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## **News Release**

### ***CDE Awards More Than \$6 Million in Student Services Programs***

The Colorado Department of Education announced today the distribution of more than six million dollars in grants for Expelled and At-risk Student Services Programs.

Fifteen districts are the recipients of new grants totaling \$1.7 million and 43 districts will receive \$4.4 million in continuation funding for the 2008-2009 school year. These grants are possible through Amendment 23 funding for the Expelled and At-Risk Student Services Program.

Recipients of the new grants include: Alamosa RE 11J, Aurora Public Schools, Centennial BOCES – Weld Opportunity School, Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind, Denver Area Youth Services Bryant Street Academy, Holyoke Alternative School, Jeffco Schools, Justice High School Charter, Mapleton Public Schools, Montrose County School District RE-1J, RE-1 Valley School District, St. Vrain Valley School District, Summit School District, Trinidad School District and Youth and Family Academy Center. These sites may receive up to four years of funding depending on availability of funds, progress on measurable objective and compliance with cooperative agreement.

The department's goals for the program are to support students who are unable to avoid mandatory suspension or expulsion and to develop strategies to help students who are at risk of suspension or expulsion.

Eligible applicants were school districts, Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), nonpublic, nonparochial schools,

alternative schools within a school district, charter schools and pilot schools.

Applicants for the grants were encouraged to consider a comprehensive range of educational and prevention strategies that are proven effective. Services may include:

- Instruction in math, reading, writing, science and social studies
- Tutoring
- Alternative educational programs
- Vocational education programs
- Prevention services
- Strategies that address the underlying causes of expulsion such as habitually disruptive behavior or truancy

As part of the cooperative agreement, schools committed to adopting policies for compulsory attendance, working with a student's parent or guardian to provide services and agreed to the certifications contained in the four year application, among many more.

**For more information, contact** Mark Stevens, 303-866-3898, or Megan McDermott, 303-866-2334, in the CDE Office of Communications. To sign up for the CDE e-mail news service, please visit <http://www.cde.state.co.us/Communications/index.html>.

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