



# Menstrual Hygiene Products Accessibility Grant Program

## School Health Services Office

### General Information

The [Menstrual Hygiene Products Accessibility Grant Program](#) was created by Colorado Senate Bill 21-255, “Free Menstrual Hygiene Products to Students,” that was signed into law on July 6, 2021. The program provides funding for free menstrual hygiene products and product disposal for all students regardless of their gender identity. In 2024, Colorado House Bill 24-1164 increased the amount of program funding and expanded the program’s eligible recipients.

Education providers may use program funding to purchase menstrual hygiene products, including sanitary napkins, tampons, and pantliners, and to purchase and install menstrual hygiene product dispensers, disposal receptacles, and disposal receptacle liners.

Grants are awarded for a one-year term. Funding each year is dependent on legislative allocations. Approximately \$100,000 was available 2021–2024, and \$180,000 was available 2024–2025. The award amounts are based on the amount of funding requested and the number of applications received and have ranged from \$1,000 to \$5,000. If funding requests exceed the amount of funding available, first-time program participants may be prioritized.

- Year 1 (2021-2022): \$100,000 available funding was distributed to 40 eligible grantees
- Year 2 (2022-2023): \$100,000 available funding was distributed to 32 eligible grantees\*
- Year 3 (2023-2024): \$100,000 available funding was distributed to 35 eligible grantees\*
- Year 4 (2024-2025): \$180,000 available funding was distributed to 65 eligible grantees\*

\* Requests exceeded the available amount, so awards were reduced. In Year 4, grantees who had been funded two or more times in the past three years received reduced awards.

### Program Objectives

- Reduce the amount of missed class time due to lack of access to menstrual hygiene products.
- Improve academic performance through the reduction of missed class time due to lack of access to menstrual hygiene products.
- Increase the number of gender-neutral spaces where students can access free menstrual hygiene products.
- Increase the number of gender-neutral spaces where students can dispose of menstrual hygiene products.

### Program Eligibility and Guidelines

Per statute, beginning in 2024, eligible applicants include rural or small rural Colorado school districts and charter schools, districts and charter schools who enroll 50% or more students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, facility schools, and the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind.