

PRE-APPLICATION CONFERENCE

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OPPORTUNITIES AND
RESULTS (SOAR) ACT COMPETITION
(RFA #GDO-SA-13)

ADDRESSING SPECIAL POPULATIONS

March 4, 2013

AGENDA



- Purpose of Grant & Theory of Action
- Grant Details
- Application Content
- Budget Spreadsheet
- Appendices and Assurances
- Evaluation of Applications
- Q&A

Purpose of Grant

The purpose of funding is to improve school performance and educational outcomes and to provide facility funding in order to increase the number of high-quality public charter school seats.

Purpose of Grant: Special Populations



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Addressing Special Populations:

Funds will support implementation of...

- special education classrooms by existing OSSE grantees (e.g. Co-Located Therapeutic Classroom: *Options PCS only*),
- and/or funding to serve special populations (e.g., English Language Learners, homeless, foster, etc.) with high achievement gaps.

Theory of Action

Describe how and why your project will work and provide the strategic thinking behind the change you seek to produce.

- Use an “If, then” statement
- Must include evidence of success

Grant Details

- **Eligibility**
- **Award Amounts**
- **Important Dates**
- **Source of Funding**
- **Allowable Expenses**

Eligibility: Special Populations



Co-Located Therapeutic Classroom

- Recipient of the FY2012 Department of Specialized Education Co-Located Therapeutic Classroom Model—*Options PCS only*

Special pops

- Pre-K
- College & Career Ready
- ELL
- Homeless
- Neglected & Delinquent
- Foster Care

Award Amounts



A total of \$8.9M is available for awards. The itemization is as follows:

Increasing Academic Quality- \$3,600,000

- o 3rd Party/Non-Profits- \$1,750,000 (up to \$100,000 per award)
- o Charter School Support Organizations- \$600,000 (up to \$100,000 per award)
- o Public Charter Schools- \$1,250,000 (up to \$100,000 per award)

Addressing Special Populations- \$300,000 (up to \$50,000 per award)

Investing in Public Facility Projects- \$4,000,000 (up to \$750,000 per award)

Influencing Replication and Growth- \$1,000,000 (up to \$100,000 per award)

The duration of this grant is for a period of two (2) years from the grant award date, except for Replication and Growth which is for one (1) year.

Important Dates



- **Intent to Apply:** **March 1, 2013 @ 5:00 pm**

- **Application Due Date:** **March 22, 2013 @ 5:00 pm**

- **Expected Awards:** **April 12, 2013***

- **End of Grant Program:** **April 2015****

***Award announcements for Replication and Growth will be made after the DC Public Charter School Board petition decisions on May 20, 2013**

**** End of grant program for Replication and Growth will be April 2014**

Source of Funding



The United States Department of Education, through DC School Choice Incentive Program, 84.370C, Public Law 108-199, III, DC School Incentive Act of 2003; Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act, effective April 15, 2011 (Pub. L. 112-10; 125 Stat. 201).

**All grant awards are contingent on the appropriation of funding.*



Allowable Expenses: Special Populations

Grant funds must be used to improve academic achievement. Funds can be spent to support projects that are linked to the needs assessment. These grant funds must be used to develop or scale-up initiatives designed to increase academic achievement in SPED and/or special population students.

Examples of Allowable Expenses	Examples of Non-Allowable Expenses
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Support and implement SPED Co-Located Therapeutic Classroom Model classrooms by existing OSSE sub-grantees✓ Support programs and initiatives designed to increase student educational outcomes administered by schools serving special populations✓ Purchasing equipment, supplies and/or materials✓ Travel associated with providing support services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ Unallowable costs per Federal Government guidelines, such as:<ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ Alcohol✗ Entertainment Expenses✗ Lobbying or Public Relations✗ Goods or Services for Personal Use

Application Content

- Tab 1 - Directions
- Tab 2- Contact Info
- Tab 3- Increasing Academic Quality
- Tab 4 - Addressing Special Populations
- Tab 5- Investing in Public Facilities
- Tab 6- Influencing Replication and Growth
- Tab 7 - Assurances
- Tab 8 - Rubric

Tab One: Directions



Applicants should review this tab and take note of:

- 1) Deadline for grant application,
- 2) Email address where application should be submitted, and
- 3) Various tabs that should be completed based on which funding the applicant desires.

****Important note—Naming convention of application email subject line:**

Organization Name_Grant Category_Name of Subgrant

Example: ABC Organization_Increasing Academic Quality_3rd party organization

Example: FOSSE PCS_Increasing Academic Quality_Public Charter School

Tab Two: Contact Information



Applicants should use this section to:

- 1) provide contact information,
- 2) provide grant application information, and
- 3) provide applicant certification of the information contained in the application.

Application Format



Each grant has the same format

- ▣ Narrative
 - Comprehensive Needs Assessment
 - Theory of Action
 - Logic Model
 - Project Description
 - Alignment to the District's ESEA Waiver
 - Partnership Collaboration
- ▣ Itemized Expenditures
- ▣ Budget

Tab Four: Special Populations



Narrative

Comprehensive Needs Assessment

Purpose: To determine specific areas of need to be addressed. The results of the assessment should drive proposed initiatives.

- Content:**
- a) Comprehensive
 - b) Justifies the need
 - c) High-quality, reliable data
 - d) Clear correlation
 - e) Input from vested stakeholders

Tab Four: Special Populations



Narrative

Theory of Action

Purpose: To provide the “how” and “why” the proposed project will be effective and the strategic thinking behind the desired change.

Content: a) “If-Then” statement

b) Research and evidence of success

Tab Four: Special Populations

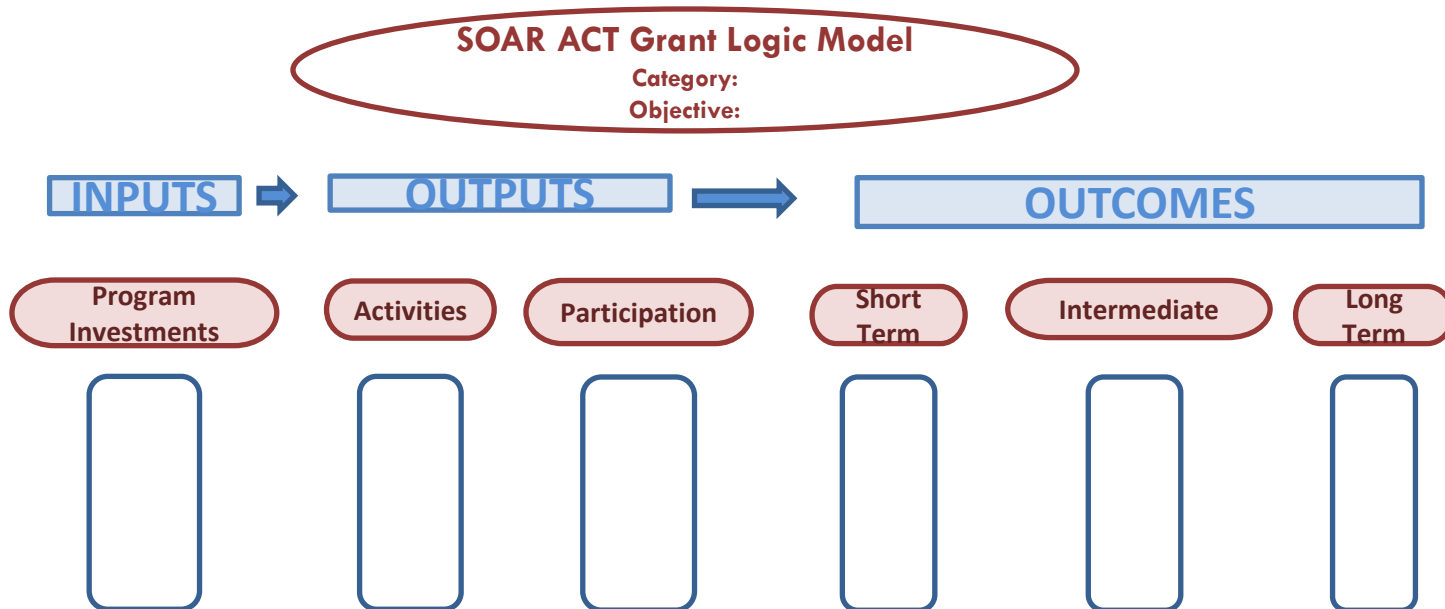


Narrative

Logic Model

Purpose: To identify relevant inputs and outputs to project desired short, medium, and long term outcomes.

Content: Minimum of two objectives



Tab Four: Special Populations



Narrative

Project Description

Purpose: To describe how the proposed project will use research-based methods to improve academic achievement.

Content: a) Research-based instructional strategies
b) High-quality curriculum

Tab Four: Special Populations



Narrative

Alignment with DC ESEA Waiver

Purpose: To describe how the proposed project aligns with principle one, two, and/or three of the DC ESEA Waiver

Content: Ensure clear alignment between proposed project and Waiver

Tab Four: Special Populations



Narrative

Partnership Collaboration

Purpose: To describe who the applicant will partner, why, and how the implementation of the partnership will “look”.

Content:

- a) Who
- b) Why
- c) How
- d) ESEA designation

Budget Spreadsheet

How will you pay for the proposed project?

- Align the budget with permissible use of funds and proposed outcomes
- Provide a link between the narrative of the applicant's plan for the use of funds and the budget for the use of these funds

Budget Details



Itemized Budget Spreadsheet

- All applicants are required to detail expenditures for the proposed project.
- Description for each line item.

Budget

- Summary of costs by program category

Assurances



- The full list of assurances is on Tab 7C.
- Ensure that all applicable assurances are checked.
- Tab 7C contains full list, but some examples are:
 - ▣ The applicant assures the SEA that they will:
 - administer the funds covered by this application in accordance with all applicable statutes, regulations, program plans, and applications.
 - use such fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as will ensure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, federal funds allocated to the applicant, as set forth in all applicable federal and state laws and regulations.
 - expend all funds by two years from the reward date.
 - comply with all applicable OMB Circulars, including, but not limited to: OMB Circular A-87, Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments; OMB Circular A-102, Grants and Cooperative Agreements with State and Local Governments; and OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.

Appendices



The following appendices are required in order for the application to be considered complete:

- ❑ **Collaboration Letter**
- ❑ **Completed Logic Models**
- ❑ **Signed Assurances**
- ❑ **W-9 Form**
- ❑ **Letter of Conditional Approval (*for Replication and Growth only*)**
- ❑ **Executed Lease/Purchase Agreements (*for Public Facility only*)**
- ❑ **Audited Financial Statements for FY 11 and FY12 (*for Public Facility only*)**
- ❑ **Architectural Plans/Surveys/Appraisals (*for Public Facility only*)**
- ❑ **General Contractor's Detailed Construction Budget (*for Public Facility only*)**
- ❑ **Senior Lender and/or Subordinated Lender Commitment Letter (*for Public Facility only*)**

Evaluation of Applications

- ❑ A Review Panel comprised of individuals with expertise in the field of public charter schools will review applications according to the Scoring Rubric.
- ❑ Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding.

Review Panel



- All grants are competitive.
- A review panel for all categories will be convened to review, score, and rank each applicant's application.
- The review panel will be composed of neutral, qualified, professional individuals who have been selected for their unique related experiences.
- Upon completion of its review, the panel shall make recommendations for awards based on the scoring rubric(s).
- OSSE will make the final decisions.

Rubric



- 70% of weight on needs assessment/narrative.
- 30% of weight on budget.
- Preference points will be given for addressing specific identified areas of priority.
- Available on OSSE website:

<http://osse.dc.gov/publication/scholarships-opportunity-andresultsoaractcompetition>



Questions?