

Delaware



*Department of
Education*

Opportunity Funding

For more information contact:
Susan S. Bunting, Ed.D.
Secretary of Education
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: Sussex Technical School District		
DISTRICT/CHARTER STREET ADDRESS: 17099 County Seat HWY	CITY: Georgetown	ZIP CODE: 19947

Contact Information

CONTACT NAME: John Sell	CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: 302-853-1589
CONTACT EMAIL ADDRESS: john.sell@sussexvt.k12.de.us	

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.

Sussex Tech plans to utilize the Opportunity Funding to employ a reading specialist. This reading specialist will work directly with EL and low-income students to improve reading scores on SAT, DCAS, and a variety of local assessments. The overall goal is to significantly reduce the achievement gap with respect to reading assessment scores.

At Sussex Tech, the current 9th-grade population's 2018 8th-grade SBAC reading results revealed that both EL and low-income populations scored significantly lower than other groups. Specifically, EL proficiency was 20% and low-income proficiency was 59% in SBAC reading; however, the total student population was 72%, indicating a significant achievement gap. Sussex Tech's 2017 Science DCAS results revealed that low-income student proficiency was 51% compared to 70% for students overall. Similarly, 2018 SAT reading results revealed that low-income student proficiency was 47% proficient compared to 71% for students overall. These data collectively reveal an achievement gap that needs to be addressed.

Sussex Tech is choosing to utilize the funding for a reading specialist because reading proficiency is fundamental to student success as well as success in life outside of high school. There have literally been thousands of studies trumpeting the importance of reading instruction in schools, including many supported by the federal government through NAEP, NICHD, and the National Reading Panel.

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.*

Investment <i>(What is your priority?)</i>	Cost	Proposed Impact <i>(How will you know it worked?)</i>
Reading Specialist to work with EL and LI students	\$89582 (M + 10 years & OECs)	● 3% point achievement gap reduction between EL and LI students in DCAS and SAT (reading) scores per year over three years.
		●
		●
		●
		●
		●
		●
		●
		●

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: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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

**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.*

Investment <i>(What is your priority?)</i>	Cost	Proposed Impact <i>(How will you know it worked?)</i>
Reading Specialist to work with EL and LE students	\$82582 (M + 10 years & OECs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20% increase in reading scores (baseline 70%) • 10% increase in EL and LE reading scores (baseline 60%)
		•
		•
		•
		•
		•
		•
		•
		•

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: Stephen L. ...

Signature: [Signature] **Date:** 5/28/19

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