



COLORADO
Department of Education

Office of Capital Construction
1580 Logan, Suite 310
Denver, CO 80203

Date: December 13, 2017

To: Superintendents, Business Managers, Charter School Leaders, Facility Managers, and Grant Writers

From: Andy Stine

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Subject: Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) grant application opens January 2, 2018

BEST is a competitive grant program committed to serving students and improving Colorado's neediest schools. Established with the signing of [C.R.S. 22-43.7](#), 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.

The FY2018-19 cycle will open on January 2, 2018. All completed applications are due no later than 4 p.m. on February 23, 2018 at 1580 Logan Street, Suite 310, Denver, CO 80203.

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

1. Projects addressing health, safety, security issues & technology
2. Projects to relieve current overcrowding
3. All other capital needs.

The schedule is as follows:

- The CC-03 Capital Construction Grant Application will be open January 2, 2018 - February 23, 2018, available at: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdefinance/capconstgrantappprocess>
 - The applicant must request a username and password to access the application. Applicants may obtain a username and password by contacting Ashley Moretti at 303-866-2153 starting January 2, 2018.
- The Capital Construction Assistance Board will meet the week of May 14-18, 2018 (exact dates to be determined) to review and select grant applications to recommend to the State Board of Education
- The State Board of Education meets in June 2018 to approve the recommended list of BEST grants.

Resources:

- Contact information for your specific Regional Program Manager can be found at: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdefinance/capconstcontact>
- BEST grant homepage: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdefinance/capconstbest>
- FY18-19 grant cycle timeline: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdefinance/ccacurrentgranttimeline>
- For more information, please visit: www.cde.state.co.us/cc

Training Opportunities:

We strongly encourage anyone thinking of applying for a BEST grant to reach out to your Regional Program Manager (link above) and to attend the live webinar which will walk through the grant application, the detailed project budget, all due diligence required, and the new waiver application. This will also give prospective applicants the opportunity to ask general questions. The webinar will be recorded for future viewing.

To access the webinar, please use link below:

- January 10, 2018 1:00pm - 2pm <https://enetlearning.adobeconnect.com/bestgrantapp1819/>

We also offer trainings and informational presentations at many conferences and business meetings around the state. If you have any suggestions for outreach or would like to meet in person, please feel free to reach out to us.

