



# BEST

## Building Excellent Schools Today

A grant program for school renovations and new construction funded through local matching dollars, the Colorado State Land Board, the Colorado Lottery, and excise taxes.



**COLORADO**  
Department of Education



# FY24 Building Excellent Schools Today Grants – SB23-220

## **FY24 requests \$522 million**

- 54 grants requesting \$518 million from BEST with a project total of \$758 million.
  - Six supplemental requests for \$34 million due to inflation.
  - 15 projects requesting over \$10 million each, totaling about \$428 million.
  - 8 charter school applications for \$40 million.

## **FY24 (Traditional) \$110 million**

\$160 million originally available for cash grants based on estimated revenues.

-\$30 million (eliminated SB21-207 transfer to the Assistance Fund, with no indication of transferring in the future).

+\$4.7 million from Air Quality Improvement Grants (not fully awarded).

+\$15 million from the State Education Fund.

+\$10 million from revenues earned on public school lands dedicated to the Permanent Fund.

## **FY24 (Supplementals) \$49,705,220**

\*Two Rounds. Any remaining funds will be awarded to traditional grants that fall below the funding line (in prioritized order).

# FY24 Supplemental Grants – SB23-220



## Round 1: \$49,705,220

### Criteria:

- Project is a current FY24 Supplemental Grant request.

### Considerations:

- CCAB will review, score and prioritize all FY24 BEST Grant applications as normal. Staff will separate supplemental requests and create two prioritized lists at the end of the third day.
- There will still be a vote to “shortlist” or award all projects.
- Waivers will be considered separately from the “shortlist” vote.

\*You can be awarded a grant without a waiver being approved.

County	District/School	Project Description	BEST Request Amount	Applicant Matching Contribution	Total Request & Matching Contribution	Proposed Match %
Alamosa	ALAMOSA RE-11J	Supplemental FY23 DW HVAC Upgrades	\$ 2,465,092.31	\$ 1,006,868.69	\$ 3,471,961.00	29.00%
Weld	JOHNSTOWN-MILLIKEN RE-5J	Supplemental FY22 HS Conversion to MS	\$ 3,469,334.52	\$ 2,410,893.48	\$ 5,880,228.00	41.00%
Otero	ROCKY FORD R-2	Supplemental FY22 PK-12 HS Addition/Renovation	\$ 5,324,719.00	\$ -	\$ 5,324,719.00	0.00%
Larimer	THOMPSON R2-J	Supplemental FY22 MS Renovation & K-5 Addition	\$ 556,567.11	\$ 1,129,999.88	\$ 1,686,566.99	67.00%
Baca	WALSH RE-1	Supplemental FY22 PK-12 School Replacement	\$ 14,828,679.20	\$ 838,176.80	\$ 15,666,856.00	5.35%
Montrose	WEST END RE-2	Supplemental FY22 New PK-12	\$ 7,608,610.56	\$ 749,744.44	\$ 8,358,355.00	8.97%
<b>Supplemental Grants (6)</b>			<b>\$ 34,253,002.70</b>	<b>\$ 6,135,683.29</b>	<b>\$ 40,388,685.99</b>	<b>15.19%</b>





## **Round 2: \$15,452,217.30** (assuming full awards from Round 1)

### Criteria:

- Grantees awarded in the 2021 or 2022 Fiscal Year Cycle (does not include emergency grants).
- Current grant agreements. Have not been closed out as of the application date (June 15, 2023).
- Related solely to cost overruns in projects caused by COVID-19 Pandemic-related inflationary pressures and supply change disruptions.
- To preserve the integrity of the project goals as initially approved without expansion of initial project scope.
  - Provide documentation from grant application or add alternate list showing scope was considered at some point. BEST does not pay to demo scope that was already installed.

### Considerations:

- Approximate a traditional grant round.
- Application submittal may be reduced (dependent on staff capacity). Focus on Supplemental Criteria.
- CCAB will review, score and prioritize, vote to “shortlist”, and considered waivers separately.



## Round 2 Timeline (approximate):

- May 17, 2023 – CCAB will hold a special meeting to finalize timelines and requirements.
- June 1, 2023 – Application portal opens.
- \*June 15, 2023 – Applications due.
- June 15 – July 20, Review and creation of summary packets. Distributed to CCAB as soon as possible.
- July 20, 2023 – Regularly scheduled meeting of the CCAB. Further discussion if necessary.
- August 7 (week of) CCAB will review and finalize prioritized list. \*no later than August 17, 2023.

\*Date required by statute.

## Considerations:

- Email to all eligible applicants with summary and Grant Manager Registration Form.
- Staff will work as quickly as possible to get approved grant agreements delivered, via DocuSign.
  - You are always at your own risk before a grant agreement is approved.
  - We cannot reimburse for work completed before an agreement is in place.
- Awarded projects will receive a new Supplemental Grant Agreement. Process will be to close out original grant and then open supplemental grant.



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