

ANALYSIS

Department of Education School-Based Interventions to Promote Well-Being of Students

Analyst: Julie Neburka

Request: Approve the submission of a federal grant application to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the amount of \$2,125,000 over a five-year period from the School-Based Interventions to Promote Equity and Improve Health, Academic Achievement, and Well-Being of Students grant program.

Analysis: The COVID-19 pandemic has affected children and adolescents' physical activity levels, food security, access to school health services, and overall health, emotional well-being, and academic achievement. Research has shown that stress plays a pivotal role in many diseases, as well as in mental health and mental disorders. To redress these issues, the CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion has made \$31.5 million available on a competitive basis for its School-Based Interventions to Promote Equity and Improve Health, Academic Achievement, and Well-Being of Students grant program. The CDC anticipates making sixteen awards of about \$390,000 per year over a five-year period for evidence-based physical activity and school nutrition programs that improve the health and well-being of school-aged children and adolescents in underserved and disproportionately affected communities.

The Department of Education (ODE) requests authorization to apply for \$2,125,000 over a five-year period from this grant program. If awarded, funds will be used to continue the work started under an existing CDC grant program, *Improving Student Health and Academic Achievement through Nutrition, Physical Activity, and the Management of Chronic Conditions in Schools*. Through this program, ODE has worked with the Oregon Health Authority, six local education agencies, and other partners to increase the number of Oregon students participating in daily physical activity, eating healthful foods, and managing their chronic health conditions. Anticipated activities under the new grant award include developing school health councils to expand health promoting strategies in schools, and providing additional resources to schools through technical assistance, training, materials, and funding. One existing, limited-duration position would continue, and the agency anticipates adding one new limited-duration, half-time position in the Child Nutrition Program to support grant activities. No state match is required. The grant application is due by February 11, 2023, with awards to be announced by June 1, 2023. If necessary, the agency will return to the Legislature to request additional expenditure limitation and position authorization.

Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation: The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request.

Oregon Department of Education Streepey

Request: The Oregon Department of Education requests permission to apply for a five-year cooperative agreement of up to \$2,125,000 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for school-based interventions to promote equity and improve health, academic achievement, and well-being of students.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Discussion: The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) is nearing the end of a five-year grant from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) for school-based interventions designed to promote equity, improve health, and enhance academic achievement and student well-being. ODE is one of 16 states that received funding through the CDC Healthy Schools cooperative agreement. For the past four and a half years, ODE and the Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division, OregonASK (Afterschool & Summer for Kids Network), six Local Education Agencies (LEAs), and partners have worked to increase the number of Oregon students who consume nutritious food and beverages; increase the number of students who participate in daily physical education and physical activity; and increase the number of students who can effectively manage their chronic health conditions. The work has been implemented through the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model (WSCC), which is the CDC's framework for addressing health in schools. According to the CDC's Healthy Schools initiative, the WSCC model is student-centered and emphasizes the role of the community in supporting the school, the connections between health and academic achievement and the importance of evidence-based school policies and practices.

ODE must submit an application for the grant by February 10, 2023. If ODE's application is approved, the grant would begin on June 30, 2023, and would allow for up to \$425,000 per year for five years. No state matching funds are required for the grant. The department would utilize the funds to establish key partnerships to support school health programs; promote dissemination and implementation of CDC school health guidelines, tools, and resources through professional development and technical assistance. Funding would also be used for action planning to implement physical activity, school nutrition, and school health policies, practices, programs, and services within state and LEAs, and out-of-school time settings. In addition, the department anticipates approximately a quarter of the funds would be passed through directly to one LEA for more intensive work and funding to support more direct, local level interventions.

The department anticipates two positions will be needed to implement the grant, including the continuation of one limited duration Operations and Policy Analyst 3 position and establishment of one limited duration, part-time Operations and Policy Analyst 1. No administrative funds, positions, or limitation are requested at this time; however, pending approval by the CDC, the department may return to request additional Federal Fund expenditure limitation and position authority.



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor



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Oregon achieves.... together!

Colt Gill

Director of the Oregon Department of Education

January 18, 2023

The Honorable Representative Tawna Sanchez, Co-Chair
The Honorable Senator Elizabeth Steiner, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street NE Salem
OR 97301-4048

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

Nature of Request

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) respectfully requests approval to apply for a five-year cooperative agreement from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): [School-Based Interventions to Promote Equity and Improve Health, Academic Achievement, and Well-Being of Students \(CDC-RFA-DP-23-0002\)](#). If approved to apply, and subsequently awarded, the CDC cooperative agreement would be managed through ODE's Child Nutrition Program unit. The ODE must submit an application package by February 10, 2023.

Agency Action

The CDC Division of Population Health is soliciting applications for School Health grants to fund statewide and local efforts to 1) increase the numbers of schools with an action plan based on the completion of CDC's School Health Index (SHI); (2) increase implementation of Comprehensive School Physical Activity Programs (CSPAP); (3) increase school nutrition and food security policies and practices; (4) increase school-based health services that support students with chronic health conditions; and (5) increase physical activity, healthy dietary behaviors, and self-management of chronic health conditions among students.

The purpose of the CDC-RFA-DP-23-0002 is to protect and improve the health and well-being of school-age children and adolescents in underserved and disproportionately affected communities. The Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSSC) model will be used to establish key partnerships to support school health programs; promote dissemination and implementation of CDC school health guidelines, tools, and resources through Professional Development (PD) and Technical Assistance (TA); and use action planning to implement physical activity, school nutrition, and school health policies, practices, programs, and services within state and local education agencies (LEAs), schools, and out-of-school time (OST) settings.

These strategies are intended to be implemented using a comprehensive, statewide approach, building on, and enhancing current statewide and local school health efforts. In addition, one local education agency (LEA) will be selected and funded to prioritize the work. The goal will be to work with most of the elementary, middle, and high schools within the selected LEA to impact school wellness outcomes— nutrition, physical activity, and management of chronic conditions – with the intention of improving student health, advancing equity, decreasing absenteeism, and strengthening academic achievement.

Oregon is one of sixteen states currently funded by the CDC for the Healthy Schools cooperative agreement, *Improving Student Health and Academic Achievement through Nutrition, Physical Activity and the Management of Chronic Conditions in Schools* (CDC-RFA-DP18-1801), which ends in June 2023. For the past four and a half years, the ODE and the Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division (OHA-PHD), OregonASK (Afterschool & Summer for Kids Network), six LEAs, and partners around the WSCC model have worked to increase the number of Oregon students who consume nutritious food and beverages; increase the number of students who participate in daily physical education and physical activity; and increase the number of students who can effectively manage their chronic health conditions.

ODE is hoping to continue this work and is requesting approval to apply for the CDC-RFA-DP-23-0002, *School-Based Intervention to Promote Equity and Improve Health, Academic Achievement, and Well-Being of Students*, that if awarded will enable the department, in collaboration with the OHA-PHD, to continue and broaden coordination of state-wide efforts with key school health stakeholders to facilitate collaboration and advance the program, support the development of school health councils to expand health promoting strategies in schools by providing resources (e.g., funding, training, technical assistance, materials) and guidance to support assessment, action planning, training, program implementation, and evaluation to strengthen school health policies, practices, and programs.

The grant allows up to \$425,000 per year for five years, with a 12-month budget. Cost sharing or matching funds are not required, although leveraging other resources and related ongoing efforts to promote sustainability is strongly encouraged. The estimated start date is June 30, 2023.

Positions Requested

This request will require two positions. It would extend the LD OPA3 (School Wellness Policy Coordinator) position in Child Nutrition Programs for an additional five years (the length of time of the grant). A second PT LD position (OPA1) in Child Nutrition Programs would assist the School Wellness Coordinator position.

Reporting Requirements

State agencies will be required to submit an Evaluation and Performance Measurement Plan within the first six months of the award. An Annual Performance Report (APR) will be submitted to CDC at the end of the annual budget period. The APR includes an annual Evaluation and Performance Measurement Plan, and administrative reporting including the SF-424A Budget Information-Non-Construction Programs. Financial reporting FFR form (SF-425) must be submitted quarterly through the Payment Management System (PMS). The Final Financial and Performance Report is required to be submitted at the end of the five-year grant cycle.

Agency Request

Approve the Oregon Department of Education to apply for the federal cooperative agreement of up to \$2,125,000 from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) *School-Based Interventions to Promote Equity and Improve Health, Academic Achievement, and Well-Being of Students* (CDC-RFA-DP-23-0002).

Legislation Affected

None

Thank you for considering the approval of this request.

Sincerely,



Colt Gill
Agency Director