

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

Fiscal Year 2024 Whole School Educator Wellness Grant

Request for Application (RFA) Release Date: Monday, August 28, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is soliciting grant proposals for the fiscal year 2024 (FY24) Whole School Educator Wellness Grant. This grant is authorized and funded by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Public Law 117-2). The ARP Act extends the Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) Program authorized under Section 312(d) of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA) (Pub. L. 116-260). This grant uses funds remaining under the ARP EANS program, consistent with Section 312(d)(6) of CRRSAA and U.S. Department of Education guidance, for authorized uses under the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) program identified in Section 312(c) of CRRSAA.

The purposes of the grant are to address educator recovery efforts from the coronavirus by:

- 1) building the capacity of DC public and public charter schools to adopt and strategically implement educator wellness systems that center staff voice to consider the root causes of educator stress and build a culture of wellness through a tiered intervention framework (click [here](#) for an overview of the tiered framework); and
- 2) supporting OSSE in updating materials and resources to ensure the use of a sustainable educator wellness technical assistance model.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria: OSSE will accept applications from non-profit entities in the District of Columbia having a 501(c)(3) status with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). All applicants must submit their respective 501(c)(3) determination letter and any correspondence or other communication received from the IRS within three years before submission of the application that relates to the applicant's tax status.

All applicants must demonstrate: 1) experience providing services and supports to organizations and leadership teams, i.e., in a school or other organizational context, to assess need and implement systems change; 2) content expertise in comprehensive organizational health practices; and 3) experience in supporting leaders in centering staff voice to implement practices that build trust and belonging among staff and are responsive to their community's wellness needs. Applications will be scored on the following selection criteria: organization qualifications, technical assistance plan, and budget overview and justification.

Length of Award: The award period is from November 3, 2023 – September 30, 2024, and funded applicants must commit to obligate all grant funds awarded under this competition by September 30, 2024. Funding will not extend beyond September 30, 2024, and there is no continuation funding.

Available Funding for Award: The total amount of available funds is \$500,000. Awarded grantees will be provided \$25,000 per school and grantees will be required to partner with a minimum of four schools. Grantees may propose to partner with more than four schools. OSSE anticipates awarding funds up to five (5) applicants, per funding availability based on the highest-ranking applications. 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 Tuesday, October 10 at 3 p.m. 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 November 3, 2023.

OSSE will provide a question period and one mandatory pre-application webinar. The question period will provide applicants the opportunity to submit questions regarding the RFA to OSSE for response. The mandatory pre-application webinar will include an overview of the Whole School Educator Wellness grant, and overview of the EGMS application process, and an opportunity for potential applicants to ask questions.

For the question period, OSSE requests that applicants submit questions regarding the RFA electronically to osse.hydt@dc.gov by 3 p.m. on Friday, September 8.

The mandatory webinar will be held on Wednesday, September 6 from 11 a.m. to noon. Potential applicants must register for the September 6 session [here](#).

Please see the RFA for more details.

To receive more information please contact:
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