

PRE-APPLICATION CONFERENCE: INVESTING IN PUBLIC FACILITIES

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OPPORTUNITIES AND RESULTS (SOAR) ACT COMPETITION (RFA #GD0-SA-13)

March 7, 2013

AGENDA



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

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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: Public Facilities



Investing in Public Facility Projects:

Funds will support:

- The renovation/reconstruction of former DCPS or other District-owned facilities released by the District for lease by public charter schools.

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:

Investing in Public Facility Projects



Eligible organizations:

- ☐ A District of Columbia Public Charter School or a District of Columbia-based non-profit representing a public charter school and benefiting that school, as well as a partnership between a non-profit and a public charter school
- ☐ Can provide Site Control evidence prior to any disbursements. Site control must be demonstrated via a lease agreement, occupancy agreement or other document acceptable to the OSSE.

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: Investing in Public Facility Projects



Funds can be spent to support projects that are linked to the needs assessment and can be

linked to evidence.

Allowable Expenses

- ✓ Costs used for Renovations and Reconstruction of former DCPS or other District-owned facilities may include:
 - ✓ Both hard and soft costs
 - ✓ Exterior reconstruction, interior reconstruction, upgrades to systems, and the creation of new or improved academic and/or physical fitness space

Non-Allowable Expenses

- ✗ Unallowable costs per Federal Government guidelines
- ✗ Costs that do not align with the principles outlined in the ESEA Waiver
- ✗ Costs that do not meet the purpose of this grant

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 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 Info.



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 section 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 Five: Investing in Public Facilities Projects



Narrative

□ Comprehensive Needs Assessment:

- This section should be used to substantiate the need for the proposed project, describe your facility needs and options, and how this specific project will add to providing high quality education to students in high-need areas.
- Provide any research and evidence that will justify the need for the project.

Tab Five: Investing in Public Facilities Projects



Narrative

□ Theory of Action:

- ▣ Describe how and why your project will work and provide the strategic thinking behind the change you seek to produce by using an "if, then" statement.
- ▣ The theory of action must include research and evidence of success.

□ Logic Model:

- ▣ Applicant should complete one logic model for each identified objective.
- ▣ Applicant should have a minimum of two (2) objectives.

Tab Five: Investing in Public Facilities Projects



Narrative

□ Detailed Project Description:

- Justify the suitability of the proposed site as an educational facility in view of location, demographics, space, and affordability.
- Describe the condition of the proposed location and the renovations/reconstruction needed for it to be occupied by the school.
- Describe the type and term of site control.
- Provide a project timeline from conception to completion.
- List the project team members.

Tab Five: Investing in Public Facilities Projects



Narrative

□ Detailed Project Description – Cont'd:

- Explain how capacity to carry out the project is demonstrated.
- Provide information on previously awarded OSSE Facility Grants for this particular location.
- Provide the Performance Management Framework score (%) and Accountability Plan Targets met (%) as outlined in the Performance Management Report.
- Specify if the school currently provides 5% or more neighborhood admissions preference and if not, if it is planning to do so in the next year.

Tab Five: Investing in Public Facilities Projects



Narrative

- **Alignment to the DC's ESEA Flexibility Waiver – Principle 2:**
 - ▣ Describe how this project aligns to Principle 2

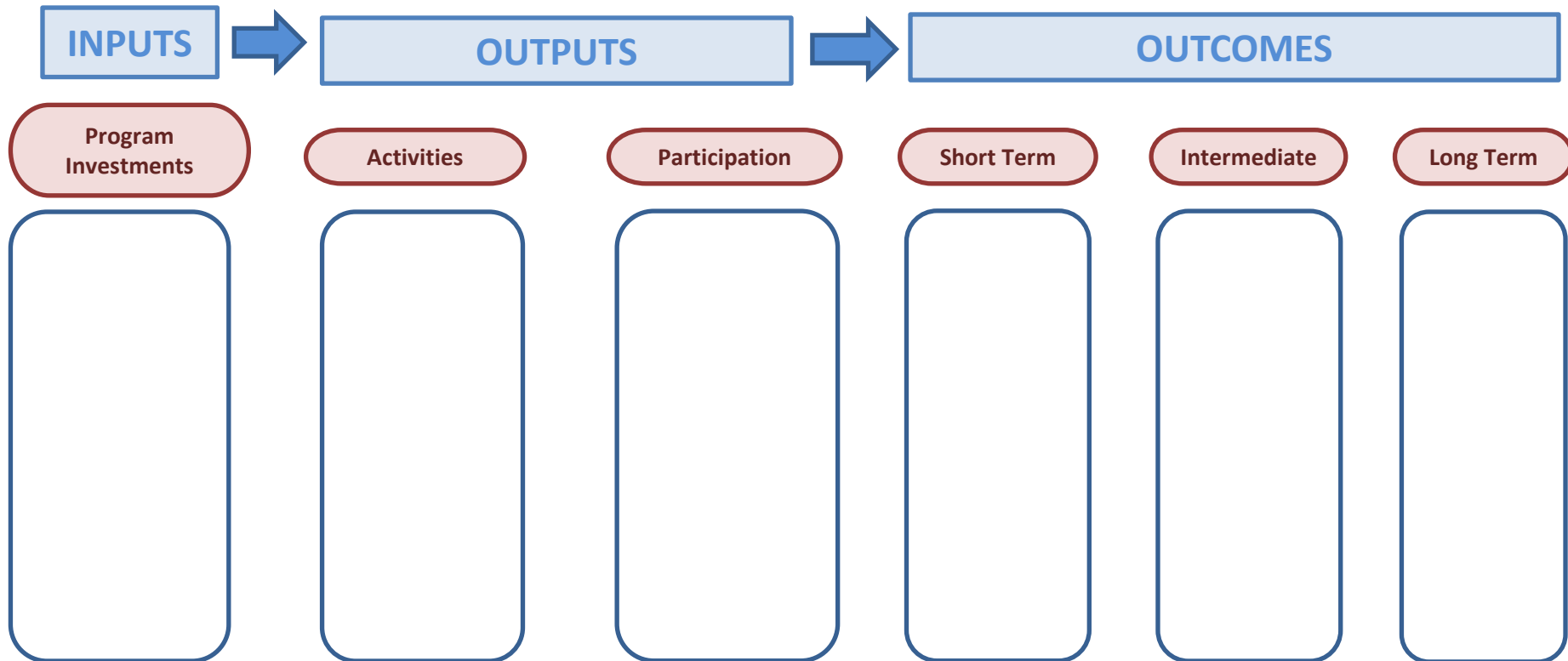
- **Partnership Collaboration:**
 - ▣ Explain who the applicant plans to partner with to implement the project above (if applicable)

Logic Model



SOAR ACT Grant Logic Model

Category:
Objective:



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

- ❑ Provide detailed expenditures for the proposed project.
- ❑ Provide a description for each line item
- ❑ Align the budget with permissible use of funds and proposed outcomes

Budget

- ❑ Summary of costs by program category
- ❑ This table is pre-filled with information from the Planned Expenditures tab

Sources and Uses

- ❑ List all project sources and uses in detail.
- ❑ Total sources should equal total uses.

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-andresultssoaractcompetition>



Questions?