



Opportunity Funding for Mental Health Services

For more information and to submit applications:

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Funding Period: Fiscal Year 2021

**Delaware Department of Education
Opportunity Funding Form
2020-2021 School Year**

Opportunity Funding
*Directed funds for mental health services for students identified as
low-income or English Learners*

Application deadline: Friday, July 31, 2020

Purpose: The Opportunity Funding directed to mental health services provides \$5.0 million in FY20, \$2.5 million in HB 225 (Annual Appropriations Act) and \$2.5 million authorized in HB 226 (One-Time Supplemental). With a total supplemental amount of \$7.5 million over three years, the total amount will be \$15 million *contingent on future appropriations*. The Opportunity Fund is to provide additional funding for English Learner (EL) and low-income students.

For FY21, \$2.5 million is appropriated through HB 240 (Annual Appropriations Act). The guiding language regarding these funds and eligibility was amended through HB260 (Grants- In-Aid Act). The \$2.5 million allocated is supplemented with the \$2.5 million from HB 226 as referenced above. A total of \$5 million is appropriated for FY21.

These funds continue to be apportioned to schools which qualify for a Reading Interventionist under the Student Success Block Grant.

This funding shall be used by school districts and charter schools for *mental health services* in the form of school counselors, school social workers or licensed clinical social workers, school psychologists, and/or for additional reading supports for grades K-5. Services may include the employment of staff, where such funding may be used to cover 100 percent of personnel costs on a 10 to 12-month basis and/or contracted services.

Allocation Method: Amounts vary per school and that amount is indicated below. Each LEA has already received the first half of the funding; the second amount will be released upon receipt and approval of this application.

DISTRICT/CHARTER NAME: Christina School District - Brookside Elementary School
ADDRESS: 800 Marrows Road
CONTACT NAME: Eric Stephens
CONTACT PHONE: 302-454-5454
CONTACT EMAIL: eric.stephens@christina.k12.de.us
ALLOCATION AMOUNT: \$76,430

Questions:

1. What mental health needs of your identified low-income and English learner students will you be addressing through these mental health services funds?
(Please indicate N/A if these funds are solely being used for reading supports for the two subgroups – EL and low-income.)

Through our Opportunity Grant we will be addressing the social and emotional needs of our students. As a school system we understand the importance, now more than ever, of providing social and emotional support to our low income and English Language Learners. Based on Christina's results from the Delaware School Reopening Survey, 32% of our families indicated a need for additional support and/or information regarding mental and emotional health. Additionally, 40% of parents stated that their child felt lonely at least sometimes, frequently, and/or almost always. Parents also identified their children feeling stressed out (40%) or frustrated (45%) at least sometimes, frequently, and/or almost always. During the pandemic, our low income and EL students have not been able to access school supports. The result is a large population of low income and EL students dealing with trauma. Our schools are prioritizing connection before content to ensure students feel physically and emotionally safe in their transition back to in person instruction. Our objective is to provide a system of support for our EL and low income students to include skill building, specifically skills of resilience, conflict resolution, agency, self-awareness and self-regulation. Our plan is to provide explicit instruction to EL and low income students with a research proven social and emotional learning program, group and individual counseling, training in mindfulness, and Restorative Practices to build an supportive and connected school culture.

2. What kind of mental health services personnel are you hiring or contracting (school counselor, school social worker, licensed clinical social worker or school psychologist)?

Opportunity Grant funding will be utilized for additional School Counselor hours and a Behavior Interventionist to provide school programming and social and emotional support for EL and low income students.

3. Are you using these funds for reading supports for your identified low-income and English learner students in addition to mental health services or in lieu of mental health services? If so, what types of supports/services will be provided?

Opportunity Grant funding will be utilized to provide additional reading supports for our low income and EL students. Our school will utilize Imagine Learning to provide additional reading interventions for our low income and EL students. Imagine Learning delivers explicit and targeted instruction to each student through personalized learning points that continually adapt based on performance. Strategic scaffolding and support further personalize the learning experience for EL students and striving low income readers. Additionally, Opportunity Grant funding will be utilized to provide a Reading Interventionist to provide small group instruction for our low income and EL students.

4. How will you know if these services or supports are effective?

We will provide a multi-tiered approach to the effectiveness of our Opportunity Grant interventions. First, student progress will be tracked using Imagine Learning to determine student usage and progress, as well as additional support needed to differentiate learning and improve achievement. Diagnostic and formative assessment data will be utilized to determine student growth. From a behavioral intervention standpoint, school climate data will be analyzed quarterly to determine if the additional social and emotional support is having a positive impact on our overall school climate. Finally, anecdotal data will be collected to ensure that our low income and EL students are being provided the necessary mental health supports and wraparound services.

5. Is this money being used to contract services?

YES NO

6. Please complete the State Funds Budget Form and State Budget Summary Form (attached).

**Opportunity Funding For Mental Health Services
Brookside Elementary
2020-2021 Budget**

**Insert Allocation Below
\$ 76,430.00**

Resource	Focus	# Hours/day	# Days/week	Hourly Rate	Cost Per Week	Cost per Year (35 weeks)	Comments
Behavioral Interventionist	Behavioral	7	5	\$35.00	\$1,225.00	\$43,761.62	Cost for a behavioral interventionist to provide social and emotional support to low income and EL students.
Counselor	Behavioral	1	4	\$58.00	\$232.00	\$8,352.00	Additional counseling hours to provide social and emotional supports for EL and low income students
Reading Interventionist	Reading	5.9	5	\$14.35	\$423.33	\$14,816.38	Reported Time Reading Interventionist to provide support for low income and E students. Interventionist will utilize small group instruction and Imagine Learning to help improve vocabulary and reading comprehension for the low income and EL students
iReady Online Instruction	Reading					\$9,500.00	iReady online instruction will be utilized to provide tailored reading instruction for low income and EL students.
TOTAL						\$76,430.00	

ALLOCATION \$ 76,430.00

BALANCE \$0.01