



COLORADO
Department of Education

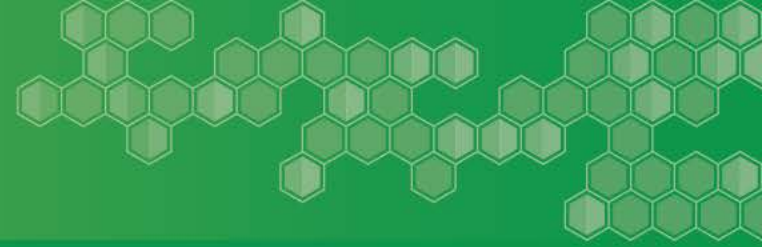
Colorado Student Re-Engagement Grant Program

Pursuant to C.R.S. 22-14-109

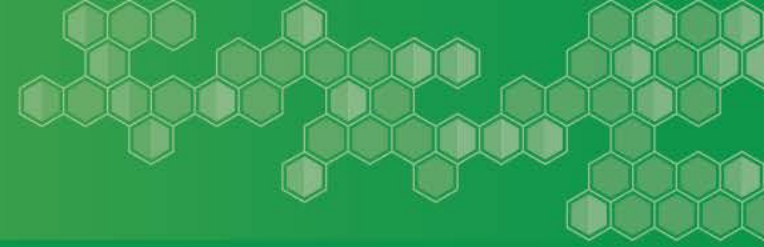
Application Information Webinar – December 2021

Program Key Elements

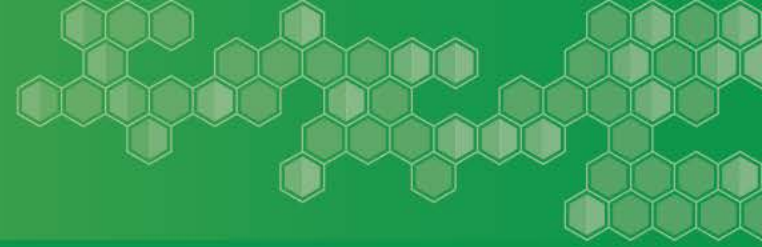
Introduction and Purpose



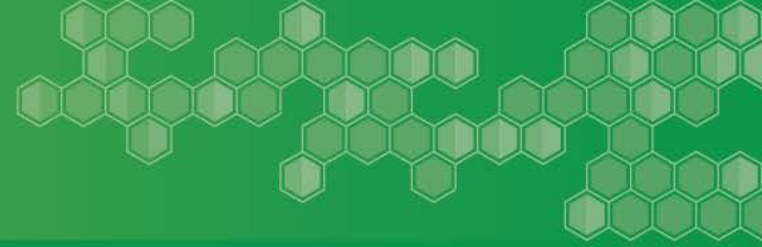
- The Office of Dropout Prevention and Student Re-Engagement (DPSR) at the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) was created by Colorado Revised Statute (C.R.S.) 22-14-103. This office provides focus, coordination, research, and leadership to assist local education providers in implementing efforts to reduce the dropout rate and increase graduation and completion rates and levels of student engagement and re-engagement.
- The Colorado Student Re-Engagement Grant Program (SRG) is authorized by C.R.S. 22-14-109 to assist local education providers in providing educational services and supports to students to maintain student engagement and support student re-engagement at the secondary level.
- The Dropout Prevention Framework was created using research- and evidence-based strategies and represents an ecosystem of institutional change that includes an iterative process for identification and intervention and support. The framework aligns with the intent and purpose of the Colorado Student Re-Engagement Grant Program.
 - For more information, see Attachment A: Definitions for Colorado Student Re-Engagement Program and Attachment B: Dropout Prevention Framework.



- Local Education Providers (LEPs) are eligible to apply for this opportunity. An eligible LEP is:
 - A School District;
 - A Board of Cooperative Services (BOCES);
 - A Charter School authorized by a School District; or
 - A Charter School authorized by the Charter School Institute.
 - Note: A charter school's authorizer will be the fiscal agent, if funded.
- Applicants that have previously received funds from the Colorado Student Re-Engagement Grant may apply for this current funding opportunity but in their application must describe current grant activities and services at recipient schools and demonstrate how, if awarded, capacity to provide activities and services will be expanded, augmented, or sustained.

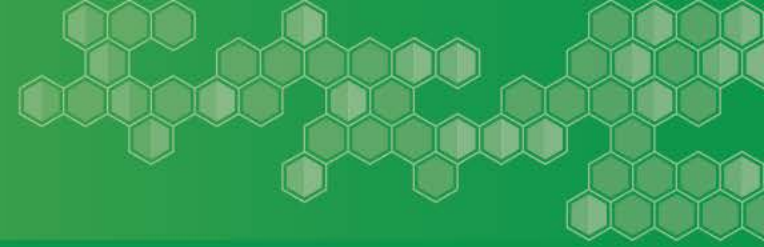


- Priority consideration in the current funding opportunity will be given to eligible applicants that seek to fund the following in at least one recipient school:
 - Re-engagement System, including identification, outreach, re-enrollment, and re-engagement of out-of-school youth
- For more information, see Attachment A.



- Approximately \$1.9 million is available for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.
 - Each applicant will receive notification of funding recommendation by June 1, 2022.
 - Funds will be awarded by CDE no later than July 1, 2022.
 - Grant awardees will be responsible for spending awarded funds in accordance with the approved budget and timeline within the grant application.
- Funding Requests: Proposed budget requests should indicate the number of schools to receive funds (**not to exceed three schools**), as identified in Part IB: Recipient Schools.
 - The annual grant request should not exceed \$100,000 per recipient school. For example, if an eligible local education provider proposes to include three high schools in its grant application, the maximum amount that could be requested is a \$100,000 per school for a total of \$300,000 per each year of the grant.
- Awarded applicants will utilize SRG funds for up to three budget years.
 - The amount requested must be justified in the Budget Narrative (see Section E of the Scoring Rubric).
 - Funding for each year of the grant will be contingent upon annual appropriations by the State Legislature and the awardee meeting all grant reporting and fiscal requirements.

Allowable Use of Funds



Funding from this opportunity may be used to support activities and strategies that align with the Dropout Prevention Framework and focus on student engagement and student re-engagement and improvement of PWR performance indicators. This includes the following:

- Innovations to strengthen school engagement and postsecondary and workforce readiness and address barriers to dropout reduction and student re-engagement. Includes efforts specifically designed to promote student re-engagement and foster policies and programs that create multiple pathways to a high school credential.
- Effective strategies for dropout prevention, student engagement and re-engagement. Includes, but is not limited to, developing or expanding the following strategies, methods, and tactics:
 - Alternative, flexible, and tiered learning strategies;
 - Attendance/Chronic Absenteeism/Truancy supports;
 - Behavior supports;
 - Competency-based learning;
 - Course completion and credit recovery;
 - Early Warning System (EWS);
 - Family-school-community partnering;
 - Positive Youth Development (PYD);
 - Re-engagement System, including identification, outreach, re-enrollment, and re-engagement of out-of-school youth;
 - Safe and welcoming school climate and cultural proficiency;
 - Staff development in meeting needs of diverse students;
 - Student social and emotional supports;
 - Transfer and transition of students; and/or
 - Visual arts and performing arts education.
- For more information, see Attachment A and Attachment B.

Additional Budget Considerations

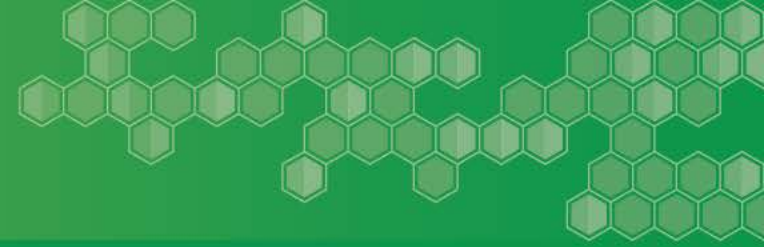


- Additional Budget Considerations:
 - Funds must be expended by June 30, 2023.
 - Professional development is allowable for grant-associated staff, that is connected to carrying out the grant's proposed strategies, and that builds capacity to foster sustainability of the grant funded activity and outcomes.
 - If awarded funds, selection of vendors must follow proper procurement procedures, i.e., competitive bids, if required. If awarded, the grantee is not bound to retain the same vendor all three years of the grant but should expect to utilize a vendor for each proposed and approved year to fund such services.
- Funds must supplement, not supplant, and may not include:
 - Indirect Costs;
 - Capital equipment or capital improvements such as upgrades or improvements to buildings, utilities or IT infrastructure, or construction;
 - Maintenance;
 - Gift cards, gift certificates, cash awards, personal gifts, door prizes, etc.;
 - Financial aid for students or staff such as waiving of fees, paying tuition, scholarships, etc.;
 - Credentialing of staff toward a degree or professional certification or license; and
 - Transportation costs for students to get to and from school (i.e., daily commuting).

Duration of Grant



- Grants awarded on a competitive basis may be eligible for renewal up to two additional budget years following the 2022-2023 award year, pursuant to the authorizing legislation.
 - As such, grants awarded for the 2022-2023 school year are not guaranteed additional funding, as annual funding is contingent upon legislative appropriations.
 - Renewed funding of grant recipients is dependent upon availability of state funds, compliance with grant expectations, and meeting reporting and fiscal requirements.



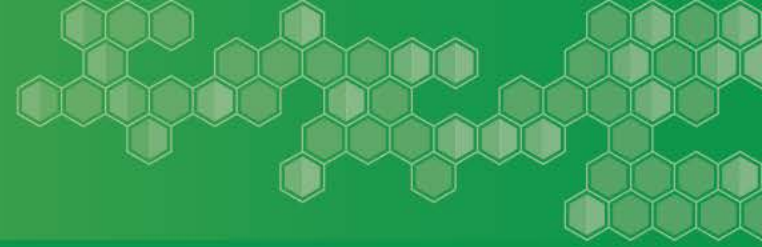
- Pursuant to C.R.S. 22-14-109, the Colorado Student Re-Engagement Grant (SRG) Program shall be evaluated for effectiveness for each year that state funds are appropriated. Each local education provider awarded a grant is required to provide fiscal reports and student and program information for each recipient school or district as the primary components of the program evaluation. Applicants must have, or acquire, the capacity to complete the evaluation and reports. Attachment C: Program Evaluation and Reporting Requirements.
- Required reporting for the SRG Program, at a minimum, includes:
 - A mid-year performance report for each funded school (e.g., including numbers of students served, student outcomes, progress on performance measures, narrative on successes and challenges relevant to student engagement and re-engagement, etc.) during the first year of the grant.
 - End-of-year performance reports for each funded school (e.g., including numbers of students served, student outcomes, progress on performance measures, narrative on successes and challenges relevant to student engagement and re-engagement, etc.) during each year of the grant.
 - State Assigned Student Identifier (SASID) for every student served in the program during the grant period. SASIDs are unique 10-digit student identifier assigned to each student in the State of Colorado. A SASID spreadsheet is provided to grantees for annual reporting.
 - Two Interim Financial Reports (IFR) each year of the grant.
 - One Annual Financial Report (AFR).
- Information reported to CDE in relation to grant activities is not confidential and is subject to public request. Grantees should ensure reported information does not contain Personally Identifiable Information (PII) or confidential information submitted outside of CDE's secure system.

Additional Program Expectations



- Newly awarded grantees must attend an orientation webinar. Grantees may also attend additional webinars and trainings offered by CDE.
- Grantees will be visited by CDE staff at least once during the duration of the grant. Additional visits or phone appointments are conducted on an as needed basis.
- CDE staff will close out grants by conducting a phone interview with grantees during the third and final year of funding.

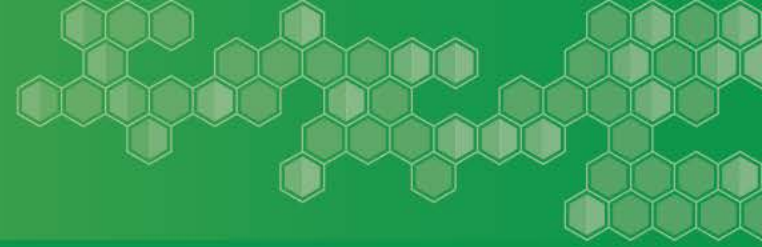
Application Process



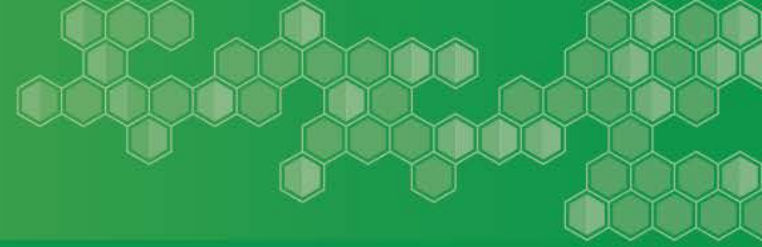
- Intent to Apply
 - If interested in applying for this funding opportunity, please complete the [Intent to Apply online form](#) by Thursday, January 13, 2022, by 11:59 pm. (See Attachment D: Intent to Apply). This allows CDE to plan for the review process and communicate to prospective applicants any additional technical assistance or notices should a need arise. Completing the Intent to Apply form is not required in order to apply.
- Frequently asked questions (FAQ) regarding this RFA will be posted on [CDE's Student Re-Engagement webpage](#).
- Assistance from BOCES: Any BOCES with member districts of less than 4,000 students receives an annual share of state education grant program funding specifically to assist those districts with applying for grants.



- Applications will be reviewed by CDE staff and peer reviewers to ensure they contain all required components.
- Applicants will be notified of final award status no later than June 1, 2022.
- Note: This is a competitive process – applicants must score at least 66 points out of the 94 possible points to be approved for funding.
 - Applications that score below 66 points may be asked to submit revisions that would bring the application up to a fundable level.
 - There is no guarantee that submitting an application will result in funding or funding at the requested level.
 - All award decisions are final.
 - Applicants that do not meet the qualifications may reapply for future grant opportunities.

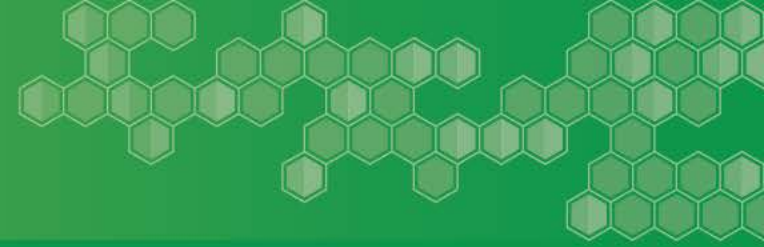


- Completed applications (including all required elements outlined below) must be submitted online via [smartsheet](#) by Wednesday, February 16, by 11:59 pm.
- Within the online application, applicants will complete a section with their applicant information (Parts IA-IB) and then upload their narrative (in PDF) and Excel Budget Workbook (in the CDE Excel template) and Program Assurances Form.
- Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.
 - If you do not receive an email confirmation of receipt of your application within 24 hours after the deadline, e-mail CompetitiveGrants@cde.state.co.us.
- Application materials and budget template are available for download on [CDE's Student Re-Engagement webpage](#).



- The total narrative (Sections A-E) of the application cannot exceed 14 pages. See next slide for the required elements of the application.
 - Note: Applications that exceed 14 pages will not be reviewed.
- All narrative response pages must be standard letter size, 8-1/2" x 11", using no smaller than 12-point font, single-spaced, with 1-inch margins and numbered pages.
 - Applications not adhering to formatting requirements may be disqualified.
- The signature page must include original signatures of the lead organization/fiscal agent.

Required Elements



The format outlined below must be followed in order to assure consistent application of the evaluation criteria. See evaluation rubric for specific selection criteria needed in Part II (pages 11-15 of the Request for Applications).

Complete responses in smartsheet :	Part I: Application Introduction Part IA: Applicant Information Part IB: Recipient School Information
Upload these documents via smartsheet: <u>1. Executive Summary and Application Narrative</u> - Executive Summary does not count toward - 14-page limit for Application Narrative <u>2. Attachment E: Policies and Practices Review Form</u> <u>3. Part IC: Program Assurances Form</u> <u>4. Excel Budget Workbook</u> - Submit in Excel format in original CDE template	Executive Summary [does not count towards 14-page limit] Part II: Application Narrative [cannot exceed 14 pages] Section A: Needs Assessment Section B: Program Description Section C: Performance Objectives Section D: Evaluation and Reporting Section E: Budget Narrative Attachment E: Policies and Practices Review Form Part IC: Program Assurances Form Excel Budget Workbook

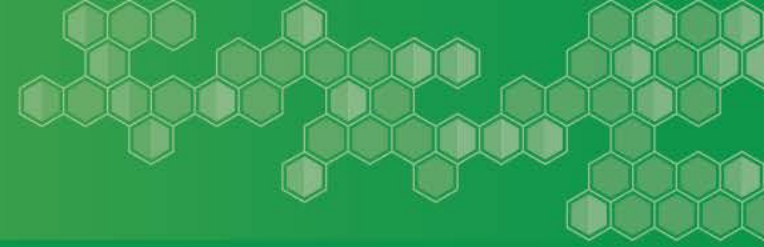
Application Elements

Part IA: Applicant Information

Lead Local Education Provider (LEP)/BOCES Information			
LEP/BOCES Name:			LEP/BOCES Code:
Mailing Address:			
Requested Funding			
Year 1 (2022-2023)	\$	Year 2 (2023-2024)	\$
Year 3 (2024-2025)	\$		
Type of Education Provider			
[check box below that best describes your organization or authorizer]			
<input type="checkbox"/> School District <input type="checkbox"/> BOCES <input type="checkbox"/> Charter School Institute			
Region			
[indicate region of Colorado this program will directly impact]			
<input type="checkbox"/> Metro <input type="checkbox"/> Pikes Peak <input type="checkbox"/> North Central <input type="checkbox"/> Northwest <input type="checkbox"/> West Central <input type="checkbox"/> Southwest <input type="checkbox"/> Southeast <input type="checkbox"/> Northeast			
Authorized Representative Information			
Name:			Title:
Telephone:			E-mail:
Program Contact Information			
Name:			Title:
Telephone:			E-mail:
Fiscal Manager Information			
Name:			
Telephone:			E-mail:

Part IB: Recipient Schools Information

Part IC: Program Assurances Form



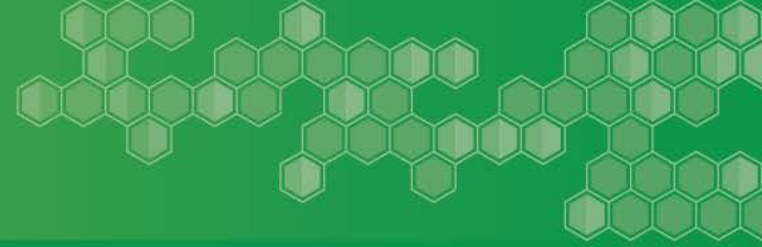
- Part IB: Recipient Schools Information**

Recipient School Information			
School Name:		School Code:	
Mailing Address:		Charter School:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Principal Information			
Name:			
Telephone:		E-mail:	
Brief Summary of School-Level Request			
Anticipated Number of Students to be Served			
2022-2023:		2023-2024:	
2024-2025:			

- Part IC: Program Assurances Form**

Upload your Program Assurances Form in the smartsheet form. Charter schools must obtain signatures from their authorizing district or CSI for the Authorized Representative. Applications can be submitted without signatures in place, but funds will not be disbursed until this form is complete.

Questions?



Program Questions:

Ashley Idrees, Director, Dropout Prevention and Student Re-Engagement
(303) 866-6127 | Idrees_A@cde.state.co.us

Budget/Fiscal Questions:

Anna Friedman, Grants Fiscal Management
(720) 778-1877 | Friedman_A@cde.state.co.us

Application Process Questions:

Mandy Christensen, Competitive Grants and Awards
(303) 866-6250 | Christensen_A@cde.state.co.us