

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: Positive Outcomes Charter School		
DISTRICT/CHARTER STREET ADDRESS: 3337 S. DuPont Hwy.	CITY: Camden	ZIP CODE: 19934

Contact Information

CONTACT NAME: Edward J. Emmett Jr.	CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: 302-697-8805 x115
CONTACT EMAIL ADDRESS: Ed.emmett@pocs.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.

The investments made as a result of these funds will raise the overall academic achievement and school attendance of all present low-income (LI) students and English learners (ELs) in Positive Outcomes Charter School.

Positive Outcomes Charter School (POCS) is a small school with 120 students. At present, our school only has one English learner (ELs) enrolled. Approximately 50% of our students should be classified as low-income (LI); however, only about 40% of our students apply for free and reduced lunch. In addition, due to the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, it is believed that our students will return with significant levels of need. These funds will provide systemic intensive supports for all our LI and EL students.

POCS is a school that focuses on students that have experience challenges and difficulties in their academic careers. Traumatic experiences and mental health issues frequently impact the lives of our students. As stated, we believe that the Covid-19 pandemic

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will increase the need for traumatic and mental health supports across the entire school environment. The levels of need for our LI and EL students, we believe, will also have increased exponentially during the past 16 months. As a result, our school plans to use these Opportunity funds to continue to implement trauma-informed practices and hire a new full-time counselor position.

These opportunity funds will be paired with additional funds to provide a full-time counselor working in our Calm room and provide increased emotional and mental health supports for our LI and EL students as they return to school for the 2021-2022 school year. We will continue the progress as we continue to develop and refine our move to become a Trauma-Informed School. As such, we will build on previous Opportunity Fund investment with training for our Student Support Team and providing support material.

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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 achievement	Raise LI student achievement	Increase attendance for EL students	Increase attendance of LI students	Other, specify	

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<i>EXAMPLE: Purchase Second Step curriculum for use with grades K-4 students</i>	\$42,000	X	X			Increase ELL & LJ student self-awareness skills	yes
Provide Partial Funding for New School Counselor	\$23,591	X	X	X	X	Continued support in our progress to become a Trauma-Informed School	Yes