

Project Prevent Grant Program

CFDA 84.184M

2022 Technical Assistance Webinar for Prospective Applicants

Logistics for this Webinar

Please pose your questions using the “Q & A” feature. Those questions will be answered during this presentation.

If for some reason your question is not addressed during this webinar:

- Please email Project.Prevent@ed.gov.

Application Package

The application package for the Project Prevent Program can be found at:

www.Grants.gov

You can also request a copy of the application package at

Project.Prevent@ed.gov

****Please be sure to read through the application package before attempting to apply!**

Program Overview

Application Deadline Date: October 3, 2022

Application Submission: Applications must be submitted electronically via www.Grants.gov.

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

Approximate Appropriation for FY 2022: \$6,800,000

Estimated Number of Awards: 10 - 13 awards

Estimated Range of Awards: \$250,000 to \$800,000 per-year

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$600,000 per-year

Program Overview

Purpose

The purpose of the Project Prevent Grant Program is to provide grants to local educational agencies (LEAs) impacted by community violence and to expand the capacity of LEAs to implement community- and school-based strategies to help prevent community violence and mitigate the impacts of exposure to community violence.

Program Overview

Eligible Applicants

Local educational agencies (LEAs), i.e., public school districts including charter schools that are considered LEAs under State law.

Program Overview - Application Requirements

Applicants must also address the application requirements:

1. Severity and magnitude of the problem; identification of schools to be served by the proposed project.
2. Collaboration and coordination with community-based organizations

Program Overview - Application Requirements

3. Project Activities (must choose at least three):
 - a) Appropriately tailored professional development opportunities on how to screen for and respond to violence-related trauma and implement appropriate school-based interventions
 - b) Activities designed to improve the range, availability, and quality of culturally and linguistically competent, inclusive, and evidence-based school-based mental health services by increasing the number and diversity of staff positions

Program Overview - Application Requirements

3. Project Activities, continued (must choose at least three):
 - c) Training for school staff, community partners, youth, and families on the effects of exposure to community violence, the importance of screening students, how to screen students exposed to community violence in a manner that minimizes bias and stereotypes, and how to provide interventions.
 - d) Developing or improving processes to better target services to students who are exposed to community violence and to assess such students who may be experiencing mental, social, emotional, or behavioral challenges as a result of this exposure.

Program Overview - Application Requirements

3. Project Activities, continued (must choose at least three):
 - e) Enhancing linkages between LEA mental health services and community mental health systems to help ensure affected students receive referrals to treatment that is culturally and linguistically competent and evidence-based, as appropriate.
 - f) Undertaking activities in collaboration and coordination with law enforcement to address community violence affecting students, to support victims' rights, and to promote public safety.

Program Overview - Application Requirements

4. Evidence-based, culturally and linguistically competent, and developmentally appropriate programs and practices.
5. Framework for planning, implementation, and sustainability

Program Priorities

Absolute Priority

Addressing the Impacts of Community Violence

Projects that implement community- and school-based strategies to help prevent community violence and mitigate the impacts of children and youth's exposure to community violence in collaboration with local community-based organizations (e.g., local civic or community service organizations, local faith-based organizations, or local foundations or non-profit organizations).

Program Priorities

Competitive Preference Priority 1

Established Partnership with a Local Community-Based Organization (2 points)

An application that includes at least one memorandum of agreement (MOA) or memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed by the authorized representative of a local community-based organization that agrees to partner with the applicant on the proposed project and provide resources or administer services that are likely to substantially contribute to positive outcomes for the proposed project. The MOA or MOU must clearly delineate the roles and responsibilities of each entity.

Program Priorities

Competitive Preference Priority 2 -

Supporting Children and Youth from Low-Income Backgrounds (up to 3 points).

An applicant must demonstrate, based on Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) data from the U.S. Census Bureau or, for an LEA for which SAIPE data are not available, the same State-derived equivalent of SAIPE data that the State uses to make allocations under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA), one of the following:

- a) At least 20 percent of the students enrolled in the LEA to be served by the proposed project are from families with an income below the poverty line.
- b) At least 25 percent of the students enrolled in the LEA to be served by the proposed project are from families with an income below the poverty line.
- c) At least 30 percent of the students enrolled in the LEA to be served by the proposed project are from families with an income below the poverty line.

Overview of Review Process

Applications received by the deadline are screened by Federal staff for eligibility and to ensure requirements are met.

Eligible applications are read and scored by a panel of 3 external peer reviewers.

All applicants (successful and unsuccessful) will be notified via letter in writing or email.

We anticipate making all awards by December 30, 2022.

Selection Criteria

- (A) Need for Project (15 points)
- (B) Significance (15 points)
- (C) Quality of the Project Design (15 points)
- (D) Quality of the Project Services (25 points)
- (E) Quality of the Management Plan (15 points)
- (F) Quality of the Project Evaluation (15 points)

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), performance measures have been established to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the Project Prevent Grant Program.

The GPRA measures for this program are:

- 1) The percentage of grantees that report an annual measurable decrease in violent, aggressive, and disruptive behavior in schools served by the grant.**
- 2) The percentage of grantees that report an annual measurable increase in the number of students in schools served by the grant receiving school-based and community mental health services to address student needs resulting from exposure to community violence.**
- 3) The percentage of grantees that report an annual measurable increase in the school engagement of students served by the grant, as defined and measured by the grantee.**

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

GPRM Measures, continued:

- 4) **The percentage of grantees that report an annual measurable increase in the quality of family engagement and grantee engagement with community-based organization(s), as defined and measured by the grantee.**
- 5) **The percentage of grantees that report an annual measurable increase in the number of school staff or other specialized instructional support personnel trained in violence-related trauma and appropriate school-based interventions to help prevent community violence.**

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

ED School Climate Surveys (EDSCLS)

- In early 2013, ED announced that a high priority would be placed on efforts to help the nation's schools “create safer and more nurturing school climates.”
- In order to facilitate school climate measurement, ED has developed a high-quality, adaptable suite of surveys and associated web-based platform called the US Department of Education School Climate Surveys (EDSCLS).
- The EDSCLS is available to schools, school districts, and States.
- The platform can be downloaded free of charge from the National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments (NCSSLE) website at (<https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/edscls>).
- EDSCLS provides user-friendly school climate reports back to users in real time.

Frequently Asked Questions

Absolute Priority: Is required to be eligible. Applicants that fail to meet the absolute priority will be considered ineligible for funding.

Competitive Preference Priority Points: Are not required to be eligible. You can choose to address one or both of the competitive preferences.

Frequently Asked Questions

Charter Schools: Charter Schools that are considered LEAs under State law and do not currently have an active grant under this program are eligible. Charter schools must provide proof of eligibility. Refer to pages 7, 20 and 21.

Eligibility of Area Educational Districts, Educational Service Centers or other similar entities: If these entities are considered LEAs under state law, they are eligible to apply for funding under this program. However, proof of LEA status should be uploaded as an attachment with the application. If possible, this should take the form of a letter from the applicable State Education Agency verifying the status of the entity as an LEA.

LEA Consortium: A consortium of LEAs may apply. The LEAs that comprise the consortia must ALL be: (1) entities that are considered an LEA under state law, and (2) not currently have an active grant under this program.

Frequently Asked Questions

Budget Period: Awards will be made ranging from approximately \$250,000 to \$800,000 per-year depending on the scope of work. We have approximately \$6,800,000 available for grants under Project Prevent and plan to make approximately 10 - 13 awards. The average size of the grant will be \$600,000 per-year.

Lobbying Form: Even if you don't participate in any lobbying activities, you must still complete boxes 1-4 and enter N/A for the remaining boxes to submit your Disclosure of Lobbying Activities Form (SF-LLL).

Frequently Asked Questions

Vendor Participation: If a vendor or individual not employed by the applicant assists in preparing an application for an ED grant, and subsequently is interested in providing contract services after the applicant receives a grant award, a close examination of all activities may be warranted to ensure the above procurement procedures were followed, consistent with fair and open competition, and other restrictions not violated.

Frequently Asked Questions

Hiring of Additional Staff:

Under Application Requirement #3, applicants can use funds to improve the range, availability, and quality of culturally and linguistically competent, inclusive, and evidence-based school-based mental health services by increasing the number and diversity of staff positions (e.g., school and clinical psychologists, school counselors, school social workers, or occupational therapists) or other appropriate school support personnel, and by hiring staff who are diverse and reflective of the community, with expertise or training in violence prevention, trauma-informed care, and healing-centered strategies, and who are qualified to respond to the mental and behavioral health needs of students who have experienced trauma as a result of exposure to community violence

Applying For a Grant

You will need to ensure that your organization is registered with the System for Award Management (SAM), which is located at www.sam.gov. In order to complete your SAM registration, you must have your organization's Taxpayer ID Number (TIN) and taxpayer name.

If you have a SAM registration and have not updated since last year, please make sure it is active. You may need to reactivate your account as accounts must be updated annually.

Applying For a Grant (cont.)

The SAM registration can take a couple of weeks. Thus, it is recommended that you register immediately at the SAM website in order that this process is completed early and in time for submitting your application on Grants.gov. Please note: An active SAM account is needed in order to submit your application on Grants.gov. Also, once your SAM registration is active, it will take 24-48 hours for the information from SAM to upload to Grants.gov and be available so you can submit your application through Grants.gov.

Applying For a Grant (cont.)

For assistance registering on SAM, you may refer to the Quick Start Guide for Grant Registration under the HELP Section of the SAM website. You may also contact the Federal Service Desk located under the Help Section.

You must complete an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) profile and enter a user name and password on Grants.gov in order to submit an application. Instructions for completing this are on the Grants.gov website under the Registration link. The E-Business (e-Biz) Point of Contact at your organization must confirm you as an AOR through the Grants.gov system. The time for this validation depends upon the responsiveness of your e-Biz point of contact. At any time, you can track your AOR status on the Grants.gov website

Applying For a Grant (cont.)

When submitting an application, please allow enough time for the file to upload by the deadline. We strongly recommend that you do not wait until the last day to upload your application because if there are problems with your submission, you still have time to fix your application and resubmit. Information regarding submitting your application and checking the status can be found on pages 32-35 of the application package.

Applying For a Grant (cont.)

An application must be fully uploaded and received by the deadline of 11:59:59 pm Washington DC time on October 3, 2022. This does not mean that as long as you hit the submit button by this timeframe it is accepted. Since the baud rate of transmission, size of your application, internet connection, and firewalls within your organization may play a part in how fast your application transmits, it is recommended that you not wait until the application deadline date to begin transmitting your application.

Applying For a Grant (cont.)

After you submit your application to Grants.gov, you will receive from Grants.gov an automatic notification of receipt that contains a Grants.gov tracking number. This notification indicates receipt by Grants.gov only and is not a receipt by the Department. The Department will retrieve your application from Grants.gov and send a second notification to you by email. This second notification will let you know if your application was submitted successfully and will assign your application a PR/Award number, which identifies your application at the Department. Please make sure you have received this second notification before considering your application uploaded.

Applying For a Grant (cont.)

When attaching files to your application, they must be in a .PDF read-only, non-modifiable format. PDF files are the only Education approved file type accepted as written in the Federal Register notice. We will not accept any other attachments so make sure your Word and Excel documents are converted to PDF. Also, the Department will not accept any attachments that contain files within a file, such as PDF Portfolio files, or a fillable .PDF file. Any attachments that contain password protected files cannot be accessed by our system and will not be read. Please make sure you do not password protect any documents uploaded to Grants.gov

Applying For a Grant (cont.)

There are naming restrictions for files uploaded on Grants.gov as mentioned on page 35 of the application package. An application cannot be processed if there are two or more files with the same name or if your application name is 50 characters in length or contains special characters. Applications will be rejected if they do not meet the Grants.gov guidelines.

Questions.....

Competition Manager

Nicole A. White

Project.Prevent@ed.gov