DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF
OSSE EDUCATION

Scholarships for Opportunity and Results (SOAR) Act
Teacher Pipeline Grant Competition
Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22)

Frequently Asked Questions
(Released March 1, 2022)

Contents

Competition Timeline

Q: Our organization did not attend the pre-application webinars. Are we still eligible to apply?
A: As stated in the [Request for Applications (RFA)](#), each interested organization that intends to apply must have at least one representative attend one of the two pre-application webinars. This year, these webinars were held on Feb. 10 and 15, 2022. Webinar attendance was tracked electronically via GoToWebinar. If a representative from your organization did not attend one of the mandatory pre-application webinars, your organization is not eligible to apply as a lead applicant under this grant competition.

Q: Will applicants receive confirmation of receipt after submitting the Intent to Apply form?
A: Yes. The required Intent to Apply form was due on Friday, Feb. 25, 2022. Applicants should have received a confirmation email from the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE). If you did not receive a confirmation email, you can reach out to Brianna Griffin at Brianna.Griffin@dc.gov.

Q: When will awarded applicants be able to begin conducting program activities and expending grant funds?
A: OSSE anticipates making awards no later than May 13, 2022. The duration of the award period will be two years from the date the awards are announced. Awarded applicants may begin to obligate grant funds as early as the award date but are not required to begin program activities immediately.

Eligibility

Q: Our organization is a current SOAR Teacher Pipeline grantee. Are we eligible to apply?
A: Yes. Current and former grantees of the SOAR Teacher Pipeline grant or other SOAR Act grants are eligible to apply. Please note that current Teacher Pipeline grantees must demonstrate that they will serve a new group of individual teachers with funding awarded under this competition. The $7,500 limit per teacher applies to each individual being recruited and/or trained through the program and funding under this competition may not be used to serve the same teachers served by a previous or existing SOAR Teacher Pipeline project.

Q: Our organization is also interested in applying for the FY22 SOAR Third Party grant. Are we eligible to apply for both grants?
A: Yes. Organizations may be awarded multiple SOAR funded grants in the same fiscal year.

Partnership Requirements

Q: How many nonprofit partners must an LEA or consortium of LEAs applying for this grant have?
A: LEA applicants must partner with at least one nonprofit charter support organization with a demonstrated history of providing teacher pipeline services to DC charter schools. A letter of commitment from the nonprofit partner must be submitted with the application.

Q: How many LEA partners must a nonprofit organization applying for this grant have?
A: Nonprofit organizations applying as the lead applicant for this grant must partner with at least two DC charter LEAs. Letters of commitment from each partner LEA must be submitted with the application.

Q: Our LEA has existing partnerships with Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) to provide teacher pipeline services. Is this an eligible partnership under the grant?
A: Nonprofit IHEs are eligible partners and lead applicants (i.e., the organization submitting the application in EGMS) under this program.

Grant Application and Priorities

Q: Do applications/projects need to meet all three funding priorities?
A: No. Funding priority may be given to projects that address one or more of the three priority areas (see RFA section 4.2). However, projects may still be considered for funding even if they do not meet any of the funding priorities.

Q: What if an LEA meets the funding priority threshold for high-need populations in the 2021-22 school year and not 2020-21?
A: Funding priority may be given to projects that propose to serve charter LEAs with high-need populations, as evidenced by all identified partner LEAs having student populations that were, based on 2020-21 school year enrollment audit data, greater than 11 percent English language learners, and/or greater than 16 percent students with disabilities (see RFA section 4.2). LEAs that met these thresholds in the 2021-22 school year but not in 2020-21 will not be considered to meet these criteria.

Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS)

Q: Where should I go if I have questions about EGMS or have a technical issue?
A: Potential applicants may contact the EGMS help desk by calling (202) 719-6500 or emailing osse.callcenter@dc.gov.

Q: Does the 2022 Central Data application need to be fully approved prior to submitting an application under this competition?
A: No. Applicants must complete all sections of the Certifications and Assurances tab within the Central Data application for 2022 in EGMS; however, the full Central Data application is not required to be submitted or approved prior to submission of an application for the SOAR Teacher Pipeline grant.

Budgeting and Allowable Costs

Q: The RFA states that funding requested through this competition may not be the sole source of funding for the program. Where should we describe other sources of funding within the application?
A: Applicants should describe other sources of funding for the program within the Budget Narrative section of the EGMS application (Tab: Budget, Subtab: Budget Narrative).

Q: Can the $7,500 limit per teacher take into account both first-year and second-year teacher residents?
A: Yes. The $7,500 limit per teacher applies to each individual being recruited and/or trained through the program. However, as this is a two-year grant, please note that grant funds will only support $7,500 per teacher for the entire duration of the award period (i.e., the total budget should not exceed $7,500 times the total number of individual teachers being served over the course of the two-year period).

Q: Is this grant eligible for indirect costs?
A: No, the FY22 SOAR Teacher Pipeline grant will not allow indirect costs.