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**COLORADO**  
Department of Education

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# Automatic Enrollment in Advanced Courses Grant Program

Pursuant to SB 19-059

## Application Webinar 2019-2020



- All students deserve the opportunity to learn higher-level content and students who have access to a rigorous curriculum perform better across multiple measures, including graduating high school and completing higher education.
- Traditionally, disadvantaged minorities and low-income students of all racial and ethnic backgrounds who perform well in school do not enroll in advanced classes at the same rate as their peers, regardless of preparedness.
- High school graduation guidelines adopted by the Colorado state board of education require students to demonstrate competency in math and English scores to graduate, which can include achieving a sufficient score on an advanced placement or international baccalaureate exam.
- A school's or school district's course placement policies and decisions impact a student's opportunity to reach his or her full academic potential.



- The John W. Buckner Automatic Enrollment in Advanced Courses Grant Program is intended to increase the number of students enrolled in advanced courses for subjects in which the student has demonstrated proficiency.
- "Advanced course" means an advanced course of study in any subject, including:
  - an Advanced Placement course;
  - an International Baccalaureate course;
  - or a course designated by a school district as an honors, gifted, or accelerated course.



Local Education Providers (LEPs) are eligible to apply for this opportunity. An eligible LEP is:

- A School District (a school operating within the district may not submit a standalone application);
  - A School (only if the authorizing district does not intend to submit an application)
  - A Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES);
  - A Charter School authorized by a School District; or
  - A Charter School authorized by the Charter School Institute.
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- An application from an individual school must be submitted by the Chief Administrative Officer of the school (if the authorizing district does not intend to submit an application) and, if the school is not a charter school, the school must notify the superintendent of the authorized school district of the application. The school's district will be the fiscal agent, if funded.
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- A charter school's authorizer will be the fiscal agent, if funded. A charter school may also be included in a district application.

# Eligible Applicants (continued)



- A Local Education Provider is eligible for the grant program if the LEP automatically enrolls each student entering the ninth grade or higher in an advanced course based on any of the following criteria:
- The student achieved a score that is equivalent to, or exceeds, demonstrating proficiency on the state assessment that was administered pursuant to section 22-7-1006.3 for the preceding academic year, referred to in this section as an "eligible score", as follows:
  - Students who achieve an eligible score in a subject related to mathematics must be automatically enrolled in advanced courses in mathematics;
  - Students who achieve an eligible score in subjects relating to reading and writing must be enrolled in advanced courses in English, social studies, humanities, or other related subjects; and
  - Students who achieve an eligible score in a subject related to science or social studies must be automatically enrolled in advanced courses in science or social studies; or
- Any other measure, applied to all students enrolled in a Local Education Provider, that, in the judgment of the Local Education Provider, is an indicator that a student demonstrates the ability to succeed in an advanced course.

# Available Funds



- Approximately \$220,000 is available for the 2019-2020 school year. CDE anticipates to award grants for a one-year period. Funding in subsequent years for grantees is contingent upon continued appropriations and upon grantees meeting all grant, fiscal and reporting requirements.
- The Department will award funds based on the following formula:
  - The Department will use the aggregate information provided by each applicant eligible Local Education Providers under Rule 3.03(2) to determine an overall average cost per student.
  - The Department will apply the average calculated in Rule 3.04(1)(a) to each eligible Local Education Provider by multiplying the overall average cost per student times the number of students served.
  - The Department will award an amount to each eligible Local Education Provider based on the number of students and average cost per student served under Rule 3.04(1)(b).
    - If the total funding requested in an eligible Local Education Provider's application is less than the award determined under Rule 3.04(1)(c), then the Local Education Provider's award will be equal to the total funding requested in its application.
  - Additionally, supplemental funding based on the number of grade levels served may be included in the award.
  - If the total amount appropriated by the General Assembly in a given fiscal year is insufficient to fully fund awards as determined under Rule 3.04(1)(c), the Department will reduce each eligible Local Education Provider's award by a proportional amount.

# Allowable Use of Funds



- A Local Education Provider that receives a grant under the program shall use the funding as follows:
  - Allowable services or activities include:
    - Expanding the number of advanced courses offered in the Local Education Provider, including the use of technology to increase the number of advanced courses offered;
    - Incentivizing teachers to teach advanced courses, including teacher training and professional development in areas relating to advanced course instruction;
    - Developing advanced course curriculum; or
    - Expanding parent and student engagement with the Local Education Provider as it relates to advanced course availability and enrollment and student success in advanced courses.
- A Local Education Provider that is awarded a grant **may not** use the grant money for the purpose of hiring new teachers.



- Grants will be awarded for a one-year term beginning in the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Additional grant funding for subsequent years will be contingent upon annual appropriations by the State Legislature.
- Funded applicants for the 2019-2020 school year are not guaranteed any additional funding beyond the 2019-2020 year at this time. Funds must be expended by **October 31, 2020**.





- Each Local Education Provider that receives funding through the Automatic Enrollment in Advanced Placement Courses Grant Program must submit an annual report to the Department that includes the following information on or before **October 31, 2020**.
  - The number of students enrolled in advanced courses before and after implementation of the grant program;
  - The number of students automatically enrolled in advanced courses by the Local Education Provider before and after implementation of the grant program;
  - Demographic information of students automatically enrolled in advanced courses, including grade, race, ethnicity, gender, and socioeconomic information before and after implementation of the grant program;
  - The number of students in grades 4-8 automatically enrolled in advanced courses before and after implementation of the grant program if applicable; and
  - The ways in which grant dollars were utilized.

# Review Process and Timeline



- Applications will be reviewed by CDE staff and peer reviewers to ensure they contain all required components. Applicants will be notified of final award status no later than **Wednesday, April 1, 2020.**
- **Note:** This is a competitive process – applicants must meet all rubric criteria to be approved for funding. Applications that do not meet all criteria may be asked to submit revisions that would bring the application up to a fundable level. There is no guarantee that submitting an application will result in funding or funding at the requested level. All award decisions are final. Applicants that do not meet the qualifications may reapply for future grant opportunities.

# Submission Process and Deadline



- An electronic copy of the application (in PDF format) and electronic budget (in Excel format) must be submitted to [CompetitiveGrants@cde.state.co.us](mailto:CompetitiveGrants@cde.state.co.us) by **Wednesday, January 15, 2020, by 11:59 pm.**
- The electronic version should include all required components of the application as one document. Please attach the electronic budget workbook in Excel format as a separate document.
  - Faxes will not be accepted.
  - Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.
- Application materials and budget are available for download on the CDE website at [www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary/apautoenrollment](http://www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary/apautoenrollment).



- The total narrative (Section A) of the application cannot exceed 3 pages (response template included). **Note:** Applications that exceed 3 pages will not be reviewed.
- The signature page must include original signatures of the lead organization/fiscal agent.



- The format outlined below must be followed in order to assure consistent application of the evaluation criteria. See evaluation rubric for specific selection criteria needed in Part II (page 11).
- **Part I: Application Introduction (not scored)**
  - Part IA: Cover Page - Applicant Information
  - Part IB: Recipient Schools Information
  - Part IB: Program Assurances Form
- **Part II: Narrative:**
  - Section A: Program Description and Budget Narrative
  - Electronic Excel Budget Template

# Review Process



- **Part I: Application Introduction (No Points)**

- Cover Pages and Assurances

- Complete applicant information and program assurances and include as the first pages of the application.

- **Part II: Narrative**

- The following criteria will be used by reviewers to evaluate the application as a whole. In order for the application to be recommended for funding, it must meet all rubric criteria

# Evaluation Rubric (continued)



Section A: Program Description and Budget Narrative	Did Not Meet	Met
1) The local education provider has automatically enrolled all eligible students into advanced courses based on the criteria in 3.02(1) (see <b>Attachment A</b> ) and will use grant funds solely for the approved use as stated in 3.05 (see <b>Attachment A</b> ). This assurance will be used to verify eligibility for the program.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
[Provide Response Here]		
2) Describe the LEP's existing advanced courses and any planned advanced courses, including courses that may be implemented with money received from the grant program.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
[Provide Response Here]		
3) Detail the LEP's plan for automatically enrolling students into advanced courses, including the costs associated with implementing its plan, the number of students it expects to automatically enroll in advanced courses, and the grade levels it expects to serve through its plan.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
[Provide Response Here]		
4) Describe how the LEP will use any grant awarded consistent with the requirements of Rule 3.05 (see <b>Attachment A</b> ).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
[Provide Response Here]		
5) Describe of any additional support systems that the LEP intends to implement to ensure the success of the eligible students who have been automatically enrolled in advanced coursework.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
[Provide Response Here]		
6) Complete the electronic <b>Excel Budget</b> template and provide a short narrative below that provides additional detail as to how the proposed grant activities and expenditures align with the intent of the Automatic Enrollment Grant.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
[Provide Response Here]		
<b>Reviewer Comments:</b>		





# Questions



## Program Questions:

- Marina Kokotovic, Office of Postsecondary Readiness  
(303) 866-6267 | [Kokotovic\\_M@cde.state.co.us](mailto:Kokotovic_M@cde.state.co.us)

## Budget/Fiscal Questions:

- Brittany Shores, Office of Grants Fiscal  
(303) 866-6911 | [Shores\\_B@cde.state.co.us](mailto:Shores_B@cde.state.co.us)

## Application Questions:

- Mandy Christensen, Office of Competitive Grants and Awards  
(303) 866-6250 | [Christensen\\_A@cde.state.co.us](mailto:Christensen_A@cde.state.co.us)