of 1970, as amended (P.L. No. 91-646)

Certifications

The applicant shall be required to provide the following certifications:

1. Lobbying

If the grant is federally funded and as required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code and implemented at 28 CFR Part 69, for persons entering into a grant or cooperative agreement over $100,000, as defined at 28 CFR Part 69, the applicant certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that

A. No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the aforesigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making of any federal grant, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal grant or cooperative agreement;

B. If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this federal grant or cooperative agreement, the aforesigned shall complete and upload Standard Form LLL, “Disclosure of Lobbying Activities,” in accordance with its instructions. The form may be uploaded within the applicant’s application in EGMS.

C. The applicant shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subgrants, contracts under grants and
cooperative agreements, and subcontracts) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

2. Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters

If the grant is federally funded and as required by applicable federal regulations implementing Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidelines at 2 CFR Part 180, “Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement),” for prospective participants in a covered transaction:

A. The applicant certifies that it and its principals:

   i. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, excluded, disqualified, declared ineligible, sentenced to a denial of Federal benefits by a State or Federal Court, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency.

   ii. Have not within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes; commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, receiving stolen property, making false claims, or obstruction of justice; or commission of any other offense indicating a lack of business integrity or business honesty that seriously and directly affects your present responsibility;

   iii. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity (Federal, State, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in subparagraph (i) of this certification; and

   iv. Have not within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more public transactions (Federal, State, or local) terminated for cause or default.

B. Where the applicant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, he or she shall attached an explanation to this application.

3. Criminal Offenses or Legal Proceedings

The applicant must disclose in a written statement whether the applicant or any of its officers, partners, principals, members, associates, or key employees, within the last three years prior to the date of the application has:

A. Been indicted or had charges brought against them (if still pending) and/or been convicted of any crime or offense involving financial misconduct or fraud; or

B. Been the subject of legal proceedings from the provision of services by the organization.
Facilities Grants

If the response for 3(A) or 3(B) is in the affirmative, the applicant shall fully describe any such indictments, charges, convictions, or legal proceedings (and the status and disposition thereof) and the surrounding circumstances in writing and provide documentation of the circumstances.

“The applicant is prohibited from including any individual’s personally identifiable information, including but not limited to any data protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, without also providing that individual’s written consent for the release of that information. Personally identifiable information is information that can be used to distinguish or trace an individual’s identity, either alone or when combined with other personal or identifying information that is linked or linkable to a specific individual.”

4. Political Campaigns and Contributions (for locally funded grants of $100,000 or more)

If the grant is $100,000 or more of local funds and in accordance with D.C. Official Code §1-328.15, I certify, under penalty of perjury, that the applicant is eligible to receive this grant award because the applicant and any of its officers, principals, partners, or members has not made a contribution (as that term is defined in D.C. Official Code §1-1161.01) or solicited such a contribution to be made for a District of Columbia general election within the time periods as described below:

A. The applicant is ineligible to receive this grant from the date a contribution or solicitation for a contribution was made and continuing for one year after the general election for which the contribution or solicitation for contribution was made, whether or not the contribution was made before the primary election, to any of the following:

i. An elected District of Columbia official who is or could be involved in influencing or approving the award of this grant;

ii. A candidate for elective District of Columbia office who is or could be involved in influencing or approving the award of this grant; or

iii. A political committee affiliated with a District candidate or elected District official described in (i) or (ii) above.

5. Compliance with Tax and Other Payments

The applicant certifies that it is current and shall remain current on payment of all federal and District taxes, as applicable, including Unemployment Insurance taxes and Workers’ Compensation premiums. This statement of certification shall be accompanied, as appropriate, by a certificate from the District of Columbia OTR stating that the entity has complied with the filing requirements of District of Columbia tax laws and has paid taxes due to the District of Columbia, or is in compliance with any payment agreement with OTR. If applicable, please upload the OTR statement of certification here.

6. Any registered domestic entity or registered foreign entity must submit a Certificate of Good Standing from the D.C. Department of Consumer Affairs (DCRA). The Certificate of Good Standing verifies that an entity meets the regulatory requirements of the DCRA’s Corporations Division. Please

Is the applicant a registered domestic entity or registered foreign entity with DCRA’s Corporations Division?

☐ Yes
☐ No

If yes, you must submit a Certificate of Good Standing below.

7. Acknowledgment of Accuracy

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information contained in this application is correct.  I understand that to falsify information is grounds for denial or termination of any grant award.