



## What is the overall goal of the CLSD grant?

The overall goal of the CLSD grant is to improve the pre-literacy skills of children under age five and significantly increase the percentage of elementary, middle, and high-school students who meet the state's language and literacy proficiency standards.

## Where can we find the application and webinar for CLSD Grant?

- The Comprehensive Literacy State Development Grant information is at: <https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/literacy-humanities/comprehensive-literacy-state-development-grant/>
- The PDF version of the webinar is at: <https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/New-Mexico-Comprehensive-Literacy-State-Development-Grant-CLSD-Webinar-PDF.pdf>
- The webinar recording is at: <https://live.myvrspot.com/iframe?v=NDIiNWE0ODJiNWlyMTg3NWQ0OWFjYjIhMzk4NDMwNDY>

## Must we include district charter schools in our applications?

This is a district decision.

## Can a consortium of small rural districts apply for the grant together?

Yes. Consortium applicants must specify a lead applicant who will serve as a point of contact for these application requirements included within this RFA. These applications will be rated on the same criteria as an individual applicant. Any applicant responding to this RFA will submit only one application. Applicants may submit individually or as part of a consortium, but not both. All required documents must be submitted for each District that is part of the consortium

(MOU's, individual school dash plans, vetting documents for early childhood component) and any other required documents as listed on the RFA.

**If we are selected as a recipient of the CLSD grant, is it guaranteed for the 5-year period?**

There is no guarantee for the 5-year period. It is dependent on the sub grantee's progress towards goals identified on the RFA and will be evaluated each year as part of the state and local continuous improvement process. A review and impact of awarded funds in relation to proficiency level increase during the academic year will be considered annually. Funding will be awarded annually after review.

**Must we use MLSS and have a District Literacy Team in order to apply?**

Sub grantees must utilize the Multi-Level System of Support (MLSS) the New Mexico's adaptation of the Response to Intervention Framework (RTI) beginning no later than SY 2020-2021.

Each application must list District/Charter/Consortia Literacy team members representing B-4, K-6, Middle/High School, and Partner(s).

**If we received a SRCL grant, can we pay for the same things we paid with through SRCL?**

CLSD funds must not be used to provide duplicative payment for activities that are currently funded under the SRCL Grant. After the 3-year SRCL grant allocation has ended, CLSD funds can be used to sustain initiatives started with SRCL funds.

**Do we have to have a pre-k program? If we do not, can we still apply?**

You must include a partner that serves students birth- pre-k. A requirement for the CLSD grant is that students, birth-12<sup>th</sup> grade are served.

**Will schools not receiving SRCL grant have any level of priority over those who already have SRCL funding?**

No, applicants serving underserved populations of children will receive priority for grant funding. Priority will be given to districts meeting one or more of the following criteria, which are based on state averages:

- ✓ at least 74% economically disadvantaged children,
- ✓ at least 14% limited English proficiency, and/or
- ✓ at least 16% receiving special education services

Sub grantees will receive priority points if:

- ✓ LEA is eligible for Small, Rural School Achievement Program or Rural and Low Income Program
- ✓ LEA has a high number of children in foster care.

**Please define a sub-grantee?**

A sub-grantee is the awarded district, charter school or consortia.

**If we happen to miss this deadline, are we able to apply for funds next year OR if we don't get in this first round are we out?**

This is the only opportunity to apply for the 5-year grant.

**Will we receive an allocation for FY20, and a new one for FY21 for budget authority?**

Yes, allocation will be made for each FY accordingly.

**Must we participate in the Research Study mentioned in the webinar? If we say no, does that preclude us from receiving funding?**

Participating in the research study, if selected, will be mandatory.

**Does afterschool tutoring count as an intervention for this grant; for instance at the middle and high schools?**

Tutoring can be included in your application. Providers must be licensed and of high quality.

**Can we write the cost of assessments into the grant?**

Yes, assessment must be new and not a current assessment used in district. The assessment must be research based and level of evidence based.

**Can you budget \$0 for Feb 2020 - June 2020, with all expenses starting July 2020?**

No, year 1 would be for 5 months, and then budget accordingly for the remaining year.

**How much of the total amount is going out to LEAs?**

We will be disbursing approximately 38 million dollars over the course of 5 years to recipients of the CLSD grant. This means that approximately 7 million will be disbursed to the selected recipients annually.

**Does the LEA have to have a literacy plan in place already?**

Yes, a literacy framework must be in place and submitted along with application.

**Do MOUs need to be finalized by Dec 20<sup>th</sup> submittal?**

Yes, all applications must be submitted by December 20<sup>th</sup>. No extensions will be granted.

**How much can we request for each budget year? Is there a per annual funding cap?**

When creating the budget timeline, narrative and budget, be very realistic on how you will carry out what you apply for. We will be disbursing approximately 38 million dollars over the course of 5 years to recipients of the CLSD grant. This means that approximately 7 million will be disbursed to the selected recipients annually.

**What from NM Dash must we submit since the District Dash was paused?**

LEAs are able to save a PDF of each school's Annual and First and Second 90-Day Plan (that will be in place Jan 2020) and submit along with their application. Many of our LEAs have a strategic plan, which can also be submitted, along with the school NM Dash plans.

**We are a small State Charter School who only has K-6<sup>th</sup> grade, can we still apply?**

Yes, but in a consortia or with identified partners. Since this is a Birth-12<sup>th</sup> grade grant, partners from Birth-5 and a partner that serves students grades 7-12<sup>th</sup>.

**Can an extension be granted past the December 20<sup>th</sup> deadline?**

No, our federal grant application has this timeline built into it with the U.S. Department of Education. There will be no extensions.

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