



Expelled and At-Risk Student Services Grant

The Expelled and At-Risk Student Services (EARSS) grant program provides funding to assist in providing educational and supportive services to students who have been expelled, are at-risk of expulsion, are truant, are at-risk of becoming habitually truant, and/or are considered chronically absent. It is authorized by Colorado Revised Statute (C.R.S.) 22-33-205

Overview

CDE is releasing a new four-year funding opportunity for applicants who are providing educational services, support, behavioral interventions, and systemic changes to increase attendance and decrease exclusionary disciplinary.

Grant Details

The current funding opportunity, EARSS Cohort 5, will include a one-year planning period followed by a three-year implementation period focused on comprehensive approaches that include targeted intervention and educational services for EARSS-eligible students and systemic changes that help limit absences and behavior challenges. Applicants should be focused on building effective attendance and discipline systems and providing targeted support that will impact eligible students.

- Available funding for the planning year is \$50,000. Implementation years are eligible for \$125,000 a year per school site with a maximum of \$425,000 per district.
- District level programs are eligible for up to \$425,000 if more than three school sites are receiving services.

Eligible Applicants

Local education providers are eligible to apply for this opportunity including school districts, Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), district charter school(s), an Institute Charter School, and facility schools.

- Recently funded EARSS grantees, including those in Cohort 1, are eligible to apply. If funded, continuation grantees will be exempt from the one-year planning period.
- Funding will be distributed first to education providers with school(s) demonstrating high need based on chronically absent rates, habitually truant rates, unduplicated discipline counts, exclusionary discipline rates, alternative education campuses, facility schools, and/or LEA's who have never or have not been funded in the last five years.

Key Dates:

December 1, 2025 - RFA Opens

January 9, 2026 - Application
Deadline

March 2026 – Notification of Grant
Awards

CDE's Office of Dropout Prevention and Student Re-engagement administers the Expelled and At-Risk Student Services Grant. The office provides coordination, research and leadership to assist local education providers in implementing efforts to improve student engagement with the goal to improve the dropout, graduation and completion rates every year while decreasing exclusionary disciplinary rates.

[EARSS Webpage](#)

Copy of Application Available Here

Contact Information:

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Schedule a Meeting with Amy:

[MEETING REQUEST](#)



Goals and Performance Measures:

Each applicant will select one overarching goal - Discipline or Attendance and will report data on intermediate data towards each goal.

Discipline Focused

Discipline focused programs are designed to decrease rates of discipline while developing systems level work to prevent future disciplinary infractions:

- **Decrease Exclusionary Discipline:** The goal of this focus is to decrease exclusionary discipline rates, as measured by the in-school or out-of-school suspension rates; or
- **Decrease Disciplinary Actions:** The goal of this focus is to decrease disciplinary action rates, as measured by the total number of disciplinary actions each year that may include other actions beyond in and out of school suspension.

Success will be measured through self-reported progress and state reported discipline counts including total number of in-school suspensions, out of school suspensions, and expulsions.

Attendance Focused

Attendance focused programs are designed to improve current practices regarding attendance:

- **Improve Attendance:** The goal is to improve the Attendance each year as measured by the attendance rate reported each year to the state; or
- **Decrease Chronic Absenteeism:** The goal is to decrease chronic absenteeism as measured by the chronic absenteeism rate reported each year to the state.

Success will be measured through self-reported progress and state reported attendance rates including chronically absent and habitually truant rates.