

*Delaware*



*Department of Education*

# Opportunity Funding

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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.

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- The successes and challenges/shortcomings of the program, including recommendations for future enhancements.

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**School Information**

DISTRICT/CHARTER NAME: The Charter School of Wilmington (CSW)		
DISTRICT/CHARTER STREET ADDRESS: 100 North Dupont Road	CITY: Wilmington	ZIP CODE: 19807

**Contact Information**

CONTACT NAME: Angeline Rivello	CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: 302-373-9642
CONTACT EMAIL ADDRESS: arivello@charterschool.org	

**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.*

We will be hiring the part-time position described below to focus and support our low-income students. The total cost will be \$34,000.00. We will use our opportunity grant allocation \$19,397.00 to partially fund this position. We anticipate a current teacher on staff will fill this position.

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**Student Support Specialist (Part-Time)**

The Student Support Specialist will assist and mentor students allowing students to build strong relationships based on trust and fostering a positive learning environment. The Student Support Specialist will meet regularly with students to develop individualized plans and coach each student towards academic success. An additional focus should be providing guidance on selecting quality instructional materials and implementing best practices to improve student outcomes.

**Expectations:**

- Meet regularly with administration, school counselors, and key staff members to communicate student needs and progress.
- Provide general observation and consultation regarding educational, behavioral, and mental health needs and practices among school staff.
- Assist students in order to be successful in their academic classes.
- Serve as a consultant and collaborator with educators in the school keeping personnel informed of relevant information regarding students.
- Establish and maintain excellent relationships with students, administration, counselors, and staff.
- Maintain confidentiality of student records, data, and personal information.
- Engage in professional development and commit to continuous improvements for the benefit of students.
- Commit to the belief that all students deserve a challenging and positive educational experience that prepares them for college and life.
- Collaborate with administrative team members on all related events listed above.
- Other requirements as may be deemed necessary for the purpose of ensuring an effective and efficient communication program.

**Responsibilities:**

- Oversee the student-to-student tutoring program.
- Provide tutoring as necessary to individual students.
- Act as a liaison to DuPont and other corporations to build a robust mentoring program.
- Work collaboratively with staff and administration to address student skill deficits interfering with educational achievement.
- Develop and share best practices through regular meetings and presentations with administration and staff.
- Consult with staff and administration to provide techniques, methods, and strategies to support students'

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development.

- Monitor student progress and make recommendations for ongoing or additional services and needs as appropriate.
- Be passionate about advocating for students and open to having difficult conversations to support students.
- Communicate with parents/guardians of students on a regular basis.
- Be a role model and mentor by:
  - Displaying a positive attitude
  - Practicing and encouraging reflective practices
  - Exhibiting a caring and engaging personality
  - Being a life-long learner
  - Promoting thinking, analysis, problem solving, and planning
  - Being compassionate with positive reinforcement
  - Being an assessor who recognizes needs and readiness for new challenges
  - Being a motivator who encourages and challenges

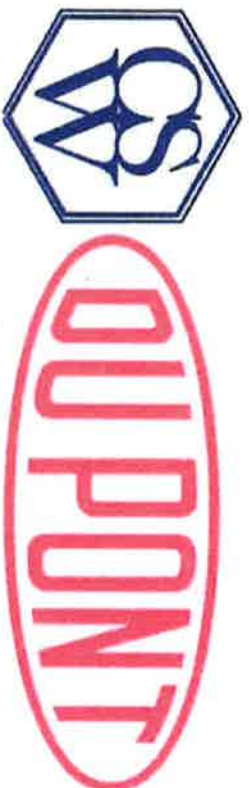
**Application deadline: June 30, 2021**

**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.*

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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
Hire Student Support Specialist	\$34,000 (partially funded by Opportunity Grant)		X			The specialist will collect baseline data from students and set targets accordingly to increase their academic success.	No



### The Charter School of Wilmington Mentorship Proposal

The Charter School of Wilmington (CSW) opened its doors in 1996 with the goal of preparing students from the greater Wilmington area for jobs at Delaware's top corporations. One of the founding companies was DuPont Chemicals. DuPont has had 2 members represented on CSW's Board of Directors for the past 25 years. CSW is grateful for their continued support and would like to expand the relationship. With DuPont having a renewed focus on Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity initiatives, CSW is soliciting the help of our corporate partner. We are hopeful that this new partnership will help DuPont extend its vision and outreach, while assisting CSW meeting its goals of successful outcomes for students.

#### **Objectives:**

- Improve educational experiences and outcomes for students
- Provide new opportunities to students from traditional disadvantaged backgrounds
- Increase diversity in student application pool
- Increase DuPont's community outreach and impact

#### **Program Elements:**

- General Mentoring
  - Pair DuPont employees with Freshmen and Sophomores and Juniors from traditionally underserved communities
  - One to One experience with a student
    - Meet Bi-Weekly (virtual or in-person)
    - Access to tutoring and academic support
    - Provide exploring different career paths
    - Provide encouragement and advice
  - To include assistance and access for Junior Research Project
    - May include access to labs, research information, working on a project that already exists at DuPont
    - May include access to raw data
    - DuPont may create a student library as we move through the program for future students to use and even students from other schools
- CSW will provide a nationally created toolkit developed for schools to work with corporate partners – lays out a clear path with action steps
- All mentors would need background checks and training

#### **Future Program Elements:**

- Summer Internship
  - Provide real world experiences to Freshmen and Sophomores
  - Explore possible future career opportunities at DuPont with students
- Junior Research – Expansion of initial mentorship program
  - Provide opportunities for students to work in labs/facilities and with equipment who may not have those connections
  - Focus on Artificial Intelligence
- Graduation Recognition
  - Acknowledgement of students and DuPont mentors