

Supports for Schools Identified for Improvement

STAKEHOLDER AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLANNING

EASI Route: Exploration Supports


COLORADO
Department of Education

INTRODUCTION

State and federal expectations highlight the importance of stakeholder engagement (e.g., building leadership, teachers, parents) throughout the school improvement process. Schools identified under ESSA (i.e., Comprehensive, Targeted) and under the state accountability system (i.e., Priority Improvement, Turnaround) have specific requirements that serve as a common foundation to build from. With this in mind, the grant offers LEA and schools the opportunity to invest in engaging stakeholders more deeply within the planning phase.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS AND PRIORITIZATION

Eligibility: Eligible applicants are LEAs with schools that are identified for Comprehensive Support (CS), Targeted Support (TS), or Additional Targeted (Additional TS).

Prioritization: If CDE is unable to fund all applications, then a prioritization process will be used. Unlike some of the other opportunities within the EASI, requests for this service will not be scored competitively. Consideration will be given to: (1) geographic representation, and (2) school identification type in the following order:

1. Comprehensive Schools – lowest 5% and on the state accountability clock (i.e., Priority Improvement, Turnaround)
2. Comprehensive Schools – low grad or completion rate and on the state accountability clock
3. Comprehensive Schools – low grad or completion rate and not on the state accountability clock (i.e., Improvement, Performance)
4. Additional Targeted Schools that are on the state accountability clock
5. Additional Targeted Schools and an Improvement plan type
6. Additional Targeted Schools with a Performance plan type
7. Targeted Schools that are on the state accountability clock
8. Targeted Schools with an Improvement plan type
9. Additional Targeted Schools and Targeted Schools with a Performance plan type

AVAILABLE FUNDS

LEAs may apply on behalf of eligible schools for up to \$20,000.

ALLOWABLE USE OF FUNDS

Funding for this opportunity may be used for:

- Cost of contracting with a facilitator that has knowledge of working with the selected stakeholders and background knowledge of the content area
- Costs associated with the proposed activities (e.g., substitutes, stipends, copying, translation services, child care, food for community events, travel)

Funds from this opportunity must be used to **supplement and not supplant** any federal, state, and local funds currently being used to provide activities. There will be no carryover of funds. Unobligated funds at the end of the fiscal year will be returned to the CDE.

Who Can I Contact For More Information?

Lisa Medler
Executive Director
Improvement Planning Unit
(303) 866-6993
Medler_L@cde.state.co.us

Darcy Hutchins
Family School Partnership
Director
Improvement Planning Unit
303-866-5921
Hutchins_D@cde.state.co.us



See the EASI for an example of an LEA/school proposing activities to engage their community as it seeks Innovation Status.

IMPORTANT PROGRAM DATES

January	Award notifications
September 30	All grant funds must be requested from CDE

EVALUATION AND REPORTING

There are no additional evaluation and reporting requirements beyond the general ones referenced in the EASI, including:

- Submit the Unified Improvement Plan (UIP) that has been updated based on the results participation in the EASI. The LEA's UIP will be reviewed during the typical UIP timelines (e.g., schools on the accountability clock by January 15 and all others by April 15) using the Quality Criteria; and
- An Annual Financial Report (AFR).

PROGRAM ASSURANCES

There are no additional program assurances beyond the general ones listed on pages 14 - 15 of the EASI.

Where can I learn more?

- ESSA Comprehensive and Targeted Support: www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/essa_csi_tsi