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Delaware



Opportunity Funding

For more information contact: Susan S. Bunting, Ed.D.

Secretary of Education susan.bunting@doe.k12.de.us

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

Funding Period: Fiscal Year 2021

Opportunity Funding
Directed Funds for English Learners and Low-Income Students

Application deadline: June 30, 2020

Purpose: The Opportunity Funding initiative creates a three-year weighted funding program across the state. Delaware is currently one of only a handful of states without additional funding for English learners (ELs) and/or low-income students (low-income).

Allocation Method: Local education agencies (LEAs) will receive \$500 per EL and \$300 per low income student. Funding shall be made available to LEAs upon the passage of the FY20 budget in early July so they 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 English learners', 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.

Application deadline: June 30, 2020

School Information

DISTRICT/CHARTER NAME:			
Seaford School District			
DISTRICT/CHARTER STREET ADDRESS:	CITY:	ZIP CODE:	
390 North Market Street Extended	Seaford	19973	

Contact Information

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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.

This plan was designed to ensure success of EL and low-income students in Seaford School District. It is our district-wide common goal that all students will achieve success. Curriculum changes and continually increased depth in CCSS implementation has increased the linguistic demands upon English learners (ELs) and low-income students across all content areas. Moreover, Seaford School District prides itself a common vision that all students including ELs and low income students be held to the same high standards presented by the CCSS. However, we recognize these students may require additional time, appropriate instructional support, and aligned assessments as they acquire both English language proficiency and content area knowledge. Furthermore, the social-emotional needs of low-income and ELs must be met in order to set the stage for success. As a result, there is a need for student-centered classroom-based support, educator professional learning, and support materials and resources. Seaford will prioritize evidence-based curricular, instructional, and social-emotional supports in order to elevate the academic outcomes and increase expectations for ELs and low-income student populations. The Seaford School District has elected to provide specific instructional supports through a blended approach of classroom-based supports, school-based supports, and district-level support.

The district-level mental health coordinator will coordinate supports and services for low income and EL students in each of Seaford schools. In addition, this staff member will assist in building the capacity of existing personnel through training and in-service workshops for teachers, administrators, school counselors, other school staff, parents and community agency and organization members for the purpose of ensuring success of low-income and EL students mental health, behavior, and academic goals.

The dean of social-emotional support at Seaford High School will provide school-wide supports for low income and EL students' social and emotional needs so that they may best be able to access the high school experience. One strategy used to accomplish this will be to help reinforce the effective use of the school-wide behavior plan.

The English learner instructional support staff (teacher and paraeducators) will be assigned to schools in Seaford according to identified need. These staff will serve as a resource to help EL students achieve academically in the classroom.

The instructional dean/coach at Seaford High School will support English learners and low-income student learning by developing teachers' capacity and classroom practice. First, these staff will observe, coach and mentor instructional staff to ensure that teaching of English learners and low-income students is at all times intentional, engaging, and rigorous. Furthermore, they will guide teachers in creating a warm, structured, and culturally responsive classroom culture that is intentionally designed to support English learners and low income students. Furthermore, utilizing a system of jobembedded professional development classroom teachers will benefit from learning new methods of infusing linguistic and academic language supports into their daily instruction. This professional learning will have a lasting effect on instructional delivery over time. Additionally, with increased support at the lesson planning level, teachers will be intentional in their first instruction with a lens on the unique needs of English learners and low-income students. Monitoring will occur through classroom walkthrough observation and feedback cycles and will provide coaching support to teachers throughout implementation.

The district level school-community liaison will communicate with the parents of low income and EL students on behalf of Seaford School District for the purpose of ensuring that an ongoing partnership between the home and school is formed. This communication will be designed to serve as a liaison between low income and EL students, support groups, parents and others to assist in resolving issues and providing services.

The elementary reading paraeducators will ensure that English learners and low-income students are provided the most targeted, skill-based reading instruction during the tier II and tier III literacy block. These paraeducators are critical to forming the small groups that will accelerate learning during small group literacy instruction.

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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.	
(Please list your priority, Examples: -"Hire full time 1 social worker" - "Purchase RULER for grades 7-9")	For 2020-21 (\$)	Raise ELL student achieve- ment	Raise LI student achieve- ment	Increase attendance for ELL students	Increase attendance of LI students	Other, specify	Funding investment from 2019-20? (yes/no)
EXAMPLE: Purchase Second Step curriculum for use with grades K-4 students	\$42,000	х	х			Increase ELL & LI student self- awareness skills	yes
l District-Level Mental Health Coordinator	125,000	 and EL students Provides training school counseld 	of mental has in all school or and in-senors, other school ors, other schools or the for t	nealth and beha ols across the convice workshop hool staff, pare the purpose of convictions	avioral support district. os to teachers, ents and commensuring succe	administrators, unity agency and ess of low-income	Yes

	 Provide mental health related support services to district educational teams including case consultation concerning low income and EL student status, diagnosis, and treatment. Collaborate with school counselors and school psychologist behavior management technicians to provides support in the development of behavior support plans and interventions for low income and EL students. Collaborate with public and private agencies to offer mental health services and programs that foster pro-social skills and appropriate behavior. Maintain and facilitate communication with and between families and Seaford School District mental health staff. 	
l Dean of Social-Emotional Learning to be assigned to Seaford High School	Identify and support low income and EL students' social and emotional needs so that they may best be able to access the high school experience. Successfully implement crisis interventions, home visits, conflict resolution, and individual and group counseling for low income and EL students. Identify and initiate mental-health and behavioral services for low income and EL students and their families as needed. Provide school-wide support to assist in the identification of low income and EL students in need of additional services, implementation of interventions, and coordination of Student Services Team meetings. Act as a resource and provides professional development for teachers in their instructional practice, especially as it relates to issues of discipline, relationships with low income and EL students, classroom management, and school culture. Assist teachers, students, and parents in the effective creation and implementation of individual behavior plans for low income and EL students. Help to reinforce the effective use of a school-wide behavior plan.	Yes

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English Learner Instructional Support Staff to include 4 paraeducators and 1 teacher 1 Instructional Dean/Coach to be assigned to Seaford High School 2 \$317,100	Maintain accurate student discipline records, documenting all conferences.	
l Instructional Dean/Coach to be assigned to Seaford High School	X X X X X Serve as a resource to classroom teachers to help EL students achieve academically in the classroom. Use language-teaching strategies to increase English proficiency for students who speak a language other than English at home. Communicate language needs and progress of the ELLs with classroom teachers, administrators and families.	Yes
, c	Observe, coach and mentor instructional staff using research-based strategies to ensure that teaching of ELs and low-income students is at all times intentional, engaging, and rigorous, and that teachers are creating a warm, structured, and culturally responsive classroom culture designed for low-income and EL students. Provide job-embedded professional development through lesson planning support infusing linguistic and academic language supports into daily instruction to support EL and low-income student needs. Gather walkthrough data using an implementation rubric to provide immediate feedback to school and district level administrators about the school-wide implementation of EL and low income supportive practices in all classrooms school-wide. Present disaggregated math and ELA common assessment data in quarterly data review meetings will provide interim progress checks to monitor progress of EL and low-income students' towards mastering CCSS.	Yes

1 District School-Community Liaison	\$30,000	Communicate with the parents of low income and EL students on behalf of Seaford School District (e.g. attendance and homework issues, available programs/services, completing paperwork, etc.) for the purpose of ensuring that an ongoing partnership between the home and school is formed. Distribute school district material and literature describing opportunities and supports to inform the community and parents of low income and EL students. Visit families of low income and EL students in their homes as required for the purpose of assessing situations, improving communication, providing information regarding school policies and programs, and/or providing referrals. Serve as a liaison between low income and EL students, support groups, parents and others to assist in resolving issues and providing services.	Yes
2 Reading Paraprofessionals to support the elementary reading program		x x x x	
	\$106,660	• Ensure that EL and low-income students are provided the most targeted, skill-based reading instruction during the tier II and tier III literacy block.	

Business Manager:

As the business manager of the district or charter school; including the indicated school, I am authorized to submit the budget and financial information contained in this form. I have read this form and reviewed the financial information contained in this form. The information contained in this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I have reviewed and approved the submission of the budget for the form. By submitting this form, I acknowledge that I understand and agree to abide by all applicable requirements.

Signature

Date

(Revised 5/18/20)