

*Delaware*



*Department of  
Education*

# **Opportunity Funding**

For more information contact:  
Susan S. Bunting, Ed.D.  
Secretary of Education  
[susan.bunting@doe.k12.de.us](mailto:susan.bunting@doe.k12.de.us)

Funding Period: Fiscal Year 2020

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

**Opportunity Funding  
*Directed Funds for English Learners and Low-Income Students***

**Application deadline: June 30, 2019**

**Purpose:** The Opportunity Funding initiative creates a three-year weighted funding program across the state. Delaware is currently one of only a handful of states without additional funding for English learners (ELs) and/or low-income students (low-income).

**Allocation Method:** Local education agencies (LEAs) will receive \$500 per EL and \$300 per low-income student. Funding shall be made available to LEAs upon the passage of the FY20 budget in early July so they may begin to hire staff, procure instructional materials, execute contracts for services, and plan for the upcoming school year. LEAs may use this funding for 100 percent of staff costs, including, but not limited to, reading specialists, math specialists, school counselors, school social workers, school psychologists, and other personnel dedicated to initiatives such as trauma-informed practices.

**Accountability:** LEAs will be held accountable to ensure funds are used to improve outcomes for low-income and EL students. Districts and charters will work with Secretary Bunting to set goals at the beginning of the school year, participate in a mid-year progress review, and then evaluate summative performance data during their end of school year conference. Community accountability will be provided in a summit to highlight best practices, in an annual report, and in spotlights showing program successes and challenges across the state.

**Metrics:** Districts and charters will set goals to reduce the gap between English learners', low-income students', and the overall student population's baseline performance rates and 100 percent by half, thus reducing students' non-proficiency by 50 percent.

In addition to the accountability measure data, the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) will provide support by offering

- Toolkits on evidence-based best practices for improving outcomes for EL and low-income students.
- Guidance for selecting high quality instructional materials.
- Technical support enabling LEAs to take a comprehensive look at their funding streams in order to maximize and coordinate them.
- Professional learning provided by content experts.
- Sharing best practices in a variety of ways including regular meetings with curriculum directors, chiefs/principals, social media and presentations.

DDOE will use a third party to also evaluate

- The effectiveness of funds in improving outcomes for EL and low-income students.
- The successes and challenges/shortcomings of the program, including recommendations for future enhancements.

Results from the first year of funding will be finalized in August 2020. Subsequently, DDOE will host a summit in early fall to share the report and best practices. In late fall 2020, the third-party evaluation will be complete and results will be posted after districts and charters verify them.

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

**Application deadline: June 30, 2019**

**School Information**

DISTRICT/CHARTER NAME: <b>Newark Charter School</b>		
DISTRICT/CHARTER STREET ADDRESS: <b>200 McIntire Dr</b>	CITY: <b>Newark</b>	ZIP CODE: <b>19711</b>

**Contact Information**

CONTACT NAME: <b>Jill Scannell</b>	CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: <b>302-369-2001</b>
CONTACT EMAIL ADDRESS: <b>jill.scannell@ncs.k12.de.us</b>	

**Overall Summary**

Provide an overall summary of how the Opportunity Funding will be used to improve outcomes for English learners and low-income students in your district or charter school.

*Include an explanation of how the work will impact each target population as well as the rationale for selecting the plan.*

<p>Newark Charter School would like to use Opportunity Funding to hire a reading specialist who will focus on closing the achievement gap for EL and LI students. Newark Charter has seen an increase of students with typical cognitive and comprehension ability, but struggle to read and access grade level text due to the need for specialized reading instruction and interventions. This need is particularly noticed in subgroups such as EL and LI students.</p> <p>Additionally, Newark Charter School has seen an increase in the number of EL and LI students. NCS is committed to ensuring all students receive the instruction, supports, and interventions needed to succeed. By hiring a reading specialist, EL and LI students will receive additional instruction both in the large group classroom setting and in small group or individual settings as well. The reading specialist will have the ability to support the classroom teacher in learning strategies that can be implemented in the classroom, support flexible small group instruction in the classroom, and pull small groups or individual students for additional intensive reading instruction.</p> <p>Success of this additional level of instruction and support will be measured by the following goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Increased reading proficiency for ELs and LI students in the following areas: MAP, ACCESS growth targets, SMARTER, curricular based measures.</li><li>2. Continual growth in the ability to access and read grade level text.</li><li>3. Long term goal - Increased EL and LI student enrollment in higher level courses such as AP and Dual Enrollment.</li></ol>
--

**Application deadline: June 30, 2019**

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

**Investment and Goals**

Provide additional detail about the plan in the chart below by listing each Opportunity Funding investment with its associated cost and proposed impact. *For each investment, include baseline data and numeric targets to measure impact. A state budget sheet will be completed by the district after the plan has been approved.*

<b>Investment</b> <i>(What is your priority?)</i>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Proposed Impact</b> <i>(How will you know it worked?)</i>
Reading Specialist	\$123,000 *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased reading proficiency in the following measures:</li> <li>• MAP, ACCESS, SMARTER, and CBM</li> <li>•</li> <li>•</li> <li>• Increased ability to access and read grade level text.</li> <li>• Increased participation in higher level courses such as AP al</li> <li>•</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<i>To focus on ELL's &amp; LLI's</i>		
		* Includes OES & HI

**Application deadline: June 30, 2019**

**Assurances and Signatures**

The applicant assures that:

As the chief school officer of the district or charter 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.

Chief School Officer: Gregory R. Meece  
 Signature: Gregory Meece Date: 6/24/19

As the business manager of the district or charter school; including the indicated school, I am authorized to submit the budget and financial information contained 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