



Richard Woods, Georgia's School Superintendent
"Educating Georgia's Future"

Georgia Charter Schools Program RFA Charter School Program Grant (CSP) Remote Learning and Access Due to COVID-19

Technical Assistance Webinar for Applicants posted on GaDOE website: **Friday, November 13**

Deadline to Submit a Notice of Intent to Apply: **Friday November 20, 2020, 11:59 pm EST**

Deadline to Submit Grant Application: **Friday, December 4, 2020 at 4:00 PM**

Office

District Flexibility and Charter School Division

Program Name

Charter School Program Grant (CSP) Remote Learning and Access Due to COVID-19

Specific Funding Authority

Federal Funds: CFDA #84.282A – Title V, Part B, Subpart 1 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

Funding Purpose / Priorities

Under waiver authority provided by the U.S. Secretary of Education, the CSP under this grant intends to provide assistance with remote-learning needs and other technology challenges brought about by the threat of COVID-19 through sub-grants.

Average Funding Amount

The average amount of funding is approximately \$150,000.

Type of Award

Discretionary, Non-Competitive

Budget / Program Performance Period

The budget and performance period will run for 12 months from the grant start date. Allowable expenses within a three-month period incurred after March 14, 2020 may be reimbursable as pre-award costs if eligible charter schools purchased these items to facilitate their remote-learning needs to address the impact of COVID-19.

Target Population(s)

Charter schools, students, and families.

Eligible Applicant(s)

All charter schools that meet the federal definition of a charter school are technically eligible to apply, which includes all charter schools in the State of Georgia. However, given the finite source of funds, the Department will rank order applicants, prioritizing Title-I eligible schools, by using the following criteria:

1. Those with free and reduced-price lunch populations of 100 percent; then, if funds remain available,
2. Those with free and reduced-price lunch populations between 90 and 99 percent; then, if funds remain available,
3. Those with free and reduced-price lunch populations between 80 and 89 percent; then, if funds remain available,
4. Those with free and reduced-price lunch populations between 70 and 79 percent; then, if funds remain available,
5. All other Title-I eligible single charter schools, rank-ordered as follows
 - a. Those with free and reduced-price lunch populations between 35 and 69 percent; then
 - b. Those with free and reduced-price lunch populations less than 35 percent

If funds remain after that, other charter schools in Georgia would be eligible.

The Department reserves the right to make all final funding decisions.

Application Due Date

Monday, **December 4, 2020**

The due date refers to the date of receipt by the Grants Program Manager.

Contact Persons

Program Contact

Allen Mueller

Director

404-780-4730

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Grants Management Contact

Kim Wiggins

Manager

470-279-9454

kwiggins@doe.k12.ga.us

A. Grant Requirements

1. All grants awarded under this RFA are remote learning subgrants to charter schools for the specific and limited purpose of meeting the immediate educational needs of charter school students impacted by the COVID-19 national emergency and may not exceed a period of 12 months.
2. All CSP remote learning subgrant recipients must have satisfactorily completed all activities under any previous CSP grants or subgrants, including complying with all State and Federal reporting and recordkeeping requirements. Active CSP subgrantees may not receive remote learning subgrants concurrently.
3. No charter school receiving a CSP remote learning subgrant will use funds to carry out the same project or activities from a previous CSP grant or subgrant (i.e., any activities funded under the school's previous CSP grant or subgrant may not be funded under the remote learning subgrant), including CSP grants or subgrants awarded under the CSP SEA, CSP Grants to Charter Management Organizations for the Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools (CFDA No. 84.282M), CSP Grants to Developers for the Opening of New Charter Schools and for the Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools (CFDA Nos. 84.282B and 84.282E), and CSP Grants to State Entities program (CFDA No. 84.282A) programs.
4. All subgrant funding, including funding for pre-award costs, may be used only to support the initial implementation of remote learning programs in charter schools that demonstrate financial need for such resources and have never provided remote learning as part of their educational model.
5. Charter schools receiving a remote learning subgrant will support ALL students in the school, demonstrate that it will hold ALL students accountable for meeting academic performance requirements, and provide a written plan for reopening and transitioning from remote learning back to full-time, or part-time, in-person instruction this Fall, or as soon as practicable and safe to do so based on the guidance of State and local health officials.
6. GaDOE will monitor subgrant recipients to ensure that they are actually providing high-quality remote learning services to ALL students, administering their subgrants in accordance with statutory and regulatory requirements governing the CSP, and holding ALL students accountable for meeting academic performance requirements.

7. . GaDOE will post on its website quarterly performance reports (January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 of each year for the duration of the grant), will provide this information to USDOE, and will keep the report on the GaDOE website until several years after the end of the projects or after audits are completed and resolved. The performance reports shall describe all remote learning subgrants awarded (capturing activity through the last day of the prior month). Grant awardees agree to provide the following information to GaDOE for inclusion in the published report:
- a. a listing of the specific charter schools receiving remote learning subgrants, including the name of the authorizer, and the amount of funds provided to each school;
 - b. the budget of expenses for that period;
 - c. a description of the services provided under the waiver, including the number of students served by each school through remote learning;
 - d. the average teacher instructional time per day through remote learning;
 - e. the average percentage of student participation in classes each day (and the range) for the period;
 - f. the average results on performance-based tests (when available);
 - g. any information or signs demonstrating effectiveness or progress in overcoming challenges faced;
 - h. other information that GaDOE or USDOE may determine is necessary to ensure accountability regarding remote learning subgrants under Georgia’s CSP SEA grant;
 - i. any other information that Georgia wants to post in this report that demonstrates the quality of its remote learning services to ALL students.

B. Submission Requirements

All applications must include the Project Application Form and include signatures from the chairperson of the charter school governing board and the district superintendent. Electronic signatures are permissible.

Applicants also must complete a Budget Narrative form. Budget pages must be completed to provide sufficient information to enable reviewers to understand the nature and reason for each line item cost.

Applicants must provide the following information with the forms above:

- Project summary and plan: Provide a brief description of the school’s educational program and why the school is seeking these funds. Schools should address why CSP funds are necessary to accommodate the school’s and students’ remote-learning needs, or technology enhancements, due to the disruption caused by COVID-19. The statement should also make clear how the charter school will support all students in the school through this project. Additionally, the school should provide a brief plan for how it will transition back to the school’s original academic program after the COVID-19 emergency has ended. **The entirety of this project summary and plan should not exceed two to three pages.**

- School overview which must include:
 - Year the school opened
 - District in which it operates
 - Current enrollment
 - Grade levels served
 - Title I status (Yes or No)
 - If school contracts with an education services provider (ESP), provide the name of the provider.
- Signed assurance forms supplied by the Department. Assurances include the following:
 - That any sub-grants awarded to eligible charter schools under this RFA must be for the specific and limited purpose of meeting the immediate educational needs of charter school students impacted by the COVID-19 emergency and may not exceed a period of 12 months.
 - That eligible charter schools have satisfactorily completed all activities and reporting requirements under a previous CSP sub-grant project, if applicable.
 - That eligible charter schools will not use CSP funds awarded under this RFA to carry out projects or activities from a previous CSP sub-grant.
 - That eligible charter schools will support all students in the school.
 - Applications should be e-mailed.

Only applications that are complete, follow the guidelines, and are submitted by the deadline will be evaluated. Failure to comply with any requirements will result in ineligibility for the grant. Applications will not be returned. Please keep a copy of the complete application (with signatures) for your records. Please use the checklist as a guide.

Applicants must email an electronic version in both PDF and original form (Excel for the budget and Word for narrative), to:

Grants Management Contact
Kim Wiggins
Manager
kwiggins@doe.k12.ga.us

C. Conditions for Acceptance

The requirements listed below should be met for applications to be considered for review:

- 1) Application is received by the Department within the timeframe specified by the RFA
- 2) Application includes required forms: Project Application Form and Budget Narrative Form
- 3) All required forms have original or electronic signatures by an authorized entity
- 4) Application must be submitted electronically to kwiggins@doe.k12.ga.us