

Delaware



*Department of
Education*

Opportunity Funding for Mental Health Services

For more information and to submit applications:

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Funding Period: Fiscal Year 2020

**Delaware Department of Education
Opportunity Funding Form
2019-2020 School Year**

Opportunity Funding
Directed funds for mental health services

Application deadline: Friday, Aug. 9, 2019

Purpose: The Opportunity Funding directed to mental health services provides \$5.0 million in FY20, \$2.5 million in HB 225 (Annual Appropriations Act) and \$2.5 million authorized in HB 226 (One-Time Supplemental). With a total supplemental amount of \$7.5 million over three years, the total amount will be \$15 million *contingent on future appropriations*.

It shall be apportioned to schools which qualify for a Reading Interventionist under the Student Success Block Grant as detailed in House Bill 225 (the FY20 operating budget).

This funding shall be used by school districts and charter schools for *mental health services* in the form of school counselors, school social workers or licensed clinical social workers, school psychologists, and/or for additional reading supports for grades K-5. Services may include the employment of staff, where such funding may be used to cover 100 percent of personnel costs on a 10 to 12-month basis and/or contracted services.

This funding is allocated separately from the directed funds for English learners and low-income students.

Allocation Method: Amounts vary per school and that amount is indicated below. Each LEA has already received the first half of the funding; the second amount will be released upon receipt and approval of this application.

DISTRICT/CHARTER NAME:	East Side Charter School
ADDRESS:	3000 North Claymont Street, Wilmington, DE 19802
CONTACT NAME:	Norman Solomon, JD, Director of Development
CONTACT PHONE:	513-520-9974
CONTACT EMAIL:	norman.solomon@escs.k12.de.us
ALLOCATION AMOUNT:	\$106,202

Overall summary

1. What will you do to offer mental health supports specifically to low-income and English language learners?

At EastSide Charter School ["ESCS"], 84.3% (393 of 466 students) of our student body may be classified as low-income to extremely-low-income. The number of our ELL students is very limited however ... less than 1%.

We plan to use the mental health funds provided under this grant for three new employees whose services are targeted primarily to our low income and small number of ELL students.

EastSide will use the grant funds to pay, in whole or in part, for the costs of two new staffers employed on a contract basis to support school culture in conjunction with and oversight by the new School Counselor. These staff work in conjunction with the school psychologist and Head of School, consulting with the Elementary School's Deans of Climate. They provide a wide array of supports to the Mental Health Team (MHT), including, but not limited to, pullouts of children for visits for counseling with members of the MHT, de-escalation of in class events/eruptions, cool-down face-to-face interaction and restorative conversations with students in the midst of challenging conduct, mediation of student- to-student as well as staff-to-student confrontations, and a variety of other MHT supportive services.

2. How will the funding also assist students not in those two subgroups?

While this grant is primarily target to our large number of low income and small number of ELL students, EastSide will provide services under this grant to all students as appropriate.

3. What kind of specialist are you hiring (school counselor, school social worker, licensed clinical social worker or school psychologist)?

In the 2018-2019 school year ESCS served 426 students and, through the children, their families.

As a first priority the new School Counselor provides direct counseling services targeted to low income and EL students. She additionally provides counseling services to staff that serve children who have high trauma. This individual also participates in the delivery of services collateral to but also supporting the mental wellbeing of our low income and EL students, including our Social and Emotional Learning curriculum, which brings together social-emotional learning, Bullying Prevention, and Child Protection programming for Kindergarten–Grade 5, creating and providing sustaining safe, supportive learning environments in the school. These programming elements could not be effectively employed through the collective efforts of general staff as adjuncts to their other school-based responsibilities.

The School Counselor handles an acute rotating (students come and go on her roster of participating students) caseload of some 40-50 students on a daily/weekly basis; as well as group sessions for 2nd, 3rd, 4th, grades. She also participates in the oversight of trauma services for the entire school – staff and students alike – reporting to the school psychologist and Head of School, and consulting with the Elementary School's Deans of Climate.

Funds sought under this grant application will also pay, in whole or in part, for the costs of two new staffers employed on a contract basis to support school culture in conjunction with and oversight by the School Counselor, as well as the school psychologist and Head of School, consulting with the Elementary School's Deans of Climate. They provide a wide array of supports to the Mental Health Team (MHT), including, but not limited to, pullouts of children for visits for counseling with members of the MHT, de-escalation of in class events/eruptions, cool-down face-to-face interaction and restorative conversations with students in the midst of challenging conduct, mediation of student-to-student as well as staff-to-student confrontations, and a variety of other MHT supportive services.

4. Are you using this money for additional reading supports in addition to mental health services? If so, what types of services will be provided?

We are not using these funds for reading supports.

5. Is this money is being used to contract services?

YES x NO

6. Please provide a copy of your expenditure plan.

Assurances and signatures:

As the chief school officer of the district or school, including the indicated school, I am authorized to submit for the funds identified in this form. I am also authorized to obligate the district or charter school to conduct any activity approved under this form in accordance with all applicable state requirements, including statutory and regulatory requirements, and program specific requirements. The information contained in it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. By submitting this form, I acknowledge that I understand and agree to abide by all applicable requirements. I further agree that

1. I understand that this funding may not be used to supplant otherwise available funding.
2. I understand that our district shall be authorized to assess a local match to provide for the local contribution of personnel costs associated with this appropriation (districts only).

Chief School Officer (printed name): Aaron Bass

Signature:  Date: 8/7/2019

As the business manager of the district or school, including the indicated school, I am authorized to submit for the funds identified in this form. I have read this form and reviewed the financial information contained in this form. The information contained in this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I have reviewed and approve the submission of the budgetary information for this form. By submitting this form, I acknowledge that I understand and agree to abide by all applicable requirements. I further agree that

1. I understand that this funding may not be used to supplant otherwise available funding.
2. I understand that our district shall be authorized to assess a local match to provide for the local contribution of personnel costs associated with this appropriation (districts only).

Business manager (printed name): Carrie Klein

Signature:  Date: 8-7-2019

By signing this form, I am approving the plan submitted by the district or charter.

Secretary of Education/Designee (printed name): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Attachment 1

Costs

Costs	Salary	OECs	Total
A. To be covered, in part, by Grant			
School counselor	\$51,155	\$29,224	\$80,379
Contract mental health/culture staff 2 individuals @ \$160 per day each, for 169 school days			\$18,141
Total			\$98,520

Note:

We were allocated a flexible Opportunity Grant in the amount of \$101,500.

We were allocated a Mental Health Opportunity Grant in the amount of \$106,202.

Total allocations were: \$207,702

We received a flexible grant in the amount of \$109,182.

We seek an Opportunity Grant for Mental Health in the amount of \$98,520.