

Delaware



Department of Education

Opportunity Funding

For more information contact: Susan S. Bunting, Ed.D.
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Funding Period: Fiscal Year 2022

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

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

Application deadline: June 30, 2021

Purpose: The three-year Opportunity Funding initiative led to legislation that now guarantees weighted funding through FY25.

Allocation Method: Local education agencies (LEAs) will receive \$600 per English learner (EL) and \$524.25 per low-income (LI) student. Funding shall be made available to LEAs upon the passage of the FY22 budget so that in early July LEAs 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 EL students', 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.

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School Information

DISTRICT/CHARTER NAME: Academy of Dover Charter School		
DISTRICT/CHARTER STREET ADDRESS: 104 Saulsbury Road	CITY: Dover	ZIP CODE: 19904

Contact Information

CONTACT NAME: Michele Marinucci	CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: 302-674.0684
CONTACT EMAIL ADDRESS: Michele.marinucci@aod.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.

<p>This funding is used to provide additional staff support for our Academy. We have a high population of low-income students as well as some ELs that will be supported with these funds. This funding is used for salaries to support our students. This funding will support partial salary of additional paraprofessionals to help the students receive more specialized instruction and support, specifically in the areas of reading, math, and social/emotional behaviors. The goal for this is to result in academic and social/emotional growth for EL and low income students. Additionally, since some of the additional staff are fluent in another language, the staff will also be holding sessions with the students both for academic as well as language learning support on a regular basis.</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	Cost	Expected impact (Check all that apply)					Is this a continued Opp. Funding investment from 2020-21? (yes/no)
		Raise EL student achieve- ment	Raise LI student achieve- ment	Increase attendance for EL students	Increase attendance of LI students	Other, specify	
(Please list your priority. Examples: -“Hire full time 1 social worker” - “Purchase RULER for grades 7-9”)	For 2021-22 (\$)						
<i>EXAMPLE: Purchase Second Step curriculum for use with grades K-4 students</i>	<i>\$42,000</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			Increase ELL & LI student self- awareness skills	yes
Additional paraprofessionals to assist with meeting the needs of EL and low income students.	94,838.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		slightly modified