

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

FY23 High Quality Instructional Materials Grant

Request for Application (RFA) Release Date: Wed., Sept. 28, 2022, 12 p.m. (EST)

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is soliciting grant applications for the District of Columbia High Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM) Grant. The purpose of this grant is to provide District of Columbia public schools and public charter schools with funding for the purchase of high-quality instructional materials (HQIM) and accompanying professional development to ensure educators can implement the new curricula with fidelity. Grant funds can be used for HQIM in the core academic areas of English language arts (ELA), mathematics, and science, for grades K-12. The overall goal of providing the subgrant to support high-quality instructional materials is to increase equitable access to rigorous, evidence-based, culturally responsive curricula to public K-12 students across the District. High quality instructional materials is defined as *sequential, comprehensive* materials that are *evidence-based* and aligned with District of Columbia *content standards*.

As the state agency responsible for early childhood education programs, K-12 programs, and adult education programs, OSSE is uniquely positioned to partner with District of Columbia public schools and public charter schools to leverage new funding resources, build on existing initiatives, and accelerate learning in ways that narrow existing achievement gaps. By working in partnership with public schools, OSSE can mitigate the disparate impacts of disrupted learning caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and accelerate learning for student populations furthest from opportunity. Interim assessment, anecdotal data, and research suggests that “we know from early studies that for many students, the educational gaps that existed before the pandemic—in access, opportunities, achievement, and outcomes—are widening. And we can see already that many of these impacts are falling disproportionately on students who went into the pandemic with the greatest educational needs and fewest opportunities—many of them from historically marginalized and underserved groups” ([Education in a Pandemic: The Disparate Impacts of COVID-19 on America’s Students](#), U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, June 9, 2021). One initiative proven to narrow existing achievement gaps is the adoption, dissemination, and implementation with fidelity of HQIM.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria:

OSSE will make these grants available through a competitive process. To apply for this grant, an eligible entity must be the District of Columbia Public Schools or a District of Columbia public charter school or collection of schools operating under a single charter that serves students in kindergarten through grade 12 for students in the District of Columbia. CBOs and non-profit organizations are not eligible to apply for this grant. Applicants must be able to provide a full continuum of instructional supports, to include but not be limited to intervention services for grades K-12. This funding is intended to increase the use and access to high-quality instructional materials.

Applications will be scored on the following selection criteria: (i) Program Features; and (ii) Program Sustainability and Progress Monitoring.

Length of Award:

The grant period will begin on or after the date of award, no earlier than Oct. 1, 2022, and will end on Sept. 30, 2023. No additional grant funds will be awarded to recipients as part of any continuation grant. However, grant recipients may seek a carryover of awarded funds to allow expenditures to continue beyond September 30, 2023, up to September 30, 2024.

Available Funding for Award:

The grants described in this NOFA will be awarded competitively. A panel or panels of external reviewers will be convened to review, score, and rank each application. The review panel(s) will be composed of neutral, qualified, professional individuals selected for their expertise, knowledge, and/or related experiences. All external reviewers must sign a Conflict of Interest statement. The application will be scored against a rubric and each application will have at least three external reviewers to ensure accurate scoring. Upon completion of the panels' review, the panels shall make recommendations for awards based on the scoring rubric(s). The State Superintendent of Education, or his/her designee, will consider those recommendations but all final award decisions are left to the Superintendent, or his/her designee's, discretion.

Applications must be submitted no later than **Thursday, November 10, 2022 at 3:00 P.M. (EDT)**. OSSE anticipates that it will award subgrants by **Friday, December 9, 2022**, however, this date may change. The RFA will be released on the OSSE website on September 28, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. (EDT) and on the ServeDC grants website. The application is available through the Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS) Grants.Osse.Dc.Gov.

For additional information [regarding this competition](#):

Celina Ketelsen
Training Administrator
Division of Teaching and Learning
Office of the State Superintendent of Education
1050 First St. NE, 5th Floor
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 481-3835
Celina.Ketelsen@dc.gov