

Safe Schools/Healthy Students 2009

Grant Overview: The Safe Schools/Healthy Students (SS/HS) program supports the implementation and enhancement of integrated, comprehensive community-wide plans that create safe and drug-free schools and promote healthy childhood development. Grant proposals must focus activities, curricula, programs, and services in a manner that responds to the community's existing needs, gaps, or weaknesses in areas related to the five comprehensive plan elements:

1. Safe School Environments and Violence Prevention Activities.
2. Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Prevention Activities.
3. Student Behavioral, Social, and Emotional Supports.
4. Mental Health Services.
5. Early Childhood Social and Emotional Learning.

LEAs that have not previously been funded by the grant receive an extra 5 points on their applications. The applicant must also offer the opportunities outlined in the proposal to the students and staff of any local private schools. In order to ensure that grant program activities, curricula, programs, and services address the needs of private school children, LEAs must engage in timely and meaningful consultation with private school officials during the design and development of the program. This consultation must take place before any decision is made that affects the opportunities of eligible private school children, teachers, and other educational personnel to participate.

Applicants must include a Preliminary Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), signed by the authorized representatives of the:

- LEA
- Local juvenile justice agency
- Local law enforcement agency
- Local public mental health authority

The preliminary MOA must:

- Include information that supports the selection of each identified SS/HS required partner that has signed the preliminary MOA.
- Demonstrate the support and commitment of the required SS/HS partners to implement and sustain the project if funded.
- Name a core management team of senior representatives from the required partners, and clearly define how each member of the team will support the project director in the day-to-day management of the project.
- Describe how multiple and diverse sectors of the community, including parents and students, have been and will continue to be involved in the design, implementation, and continuous improvement of the project.

Applicants must also attach a logic model (a graphic representation of the project in chart format) that identifies needs or gaps and connects those needs or gaps with corresponding project goals, objectives, activities, partners' roles, outcomes, and outcome measures for each of the SS/HS elements.

If funded, the applicant must provide a final MOA, which will contain the following:

- Information that supports the selection of each identified SS/ HS required partner that has signed the final MOA.
- Any needed revisions to the statement of support and commitment for each of the required SS/HS partners to implement and sustain the project.
- A final roster of the core management team of senior representatives from the required SS/HS partners that clearly defines how each member of the team will support the project director in the day-to-day management of the project.
- Any needed revisions to the process for involving multiple and diverse sectors of the community in the implementation and continuous improvement of the project.
- A final logic model that identifies needs or gaps and connects those needs or gaps with corresponding project goals, objectives, activities, partners' roles, outcomes, and outcome measures for each of the SS/HS elements.
- A description of each partner's financial responsibility for the services that it will provide, along with the conditions and terms of responsibility for those services, including the quality, accountability, and coordination of services as they relate to achieving the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the project.
- A description of the procedures to be used for referral, treatment, and follow-up for children and adolescents in need of mental health services and an assurance that the local public mental health authority will provide administrative control and/or oversight of the delivery of mental health services.
- Any other necessary revisions to information furnished in the preliminary MOA.

No more than 10% of the project budget per year may be used for to support costs associated with security equipment, security personnel, and minor remodeling of school facilities to improve school safety.

No less than seven percent of a grantee's budget for each year must be used to support costs associated with local evaluation activities.

The Department has established the following Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA) performance measures for the SS/HS program:

1. Student Victimization/Perception of School Safety.
 - a. Percentage of grantees that experience a decrease in students who did not go to school on 1 or more days during the past 30 days because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to and from school.
 - b. Percentage of grantees that experience a decrease in students who have been in a physical fight on school property in the 12 months prior to the survey.
2. Student Substance Use/Abuse.
 - a. Percentage of grantees that report a decrease in students who report current (30-day) marijuana use.
 - b. Percentage of grantees that report a decrease in students who report current (30-day) alcohol use.
3. Mental Health Services Provided.

- a. Percentage of grantees that report an increase in the number of students receiving school-based mental health services.
- b. Percentage of grantees that report an increase in the percentage of mental health referrals for students that result in mental health services being provided in the community.

Amount of Award: For districts with enrollment of 5,000 or more – up to \$1.5 million per year for up to four years. Enrollment is determined by NCES statistics for the most current year. No match is required.

Due Date/Notification of Award: Applications are due on March 4, 2009. Notification of award should be in July/August 2009.

Alternatives if not Awarded: If not funded, the administration would search for other grant sources to accomplish grant objectives. There is a chance that unfunded applications from 2009 will be funded in 2010, if monies are available.

WCSD Resources Required: All grant activities, equipment, and other needs would be covered in the grant budget. The district might have to provide a project coordinator (salary covered by grant). Potential of perhaps providing work space for employees of partner agencies.

Administrative Recommendation: The recommendation is to apply for funding.