

OFFICE OF STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Funding Availability

FISCAL YEAR 2016

SAT Preparation Expansion Grant

Request for Application (RFA) Release Date: September 4, 2015

Grant Application Submission Deadline: October 5, 2015 (no later than 4:00 PM EST)

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) – Division of Postsecondary & Career Education is soliciting grant applications for the District of Columbia SAT Preparation Expansion Grant. The goal of the SAT Preparation Expansion Grant is to increase the number of District high school students receiving high quality test preparation services in school year 2015-2016. Additionally, OSSE seeks to understand which type or types of SAT preparation programs have the greatest positive impact on student scores for the greatest number of District students as well as which type or types of SAT preparation programs may be most effective for specific student populations.

Eligibility: OSSE will make these grants available through a competitive process. Eligible applicants include SAT exam test preparation companies, in partnership with District of Columbia Local Education Agencies (LEAs), who shall provide one or more of three (3) specific SAT preparation program options:

- *Option 1: Curriculum Integration:* OSSE will fund programs that train academic subject area teachers to integrate SAT strategies and content into pre-existing classroom curriculum.
- *Option 2: LEA-provided SAT Test Preparation Course:* OSSE will fund programs that support school-employed staff to teach a standalone SAT course or courses as part of the school day.
- *Option 3: Company-provided SAT Preparation Course:* OSSE will fund programs that provide an external instructor or instructors directly from the test preparation company to teach a standalone SAT preparation and strategy course for students. Applicants interested in option three must provide a funding match of 2:1, with the applicant providing the 1/3 portion.

Test preparation companies may choose to apply for as many options as they see fit in partnership with one or more LEAs. However, eligible applicants shall offer the SAT preparation course during the school day and for credit (at least ½ a credit). In addition, SAT preparation program offerings must occur no earlier than October 2015 and no later than May 2016.

Eligible applicants must secure partnerships with the LEAs with which they intend to work and will be required to verify these partnerships. Applicants must submit a Partnership Agreement for each partnership, signed by both partners, that details the parameters of the partnership and demonstrates each partner's role in the planning and implementation of programs and services. Any qualified test preparation company may serve as the lead applicant for funding and will be fully responsible for fiscal management of funds awarded by OSSE.

OSSE will be holding two information sessions to answer questions about the RFA and grant competition. Please see the full RFA for a detailed timeline of events.

Length of Award: The grant award period is one year.

Available Funding for Award: The total funding available for this award period is \$225,000. Eligible applicants may apply for any amount up to the full amount but may be awarded amounts less than requested.

An external review panel or panels will be convened to review, score, and rank each application. The review panel(s) will be composed of neutral, qualified, professional individuals selected for their expertise, knowledge or related experiences. The application will be scored against a rubric and application will have multiple reviewers to ensure accurate scoring. Upon completion of its review, the panel(s) shall make recommendations for awards based on the scoring rubric(s). OSSE's Division of Postsecondary and Career Education will make all final award decisions.

For additional information regarding this grant competition, please contact:

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The RFA will be available on www.osse.dc.gov/sat-preparation-grant. Applications will be submitted through the [Enterprise Grants Management System](#) (EGMS).