

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.

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

Application deadline: June 30, 2021

School Information

DISTRICT/CHARTER NAME: Gateway Lab School		
DISTRICT/CHARTER STREET ADDRESS: 2501 Centerville Road	CITY: Wilmington	ZIP CODE: 19808

Contact Information

CONTACT NAME: Catherine Dolan	CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: 302-633-4091
CONTACT EMAIL ADDRESS: Catherine.Dolan@gls.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.

Gateway Lab School is a charter school that serves students throughout New Castle County, who may struggle in a traditional school setting. Close to 52% of our students have IEPs and 42% fall into the LI demographic. Approximately 7% of our student population receive ELL services, and we continue to see an increase in the applications for students of foreign-born parents at GLS for FY2021-2022. For this school year we plan to use the Opportunity Funding to address the critical needs of the ELL and LI populations in four ways. 1. Elevating student grade level proficiency and progress by accelerating reading comprehension and vocabulary. 2. Using interactive, internet-based solutions to assist teachers in creating engaging, standards-based lessons. 3. Strengthening our families' participation in the education of their children which research has shown will lead to better educational outcomes. 4. Using Move This World, an SEL program, which provides teachers with access to an extensive library of evidenced-based exercises, GLS will equip students with the ability to identify, express, and manage emotions. This tool will be used by our School Counselor in follow-

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

up group work to support and further equip our students to deal with the emotional impact of last year's pandemic and remote/hybrid learning.

1. We will increase reading fluency in our ELL and LI students through the Failure Free, a research-based reading intervention program. Failure Free increases vocabulary, fluency, comprehension and confidence for struggling readers.
2. We will increase the mastery of content standards and improve literacy in ELL and LI populations through engaging, arts integrated lessons, using Nearpod. This internet-based application allows teachers to customize their lessons and create high-quality content. It increases student engagement and focus which results in maximizing content knowledge and retention.
3. We will strengthen our communication and support for LI and ELL students and their families through the use of a Family Engagement Coordinator. The Harvard Family Research Project concluded that parental involvement is associated with higher student achievement.
4. We will be supporting LI and ELL student success by implementing the Move This World curriculum to develop students' skills within the five core social and emotional learning competencies as defined by the Collaborative of Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL): self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision making. This program will be implemented by both the classroom teachers and the School Counselor in small group settings.

Application deadline: June 30, 2021

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.*

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

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>	\$42,000	X	X			Increase ELL & LI student self- awareness skills	yes
Renew Failure Free Reading Application Subscription for grades 6-8	\$1,454	X	X	X	X	Increase reading fluency of ELL and LI students.	Yes
Renew Nearpod Internet-based lesson plan application.	\$2000	X	X	X	X	Provide teachers with tools to raise academic achievement for ELL & LI students	Yes
Contract with School/Family Engagement Coordinator	23,373	X	X	X	X	Increase ELL & LI Parent Engagement	Yes
Purchase Move This World SEL Curriculum	\$3200	X	X	X	X	Stengthen Emotional Intellegence skills for ELL& LI Students	No
Contract a School Counselor for small group support using Move This World curriculum	\$13,043	X	X	X	X	Strenghten Emotional Intellegence skills for ELL & LI students	No