

Out-of-School Time Expansion Grants Purpose and Overview

Proposal Deadline: Tuesday, April 11, 2023

All proposals must be submitted electronically, via email with attachments to Stephanie.Cronin@state.sd.us

Scope: Grant awards will range from \$50,000 to \$200,000

Office Hours: March 15 from 1:30 p.m.-2 p.m.; March 20 from 10 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Award notification: Approximately May 2023

Project Start Date: Projects may begin upon award announcement

Project End Date: Funds must be obligated prior to August 31, 2024

Project Completion: Projects must be completed including final report and claim by October 30, 2024

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Purpose and Overview

The South Dakota Department of Education (DOE) recognizes the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on student absenteeism, lost instructional time, and students disengaging from learning. The department additionally recognizes that out-of-school time (OST) activities compliment the students' regular academic program and play a key role in youth academic enrichment.

These funds will support the expansion of existing out-of-school time programs to support all students, including those most impacted by the pandemic. Students of the following groups: Economically Disadvantaged, grades 9-12, Native American, Students with Disabilities, and Hispanic are noted by DOE as those most impacted statewide by high rates of absenteeism. Applicants will need to provide information as to how they determined those most impacted in their community.

The purpose of this grant is to support expansion of existing OST programs whose focus is to support student learning through academic enrichment. The grants should support student participation in evidence-based programming. The activities should provide academic enrichment and additional activities designed to complement the students' regular academic program.

Grants are being funded with dollars available to DOE through the American Rescue Plan (ARP).

Successful applications will:

- Identify student populations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and describe how the proposal will support these students.
- Include a detailed plan of the expansion and how it aligns to the existing out-of-school time program.
- Detail programming that will assist students in meeting South Dakota state academic standards.
- Provide a detailed timeline of the proposed expansion.
- Include a complete and detailed budget summary that clearly describes the services to be provided and the costs associated.
- Demonstrate alignment to out-of-school time goals: providing academic enrichment, offering a broad array of additional services, programs, and activities, and offering families of students' opportunities and supports.
- Demonstrate program sustainability following the scope of the funding.
- Describe the plan for evaluation and to show effectiveness of the expansion.

Eligibility

Applicants must be Local Education Agencies (LEA), Educational Cooperative, or nonprofit Community-Based Organizations (CBO) that support the academic school day during out-of-school time programs.

- A CBO is a public or private nonprofit organization of demonstrated effectiveness that provides educational or related services to individuals in the community.
- One application per project is required.

Awards

South Dakota DOE intends to fund grants of no less than \$50,000 and up to a total of \$200,000 per applicant. The amount awarded will depend on the demonstrated need, quality of the proposal, and alignment to the purpose of this grant. Award decisions made by the review committee are final.

Use of Funds

Funds must be used to support existing out-of-school time programs to expand their program in an effort to reduce student absenteeism numbers, close the gap on learning loss, and help students engage in learning. Costs must be reasonable, necessary, and allocable to support the existing program; documentation must be available to support each expenditure. Funds requested in this proposal must be used only to supplement the level of federal, state, local and other nonfederal funds, and not to replace any funds that would have been available to conduct activities if the Out-of-School Time Expansion Grants had not become available. Grants are being funded with dollars available to South Dakota DOE through the American Rescue Plan (ARP). Budgets for this application must be differentiated between expenditures for afterschool and summer programs. Budgets should clearly describe services to be provided and costs associated; appropriate percentage according to usage in summer and afterschool program needs to be shown.

The grant funds may support the purchase of (but not be limited to) the following:

- Supplies and materials
- Salaries and benefits
- Staff recruitment and retention
- Contractual services: i.e. facility rental, professional services
- Supports in mental health
- Trauma informed care activities
- Student transportation
- Professional development, at state and local levels

Grant funds cannot be used for:

- Capital investments
- Food purchases
- Expenditures made prior to grant approval
- Purchases that become the property of any individual or organization other than the eligible recipient
- Funding the startup of a program

Expansion of programming can vary from program to program. We welcome your applications of expansion.

Considerations

Questions to consider when vetting potential grant projects include:

- What academic enrichment activity is the program already doing that can be enhanced with additional funding?
- In what way(s) will the expansion support and focus on students who have experienced significant lost instructional time?
- What is the alignment to the out-of-school time goals?

Sustainability

Provide evidence that the project or its impact can be sustained locally beyond this grant period, if results warrant.

Submission Timeline

- Grant announced and applications released March 8, 2023
- Applications due on or before April 11, 2023
- Awards announced approximately May 2023
- Proposals must be submitted by email attachments
Stephanie.Cronin@state.sd.us on or before April 11, 2023

All proposals will be read and scored by a review committee. Applications that: do not comply with deadline requirements, are incomplete will not be considered. Both successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified of award decisions. Award decisions made by the review committee are final. All applications will be prescreened.