

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Friday, Dec. 16, 2016

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Time to submit Notice of Intent to Apply for 21st CCLC grant funding

PIERRE, S.D. – The opportunity to apply for 21st Century Community Learning Centers, or 21st CCLC, grants will be available soon.

The learning centers are intended to assist students from high-poverty and low-performing schools in need of additional support by providing academic enrichment opportunities and activities designed to complement regular school instruction. Funding comes from the federal government in the form of formula grants to the states.

The grant application will be online, and applicants must first submit a Notice of Intent to Apply to the South Dakota Department of Education by Jan. 13, 2017. Applicants will then receive the information needed to access the online system. The deadline to apply is March 3. No paper applications will be accepted.

The Notice of Intent to Apply and guidelines for filling out the application are now available and can be found at <http://www.doe.sd.gov/oatq/21cent.aspx>.

Grant award amounts range from \$50,000 to \$150,000 per year, and the length of a grant is five years. While funds are often awarded to schools, other organizations are also eligible to apply. The grants must specifically support programs offered outside of regular school hours.

“The programming available to students through 21st Century Community Learning Center grantees is highly engaging,” said Sue Burgard, who oversees the 21st CCLC grant program for the South Dakota Department of Education. “Programming is tailored to community needs and student interests. Receiving tutoring and homework help, gardening, hiking, geocaching and purchasing and assembling care packages for veterans are just a few examples of the things students around our state are doing at their local 21st CCLC sites.”

Contact Sue Burgard at sue.burgard@state.sd.us or (605) 773-5238, with questions about the grant application process.