

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

Fiscal Year 2024 Healthy Schools Grant

Request for Application (RFA) Release Date: Friday, November 3, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is soliciting grant proposals for the fiscal year 2024 (FY24) Healthy Schools Grant (HSG). This grant is authorized and funded by the Healthy Schools Act of 2010 (D.C. Law 18-209), as amended (codified at D.C. Official Code § 38-821.01 *et seq.*).

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE), Division of Health and Wellness (HW) is soliciting applications for the Healthy Schools Grant (HSG) Program. The purpose of the HSG Program is to increase the capacity of public and public charter schools in the District of Columbia (DC) to support the implementation of health education, physical education (PE), physical activity, nutrition education, environmental education, garden-based education, and farm to school programs. As such, the HSG Program supports high-quality healthy schools program implementation with a focus on coordinating policy, process, and practice to improve health and learning, aligned with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model.

The HSG Program will: (1) position Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) to provide capacity-building services and supports to schools in order to adopt and strategically implement healthy schools programs; (2) increase coordination of policies, processes, and practices to effectively plan, implement, and sustain healthy schools programs; and (3) support OSSE in gathering best practices and lessons learned for the development and dissemination of resources for all DC public and public charter schools.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria: OSSE will accept applications from community-based organizations (CBOs). All applicants must demonstrate expertise and success working with District of Columbia public and public charter schools in one or more of these following areas: health education, physical education (PE), physical activity, nutrition education, environmental education, garden-based education, and farm to school programs. CBOs will partner with a minimum of five (5) DC public and public charter schools. Applicants must include in their application a minimum of five (5) letters of commitment from the schools that the applicant plans to use as partners.

Applications will be scored on the following criteria: program abstract; logic model; school recruitment and needs assessment; diversity, equity, and inclusion; implementation plan; evaluation plan; collaboration with partners and stakeholders; summary of qualifications; and budget.

Length of Award: This grant period is from January 2, 2024, to September 30, 2024. The project period covers two fiscal years (phases), contingent upon funding availability and the grantee’s

satisfactory implementation of the proposed program. Phase One spans from January 2, 2024, through September 30, 2024. Phase Two spans October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025. Applicants must re-apply for the second-year funding. Continuation of awards in year two is contingent upon: 1) availability of funds; 2) recipient's implementation and/or operation of the program as submitted in the application; 3) recipient's demonstration that substantial progress has been made toward meeting the objectives set forth in the approved application, based on ongoing monitoring and review of the recipient's reports; 4) compliance with District and federal laws, regulations, and guidance; and 5) appropriate expenditure of funds throughout the grant award period.

Available Funding for Award: The total funding available for the HSG Program is \$500,000. Each awarded organization is expected to receive anywhere from \$50,000 to \$125,000 for the grant period. OSSE/HW intends to issue between 3 and 8 awards from this RFA. Determinations regarding the number of competitive grants to be awarded will be based on the quality and number of applications received and available funding. Grant funds shall only be used to support activities authorized by relevant statutes and regulations and that are included in the applicant's submission.

Application Process: Applications must be submitted through EGMS by Friday, December 8 at 3:00 p.m. Please allow additional time for any issues you may experience, as well as the consistency check to run, prior to submission.

A review panel will be convened to review, score, and rank each application. The review panel will be composed of neutral, qualified, professional individuals selected for their expertise, knowledge, or related experiences. Upon completion of its review, the panel shall make recommendations for awards, based on the scoring rubric. OSSE will make all final award decisions. The funding cycle is anticipated to begin on January 2, 2024.

OSSE will provide a question period and one pre-application meeting on Thursday, November 9. The question period will provide applicants the opportunity to submit questions regarding the RFA to OSSE for response. The pre-application meeting will include an overview of the HSG, an overview of the EGMS application process, and an opportunity for potential applicants to ask questions. The pre-application meeting will be held on Thursday, November 9 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Interested applicants must register for the November 9 session [here](#). For the question period, OSSE requests that applicants submit questions regarding the RFA electronically to Rachel.Sadlon@dc.gov by 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 15.

The RFA will be available on OSSE's HSG Program [webpage](#) and the District's Grants Clearinghouse. Organizations interested in applying to the HSG may use the following link to access EGMS: <http://grants.osse.dc.gov/>.

Please see the RFA for more details.

To receive more information please contact:

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