

# Opportunity Funding for Mental Health Services

For more information and to submit applications:

Susan Haberstroh – [susan.haberstroh@doe.k12.de.us](mailto:susan.haberstroh@doe.k12.de.us)

Tina Bates – [tina.bates@doe.k12.de.us](mailto:tina.bates@doe.k12.de.us)

Funding Period: Fiscal Year 2022

**Delaware Department of Education  
Opportunity Funding Form  
2021-2022 School Year**

**Application deadline: Friday, July 30, 2021**

**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*. The Opportunity Fund is to provide additional funding for English Learner (EL) and low-income students.

For FY21, \$2.5 million is appropriated through HB 240 (Annual Appropriations Act). The guiding language regarding these funds and eligibility was amended through HB260 (Grants- In-Aid Act). The \$2.5 million allocated is supplemented with the \$2.5 million from HB 226 as referenced above. A total of \$5 million is appropriated for FY21.

For FY22, \$5.5 million is appropriated through HB 250 (Annual Appropriations Act). The \$5.5 million allocated is supplemented with the \$2.5 million as referenced above. A total of \$8 million is appropriated for FY22.

For FY22, these funds are apportioned and allocated to schools meeting criteria based on the prior year unit count: 1) a grade configuration containing K through 4<sup>th</sup> grade and (2) greater than or equal to 30% percent low-income and/or greater than or equal to 10% English Learner enrollment. There are schools that have been grandfathered because of meeting the threshold in FY21 and not meeting in FY22. This is noted.

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.

**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: Charter School of New Castle
ADDRESS: 170 Lukens Drive
CONTACT NAME: Rachel Valentin
CONTACT PHONE: 302-685-7757
CONTACT EMAIL: rachel.valentin@csnc.k12.de.us
ALLOCATION AMOUNT: \$109,953

**Questions:**

1. What mental health needs of your identified low-income and English learner students will you be addressing through these mental health services funds? *(Please indicate N/A if these funds are solely being used for reading supports for the two subgroups – EL and low-income.)*

At the start of the pandemic 18-22 months go; we recognized that many of our low income and EL students have demonstrated difficulty with anxiety, attention/concentration, participation and involvement with academic work, and feeling associated with grief and loss and as a direct result of increased exposure to trauma with the home environment further exasperated by COVID-19.

Since the closure as related to the pandemic, our low income and EL students, in particular, have struggled with gaining access to equitable mental health opportunities' to foster the processing of the aforementioned difficulties. With grants such as the EGRESS Cares Act, Opportunity Funding and this Mental Health aide we have been able to secure successful programming to support their needs.

Similar to last year's data review - it still suggests that our low-income students have demonstrated some regressed in their academic progress and achievement without the consistent in-person instruction and immersion into the curriculum. Therefore, we intend to use the funds to counseling and therapeutic support through contracted psychological services to our low income and EL students. Contracted services will address student needs through weekly small group and individualized support. The target goals of support with focus on mindfulness, coping skills that can translate to the learning space, and processing of feelings related to the experience of trauma. Our hope is that this 1st almost post COVID year students start to feel a sense of hope, belonging and success all over again.

2. What kind of mental health services personnel are you hiring or contracting (school counselor, school social worker, licensed clinical social worker or school psychologist)?

Charter School of New Castle will be contracting licensed psychologists and social workers through the (LaVante' N Dorsey & Associates LLC Mental Health Therapy That Makes A Difference) to assist our low income and EL students in building their social emotional skills necessary to actively engage and thrive in the academic environment through the use of mindfulness training, direct 1 on 1 support or group supports as it relates to trauma , character development, and other factors.

3. Are you using these funds for reading supports for your identified low-income and English learner students in addition to mental health services or in lieu of mental health services? If so, what types of supports/services will be provided?

CSNC will be using funds to work with the most vulnerable EL students. Students will be selected based on data indicating that they have not demonstrated much progress/success with reading interventions and or are classified as low income and or EL. This partnership is an accredited Reading Assist program.

Reading Assist has had significant success over the past 6 years and have worked with over 10 schools providing direct instruction to over 160 low income and or EL students. Reading Assist's intervention program is accredited through the International Multi-sensory Structured Language Education Council (IMSLEC) and has received national recognition from America Corps for its effectiveness. Their results show that students outpace expected grade-level progress in reading fluency and achieved grade-level benchmarks on foundational reading assessments.

4. How will you know if these services or supports are effective?

Reading Assist uses Acadience (also known as DIBELS Next) to assess early literacy and reading skills for students. Success of this partnership will be measured through weekly progress monitoring, teacher engagement surveys and through an independent evaluator who will benchmark students three times a year. Reading Assist anticipates that a significant portion of students selected for intervention will reach benchmark on:

First Sound Fluency

Phoneme Segmentation Fluency

Nonsense word Fluency

Additionally, we expect to see accelerated progress in oral reading fluency

We will collect consistent data pre (beginning of year data) and post (end of year data) during the academic year. We will monitor academic progress and social-emotional development through direct observations, parent and teacher input, curriculum-based measures and broadband rating scales.

Therefore, we will if these supports and services are effective through interpretation of the data. We expect for their functioning to increase through T-Scores (on the standardized broadband rating scales, increase in assessment data and increased engagement in the virtual and or/hybrid learning space, and increased positive feedback from teachers and parents.

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

YES

NO

6. Please complete the State Funds Budget Form and State Budget Summary Form (attached).

**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):** Rachel Valentin LaRetha Odumosu  
Signature:  LaRetha Odumosu Date: 7/21/2021

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):** Robert Morrell  
Signature:  Robert Morrell Date: 7/21/21

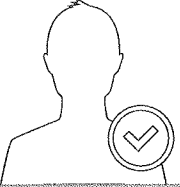

By signing this form, I am approving the plan submitted by the district or charter.

**Secretary of Education/Designee (printed name):** \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Signature Certificate

Document Ref.: 8SDJP-2KQKJ-AKQER-9EGEF

Document signed by:

	<p><b>LaRetha Odumosu</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:laretha.odumosu@csnc.k12.de.us">laretha.odumosu@csnc.k12.de.us</a> Signed via link</p>	<p><i>LaRetha Odumosu</i></p> 
<p>IP: 167.21.142.31</p>	<p>Date: 02 Aug 2021 18:51:33 UTC</p>	

Document completed by all parties on:

**02 Aug 2021 18:51:33 UTC**

Page 1 of 1

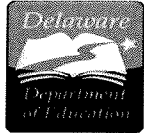


Signed with **PandaDoc.com**

PandaDoc is a document workflow and certified eSignature solution trusted by 25,000+ companies worldwide.







# State of Delaware Department of Education State Funds Budget Form

**State Subgrant:** FY 22 Oppt Fund Mental Health and/or Reading Supports  
**Project Title:** FY 22 Opportunity Fund Mental Health/Reading  
**LEA/Agency:** Charter School of New Castle

**Project Start Date:** 7/1/2021  
**Project End Date:** 6/30/2022

Expense Types and Account Codes: Salaries (5100) and Other Employee Costs (5120)						
Employee Name	Title	FTE Percentage		State Funds Requested	Matching Funds	Total Funds
<b>PROFESSIONAL:</b>				\$	\$	\$
Professional Subtotal						
<b>SUBSTITUTES:</b>				\$	\$	\$
Substitutes Subtotal						
<b>SUPPORT STAFF:</b>				\$	\$	\$
Support Staff Subtotal						
<b>STUDENTS:</b>				\$	\$	\$
Students Subtotal						
<b>SALARY TOTAL:</b>						
<b>OTHER EMPLOYEE COSTS:</b>				\$	\$	\$
FICA		6.20%				
Medicare		1.45%				
Pension		23.80%				
Workman's Comp		1.55%				
Unemployment Insurance		0.11%				
		33.11%				
FY 22 Health Insurance/Other Non-taxed Benefits		\$15,391.00				
<b>OEC TOTAL:</b>						
<b>SALARY AND OEC TOTAL:</b>						



## State of Delaware Department of Education State Funds Budget Form

**State Subgrant:** FY 22 Oppt Fund Mental Health and/or Reading Supports

**Project Title:** FY 22 Opportunity Fund Mental Health/Reading

**LEA/Agency:** Charter School of New Castle

**Project Start Date:** 7/1/2021

**Project End Date:** 6/30/2022

Expense Types and Account Codes: Travel (5400)					
Destination	Purpose	# of Travelers	State Funds Requested	Matching Funds	Total Funds
			\$	\$	\$
<b>TOTAL TRAVEL COSTS</b>					

Expense Types and Account Codes: Contractual Services (5500)				
Vendor Name	Service Provided	State Funds Requested	Matching Funds	Total Funds
		\$	\$	\$
Reading Assist Corps	Reading Assist Institute (RAI) is dedicated to children with reading needs, teaching them the foundational skills of reading and empowering them to succeed academically. We help struggling readers learn the basic mechanics of reading, and train tutors, parents and teachers in an evidence-based, multisensory, structured approach to literacy education.	\$60,000.00		\$60,000.00
LaVante' N. Dorsey & Assoc. LLC Mental Health Therapy that Makes a Difference 302-956-9188   www.lavantedorsey.com	Services for adolescents, adult and their families experiencing difficulties associated with mental health and social emotional learning.	\$49,953.00		\$49,953.00
<b>TOTAL CONTRACTUAL SERVICES COSTS</b>		<b>\$109,953.00</b>		<b>\$109,953.00</b>

Expense Types and Account Codes: Supplies and Materials (5600)					
Item Description	Quantity	Unit Price	State Funds Requested	Matching Funds	Total Funds
			\$	\$	\$



# State of Delaware Department of Education State Funds Budget Form

<b>State Subgrant:</b>	FY 22 Oppt Fund Mental Health and/or Reading Supports	<b>Project Start Date:</b>	7/1/2021
<b>Project Title:</b>	FY 22 Opportunity Fund Mental Health/Reading	<b>Project End Date:</b>	6/30/2022
<b>LEA/Agency:</b>	Charter School of New Castle		
<b>TOTAL SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS COSTS</b>			



## State of Delaware Department of Education State Funds Budget Form

**State Subgrant:** FY 22 Oppt Fund Mental Health and/or Reading Supports  
**Project Title:** FY 22 Opportunity Fund Mental Health/Reading  
**LEA/Agency:** Charter School of New Castle

**Project Start Date:** 7/1/2021  
**Project End Date:** 6/30/2022

Expense Types and Account Codes: Capital Outlay (5700)					
Item Description	Quantity	Unit Price	State Funds Requested	Matching Funds	Total Funds
<b>Replacement Equipment</b>			\$	\$	\$
<b>New Equipment</b>					
<b>TOTAL SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS COSTS</b>					

<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>State Funds Requested</b>	<b>Matching Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
	<b>\$109,953.00</b>		<b>\$109,953.00</b>



STATE OF DELAWARE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

BUDGET SUMMARY OF STATE FUNDS

LEA/Agency Name:

Charter School of New Castle

State Subgrant Title:

FY 22 Opt Fund Mental Health and/or Reading Supports

Project Title:

FY 22 Opportunity Fund Mental Health/Read

Account Code	5100	5120	5400	5500	5600	5700	Total
Account Code Name	Salaries	OEC's	Travel	Contracted Services	Supplies & Materials	Capital Outlay	Budget
Total Budget				\$109,953.00			\$109,953.00

Completed By:

Rachel Valenti

Date:

8/3/2021

Chief Financial Officer or Business Manager:

Date:

8/3/2021

