**To:** Superintendents, Charter School Leaders, Business Managers, and Facility Managers

**From:** Andy Stine

           Director of Capital Construction

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**Subject:** FY2022-23 Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) grant application deadlines.

Dear Potential BEST Applicant,

Please see the scheudle below for the upcoming FY22-23 BEST grant round.

* **All** potential applicants should notify BEST of intent to apply no later than **November 30, 2021** by completing a [Grant Manager registration](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftpIDfRaIbp6PDf112IkaIpqm0YvHGdvD4kg4Avv_lXbSkJw/viewform?usp=sf_link), found [HERE](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeL57XZntbOTpBLTS2Ud1YpGg3Vfhncod_jnP48-XZSc8GlEQ/viewform)
* Local match is required for all BEST grants. Match percentages will be posted in December.
* The application portal will open on **January 5, 2022.** The application can be accessed [HERE](http://www.cde.state.co.us/capitalconstruction/grantapplicationprocess)
* Applications are due electronically no later than 4 p.m. on **February 4, 2022**
* The CCAB will meet May 18-20, 2022 to review applications and create a prioritized list of projects to recommend to the State Board of Education
* No later than June 20, 2022 the State Board of Education will meet to review and vote on the prioritzed list
* No later than July 15, 2022 the Capital Development Committee will meet to review and vote on those projects recommended for financing through lease-purchase agreements.

Resources:

* [Find your Regional Program Manager](http://www.cde.state.co.us/capitalconstruction/contact)
* [BEST grant homepage](http://www.cde.state.co.us/capitalconstruction/best)
* [FY22-23 grant cycle timeline](http://www.cde.state.co.us/capitalconstruction/best-timeline)
* [Capital Construction homepage](http://www.cde.state.co.us/capitalconstruction)
* All schools buildings included in the applications will be priortized for a facility assessment. Status of assessments can be found on the [Assessment Portal](https://api.vfafacility.com/CDOEDashboard/). If your building does not appear in the portal, contact your Regional Program Manager.

We strongly encourage anyone considering applying for a BEST grant to participate in the self-paced grant application online training. The training will be updated in December to reflect changes for the FY23 grant round.

BEST is a competitive grant program committed to serving students and improving Colorado’s neediest schools. BEST is available to school districts, charter schools, institute charter schools, boards of cooperative educational services, and the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind.

By statute, applications are prioritized and awarded by severity of need, as follows:

1. Projects addressing health, safety, security issues, and technology needs
2. Projects that relieve current overcrowding
3. CTE projects,
4. Projects to remove American Indian mascots, and
5. All other projects