



Ninth Grade Success Grant

Colorado's Ninth Grade Success Grant Program is designed to provide funding to local education providers and charter schools to improve the ninth-grade student experience to ensure that students enrolled in ninth grade develop the skills they need to successfully persist to tenth grade on time and ultimately in graduating from high school and launching successful careers.

Cohort 2 - Fall 2023

CDE has released a Request for Applications for a new cohort of grantees.

Grant components

Grantees implementing a ninth-grade success program will receive funding to support their implementation of key components including:

- **Ninth Grade Success Team:** Creating a cross-disciplinary success team of ninth grade teachers and support staff that meets regularly to identify and implement individual and group strategies to support ninth grade students.
- **Data System:** Implementing a data system that provides real-time access to data concerning a student's behavior, attendance, and grades and can be disaggregated.
- **Instructional Support:** Providing instructional support for ninth grade students to increase engagement and rigor in learning that may include content-specific academic interventions, tutoring, course-completion programs, social-emotional learning, and trauma-informed instruction.
- **Transition Programs:** Based on data for incoming students, implement transition programs and class schedules for students. Provide support and time for school staff to better support 9th grade students.

Grant details

This application includes two different options. The overall grant requirements and required components are the same.

- **Option A:** The first application option is to apply for school focused implementation. Applicants can apply for \$50,000-\$100,000 per school year.
- **Option B:** The second application option is funding for the 2023-24 school focused on training and capacity building to implement the grant components. This may include multiple schools within a district. Applicants can apply for up to \$50,000.

Prioritization

New legislation in 2023, focused on improving mathematics performance, introduced two new prioritizations. These prioritizations regarding mathematics are in addition to prioritization based on graduation rates.

- Points will be awarded within the application if the applicant chooses to focus on implementation of evidence informed mathematics programming to support students who are below grade level.
- The grant is intended to focus on highest need schools so applications that meet all criteria will be funded in order of priority of need based on mathematics performance and graduation rates.

Key dates:

- **October 3, 2023:** Informational webinar
- **October 16, 2023:** Optional intent to apply is due
- **October 30, 2023:** Application is due
- **November/December 2023:** Application review, selection of grantees, and recommendation to the State Board of Education
- **January/February 2024:** Grants are awarded, beginning of a planning/implementation phase

CDE's Office of Dropout Prevention and Student Re-engagement administers the Ninth Grade Success Grant. The office provides coordination, research and leadership to assist local education providers in implementing efforts to improve student engagement with the goal to improve the dropout, graduation and completion rates every year.

[Ninth Grade Success Grant webpage](#)

[Application materials](#)



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