

Delaware



*Department of
Education*

Opportunity Funding

For more information contact:
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Secretary of Education
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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 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.

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School Information

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|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| DISTRICT/CHARTER NAME: The Charter School of Wilmington | | |
| DISTRICT/CHARTER STREET ADDRESS: 100 N. Dupont Road | CITY: Wilmington | ZIP CODE: 19807 |

Contact Information

| | |
|---|--|
| CONTACT NAME: Donna Urban | CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: 302-651-2727 (203) |
| CONTACT EMAIL ADDRESS: durban@charterschool.org | |

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.

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| <p>Students attending The Charter School of Wilmington come from over 30 feeder schools throughout New Castle County with different curriculums and socioeconomic factors. Over the past five years, we have noted an increase in curriculum content gaps, especially in Title 1 schools. During the 2018-2019 school year, we implemented a tutoring program and an "Every Day math program" to help close these gaps. For the 2019-2020 school year, CSW has contracted services with a reading specialist to provide development, content, delivery and facilitation of differentiated instruction within ELA classrooms at CSW. Our low-income students often struggle because they are helping raise brothers and sisters and worrying about electric bills in addition to completing academic assignments. The specialist will work with CSW administration, the ELA Department Chair and ELA teachers on team building, differentiated instruction training, and coaching. Our specialist will assist our staff with strategic planning, the development of teaching materials, differentiation research, project development and management. Our goal is to increase the overall class benchmarks and PSAT scores of our low-income and EL students with the addition of a reading specialist. Her expertise, empathy and mindfulness will provide students a safe and stress free environment in school so they can grow exponentially.</p> <p>Another area of staff professional development is understanding the presence of epigenetic trauma and the role it plays in student's decision-making. By understanding Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), as it applies to students and exploring strategies to address PTSD in the classroom, our low income and EL students will benefit since teachers will have the resources to address the challenges that come their way.</p> <p>Funding from DOE will assist us in both of these areas.</p> |
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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> |
|--|-------------|--|
| Hiring of part-time Reading Specialist | \$40,000 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increasing overall class PSAT benchmarks and individual PSAT scores for low income and EL students |
| Conducting PD to understand trauma & PTSD | \$10,000 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reducing stress in classrooms with support mechanisms so teachers have the resources to address and tackle challenges faced by low ● Creating a welcoming culture and inclusive environment for low income and EL students so they can learn and grow without socioeconomic |
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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: Dr. Jim P. Capolupo

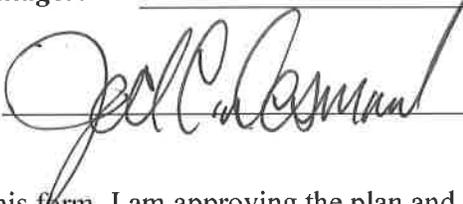
Signature:  Date: 9/19/2019

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

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and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I have reviewed and approved the submission of the budget for the form. By submitting this form, I acknowledge that I understand and agree to abide by all applicable requirements.

Business Manager: Jed Desmond

Signature:  Date: 9-19-19

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

Secretary of Education/Designee: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

(Revised 01/21/19)