

Early College High School @ DSU

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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 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: Early College High School @DSU		
DISTRICT/CHARTER STREET ADDRESS: 1570 North DuPont Highway	CITY: Dover	ZIP CODE: 19901

Contact Information

CONTACT NAME: Evelyn A. Edney, Ed.D.	CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: 302-857-3510
CONTACT EMAIL ADDRESS: Evelyn.edney@echs.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>The Early College High School at Delaware State University began in the 2014-15 school year with 125 students. Currently, it is proud to have graduated four classes who have earned over 9,000 college credits and amassed over eleven million dollars in scholarship offers. As Delaware's first and only early college high school, ECHS offers an accelerated high school program that allows students to graduate from college in only 2-3 years. ECHS offers a personalized learning environment which supports college readiness. Based on successful scores on the ECHS College Readiness Rubric, a student begins taking college courses at DSU as soon as the 10th grade year. The ECHS College Readiness Rubric measures a student's ability to begin and maintain college level work based on scores in grades, attendance, behavior, proficiency on high stakes testing assessments and recommendations from teachers. The use of the rubric helps students to self-govern and the school to monitor students in order to keep supporting them academically and to praise them. The vision of the Early College High School at Delaware State University is to be a nationally</p>
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recognized early college program, which increases access to higher education and produces students who have the expectations and skills to make a significant impact in the global community.

The target population for the work of this grant will be EL and low income students who have not reached college readiness status based on the ECHS College Readiness Rubric. To work specifically with these students in conjunction with their school counselors, during the 2020-21 school year ECHS hired a Communities in Schools (CIS) Representative to be the case manager of the students, to ensure that they are receiving the supports needed to become college ready so that they can be successful doing college level work. CIS has provided academic assistance, behavior interventions, community and service learning, family engagement, mental health supports, basic needs, college and career prep, enrichment, life skills, and physical health support. CIS is a proven program to increase graduation rates, decrease dropout rates, and improve student attendance, leading to brighter futures for students. CIS differentiates supports in three tiers: Tier I (school-wide services), Tier II (targeted programs), and Tier III (individualized support), which aligns with the ECHS vision of providing a multi-tiered system of support for academic and behavior interventions. The CIS Representative will work with the student caseload during the summer and after school.

ECHS has also hired an after school coordinator who will help with the targeted population of students in receiving homework help, complete credit recovery, and to provide enrichment activities for students. The After School Hornet Extra H.E.L.P. (Hornets Excelling Learning Potential) will meet Monday-Thursday. Students and parents will set academic, behavioral, and/or attendance goals for the school year. The Coordinator will monitor progress of the students.

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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)
(Please list your priority. Examples: -“Hire full time 1 social worker” - “Purchase RULER for grades 7-9”)	For 2021- 22 (\$)	Raise EL student achieve- ment	Raise LI student achieve- ment	Increase attendance for EL students	Increase attendance of LI students	Other, specify	
<i>EXAMPLE: Purchase Second Step curriculum for use with grades K-4 students</i>	\$42,000	X	X			Increase ELL & LI student self-awareness skills	yes
Communities in Schools	\$50,000	X	X	X	X	Increase ELL and LI student college readiness and academic goals	Yes
EL Support Teacher	\$3,000	X				Increase EL college readiness and academic goals	Yes
After School Hornet H.E.L.P. Coordinator	\$14,704	X	X	X	X	Increase ELL and LI student college readiness	No