

OHIO'S EARLY LITERACY AND READING READINESS GRANT (THIRD GRADE READING GUARANTEE) APPLICATION

Committed to innovative practices that promote reading readiness in all students by the end of grade three

If your district or community school has a forward thinking concept to elevate early literacy at the local level that includes providing high-quality reading intervention to students not reading at grade level—now is the time to showcase your work.

Ohio House Bill 487 provides an opportunity for districts and community schools to pursue funding from \$13,000,000 in competitive grant funding allocated to design and implement a grades K-3 early literacy and reading intervention concept that assists students in improving and enhancing their reading development and prepares them to read at grade level by the end of grade three. The applicants with the most creative concepts and greatest potential for impact will be awarded funding.

This challenge is about recognizing the need for early reading intervention and support for students at risk of not reading at grade level by the end of third grade, addressing the need in a proactive manner, and sharing your knowledge so that other districts and community schools may benefit.

AWARDS

Awards will be determined based on the quality of the application and priority will be given to partnerships. Awardees classified as individual entities will receive a maximum of \$100,000.00. Awardees classified as consortia, comprised of three or more partners, will be awarded a maximum of \$250,000.00. Neither an individual entity nor a partner within a consortia may be included in more than one application.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- School Districts
- Community Schools
- Consortia comprised of three or more partners including: Community Schools, Early Childhood Centers, Educational Service Centers, Libraries, School Districts, and/or other educational entities.
- A community school or school district must be a partner within a consortia

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process is succinct, efficient and clear-cut. Applicants will respond to questions on vision, implementation, impact and scaling up. The application resides within the CCIP and which is accessible through the SAFE account: <https://safe.ode.state.oh.us/portal>.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

***How are you applying for the grant? (select only one)**

- As an individual public school district or community school, for a maximum of \$100,000.00
- As a consortium, comprised of three or more partners, for a maximum of \$250,000.00. (List the names of each partner, and their IRNs if available, in your consortium in the box below):

Vision

1. What is your bold and forward-thinking concept for a K-3 early literacy and reading readiness program? (up to 375 characters)

2. What makes your concept new and different and how will it effectively impact early literacy and reading readiness? (up to 750 characters)

3. Select one: Is your concept:

- Brand new* — never before implemented
- Existing and researched-based* – never implemented in your district or community school but proven successful in educational environments
- Blended* – incorporates new and existing elements
- Enhancing* – elevating impactful early literacy and reading readiness taking place in your district, community school, or consortia partnership

- 4. Explain how your concept requires restructuring and/or re-prioritization of resources, expertise, and other assets in your school district, community school, or consortia partnership. (up to 750 characters)**

- 5. How does your concept cultivate capacity so that district, community school or consortium leadership are well-positioned to foster partnerships and leverage resources, thereby growing a concept's influence and achieving greater scale? (up to 750 characters)**

Implementation

6. Briefly outline your plan for successful implementation of this concept. (up to 1250 characters)

7. What time frame is realistic to implement your plan? (please select only one)

1-6 months 6-12 months 1-2 years

Other:

What could alter this timeline? (up to 250 characters)

8. What funds, if any, have already been secured and/or dedicated to support this concept (e.g., Title I funding and funds formally dedicated to supplemental education services (SES), other grants)? (up to 375 characters)

9. What non-monetary and/or in-kind resources will support your implementation (e.g., data, parental involvement, other)? (up to 750 characters)

10. Are you applying as a consortium comprised of three or more partners? If so, how were partners selected? (up to 375 characters)

11. Who, individual or team, will serve as the leads for this implementation work (e.g., program design, implementation, progress monitoring, reporting and fiscal)? (up to 750 characters)

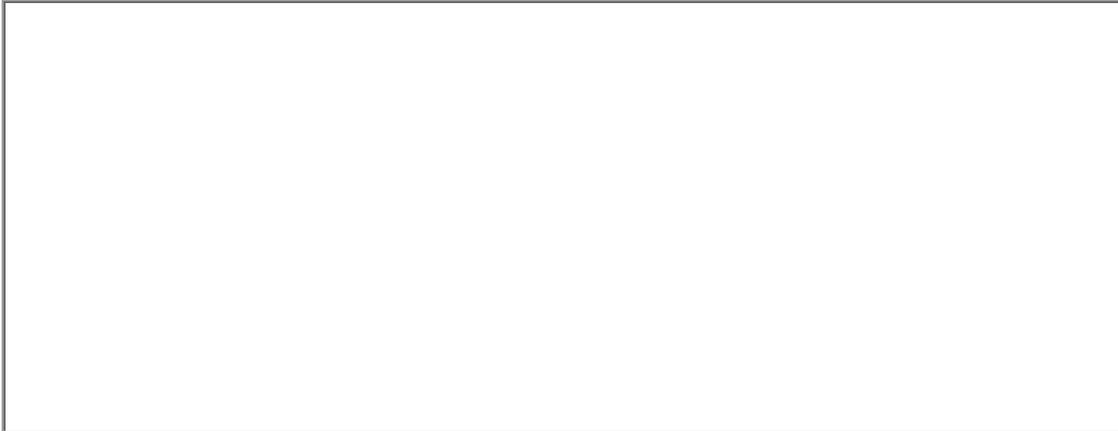
12. What are the largest barriers that could derail your concept or timeline for implementation, and why? What is your plan to proactively mitigate such barriers? (up to 1250 characters)

IMPACT

13. Check all types that apply: This concept will:

- Increase the number of students reading at grade level by grade three
- Minimize the number of students retained at grade three excluding exceptions
- Align to the Common Core state standards and prepare students for Ohio's next generation assessments
- Instill effective early literacy and reading intervention practices at grades K-3
- Other:

14. What evidence (data) supports this concept and request? (up to 750 characters)

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the user to provide evidence (data) supporting the concept and request.

15. What research supports why your concept, implemented at the scale described in this application, can produce the amount of impact you expect? (up to 750 characters)

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the user to provide research supporting why the concept, implemented at the scale described, can produce the amount of impact expected.

16. How long do you think it will take to show results? What will you use to measure impact? (up to 1250 characters)

17. What outcomes will your district, community school or consortia achieve? How will you evaluate the impact of your concept? (up to 750 characters)

SCALING UP

18. How will your district, community school, or consortia ensure the sustainability of this concept after the funding ends? (up to 750 characters)

19. Can this concept be replicated in other districts or community schools? (up to 375 characters)

20. Do other districts and community schools have access to the resources they would need to roll this out? (up to 375 characters)



STATUS CHECK

Once you complete your application reflect on your responses before submitting. Ask yourself, does my application:

- represent bold and visionary thinking;
- outline a thoughtful implementation plan;
- include a strong argument for this concept;
- illustrate a concept that can be replicated;
- demonstrate impact and sustainability;
- reflect research-based information

APPLICATION QUESTION PERIOD

All questions concerning this application may be e-mailed to:
thirdgradeguarantee@education.ohio.gov.

Note: The email address is for all questions, the application will be submitted through the Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP).

APPLICATION TIMELINE

| | |
|--|--|
| October 2012: | Release of competition application |
| December 31, 2012 (11:59 p.m. EST): | Application deadline – Applications must be received through the <u>Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP)</u> by December 31, 2012. No extensions will be granted. |
| On or before April 30, 2013: | Notification of awards |

SUBMITTING APPLICATION

If you submit your application electronically, it must be sent/received on December 31, 2012. If you submit your application by mail, it must be postmarked by December 31, 2012.

ADDITIONAL GRANT INFORMATION

| | | | |
|---|------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| Project Title | | Date | |
| Amount of Grant \$ | | Type of Application <input type="checkbox"/> New or <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment # | |
| Application Agency Information | | | |
| Name of Agency | | | |
| County | | District IRN | Building IRN |
| Contact Person | | Job Title | |
| Address | | | |
| Telephone Number | Fax Number | E-mail Address | |
| Fiscal Agent Information | | | |
| Name of Agency | | | |
| County | | IRN | |
| Address | | | |
| Telephone Number | | E-mail Address | |
| <p><i>The undersigned certify that the information in this application is correct and complete, that the assurances to the Ohio Department of Education will be executed and the operation will comply with the current federal and state law and regulations and the provisions of this application as approved.</i></p> | | | |
| Treasurer | | Treasurer's Signature | |
| Superintendent | | Superintendent's Signature | |
| Approval For Ohio Department of Education Use Only | | | |
| Project Number | Amount Approved \$ | Effective Dates of Project | |
| Approving Authority | Signature | Date Approved | |

Project Budget

Preparing the Budget: Please provide

- requested total amount of State RttT TIP funds for each option. (Indicate \$0 if an option is not in the plan)
- amount of matched District RttT funds

| District/Agency | County | | IRN | | Type of Budget <input type="checkbox"/> Initial <input type="checkbox"/> Revised |
|---|---------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|---|
| | A | B | C | D | A+B+C+D |
| Purpose Code | Purchased Services 400 | Supplies 500 | Capital Outlay 600 | Other 800 | Total |
| Instruction | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ (up to 100% of total budget) |
| Support Services | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ (up to 20% of total budget) |
| Professional Development | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ (up to 20% of total budget) |
| Family/Community | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ (up to 15% of total budget) |
| Transportation | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ (up to 10% of total budget) |
| Function Totals | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | Grand Total \$ |
| Typed Name and Title of Superintendent/CEO | | Typed Name and Title of Treasurer/CFO | | For Ohio Department of Education Use Only | |
| Signature | Date | Signature | Date | Approved By | Date |

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

ODE reserves the right to:

| |
|--|
| 1. Make changes to the grant requirements, administered research, and funds at any time; |
| 2. Make grant awards without discussion with the applicants; therefore, proposals should represent the applicant's best effort to ensure a quality proposal from a technical content and cost standpoint; |
| 3. Reject any or all proposals received in response to the Application; |
| 4. Withdraw the Application at any time, at the agency's sole discretion; |
| 5. Disqualify any respondent whose conduct and/or application fails to conform to the requirements of the Application; |
| 6. Seek clarifications of the Application; |
| 7. Use application information obtained through the state's investigation of a provider's qualifications, experience, ability, or financial standing, and any material or information submitted by the provider in response to the agency's request for clarifying information in the course of evaluation and/or selection under the Application; |
| 8. During the application period, amend the Application specifications to correct errors or oversights, or to supply additional information, as it becomes available; |
| 9. Change any of the scheduled dates; |
| 10. Disburse funds subject to availability of state funds; |
| 11. Waive any requirements that are not material; |
| 12. Request information pertinent to the application; and |
| 13. Require clarification at any time during the qualification process and/or require correction of arithmetic or other apparent errors for the purpose of assuring a full and complete understanding of a provider's application and/or to determine a provider's compliance with the requirements of the Application. |

PROGRAM ASSURANCES:

I agree, on behalf of this applicant agency and/or all identified partners to abide by all assurances outlined in the Assurance section of the Application and the RESERVATION OF RIGHTS in the Early Literacy and Reading Readiness Grant Application. In the box below, enter "I Accept" and indicate your name, title, agency/organization and today's date.

| | | | | |
|---|-----------|-------|---------------------|------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I Accept <input type="checkbox"/> I do not Accept | Signature | Title | Agency/Organization | Date |
|---|-----------|-------|---------------------|------|

ASSURANCES

1. That the local educational agency is in compliance with Section 9524 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 and the district has no policy that prevents, or otherwise denies participation in, constitutionally protected prayer in elementary and secondary public schools as set forth in the Guidance on Constitutionally Protected Prayer in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools dated February 7, 2003.
2. That the control of funds provided to the SUBGRANTEE under each program and title to property acquired with those funds will be in a designated eligible recipient and that a designated eligible recipient will administer those funds and property.
3. That the SUBGRANTEE will accept funds in accordance with applicable Federal and State statutes, regulations, program plans, and applications, and administer the programs in compliance with all provisions of such statutes, regulations, applications, policies and amendments thereto.
4. That the SUBGRANTEE has the necessary legal authority to apply for and receive the proposed grant or subgrant and enter into the contract.
5. That the SUBGRANTEE will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996, OMB Circular No. A133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and NonProfit Organizations" and Ohio Revised Code Section 117.11 utilizing generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The SUBGRANTEE will furthermore utilize competitive bidding practices in compliance with applicable procurement regulations. Additionally, the SUBGRANTEE will submit to ODE the aforementioned audit reports required in accordance with OMB Circular A133 Section 300 (e) within the timeframes required by OMB Circular A133 Section 320.
6. That the SUBGRANTEE will make reports to ODE and to the DEPARTMENT as may reasonably be necessary to enable ODE and DEPARTMENT to perform their duties. The reports shall be completed and submitted in accordance with the standards and procedures designated by ODE and/or the DEPARTMENT and shall be supported by appropriate documentation.
7. That the SUBGRANTEE will maintain records, including the records required under Section 437 of the General Education Provisions Act ("GEPA"), 20 U.S.C. Section 1221, and provide access to those records as ODE or the DEPARTMENT and the Comptroller General or any of their authorized representatives in the conduct of audits authorized by Federal Law or State Statute. This cooperation includes access without unreasonable restrictions to its records and personnel for the purpose of obtaining relevant information.
8. That the SUBGRANTEE will provide reasonable opportunities for participation by teachers, parents, and other interested agencies, organizations and individuals in the planning for and operation of each program, as may be necessary according to statute.
9. That any application, evaluation, periodic program plan or report relating to each program will be made readily available to parents and to other members of the general public.
10. That in the case of any project involving construction, the project is not inconsistent with overall State plans for the construction of school facilities, if applicable; and in developing plans for construction, due consideration will be given to excellence of architecture and design and to compliance with standards prescribed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, in order to ensure that facilities constructed with Federal (which become subsequently State) funds are accessible to and usable by handicapped individuals.
11. That the SUBGRANTEE has adopted effective procedures for:
 - (A) Acquiring and disseminating to teachers and administrators participating in each program, significant information resulting from educational research, demonstration and similar projects; and
 - (B) Adopting, if appropriate, promising educational practices developed through those projects.
12. That no person shall, on the ground of race, color, national origin, handicap, or sex be excluded from participation, be denied the benefits, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the SUBGRANTEE receives Federal financial assistance. Admissions policies for private schools are understood and agreed to be part of such programs. In this vein, the SUBGRANTEE agrees to assure compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. Section 16811683); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794); the Age
13. That the SUBGRANTEE may not use its Federal or State funding to pay for any of the following:
 - (A) Religious worship, instruction, or proselytization.

- (B) Equipment or supplies to be used for any of the activities specified in this assurance, herein.
 - (C) Construction, remodeling, repair, operation or maintenance of any facility or part of a facility to be used for any of the activities specified in this assurance, herein.
 - (D) An activity of a school or department of divinity. A school or department of divinity is defined in 34 CFR 76.532(b).
14. That no Federal funding may be used for the acquisition of real property unless specifically permitted by the authorizing statute or implementing regulations for the program.
 15. That the SUBGRANTEE may not count tuition and fees collected from students toward meeting matching, cost sharing or maintenance of effort requirements of a program.
 16. That the SUBGRANTEE shall, to the extent possible, coordinate each of its projects with other activities that are in the same geographical area served by the project and that serves similar purposes and target groups.
 17. That the SUBGRANTEE shall continue its coordination with ODE during the length of the project period.
 18. The SUBGRANTEE shall cooperate in any evaluation by the DEPARTMENT.
 19. That if a program so requires, provisions shall be made for the participation of children enrolled in private schools in the area to be served. Such provision shall:
 - (A) Provide private school students with a genuine opportunity for equitable participation.
 - (B) Provide an opportunity to participate in a manner that is consistent with the number of eligible private school students and their needs.
 - (C) Maintain continuing administrative direction and control over funds and property that benefit students enrolled in private schools.
 - (D) Comply with the requirements of 34 C.F.R. Section 76.652 through 76.662.
 20. That no provision of any law shall be construed to authorize the consolidation of any applicable program with any other program, such as the commingling of funds derived from one appropriation with those derived from another appropriation, except as specifically authorized by statute.
 21. That funds will be used to supplement and not supplant State and local funds expended for educational purposes and, to the extent practicable, increase the fiscal effort that would, in the absence of such funds, be made by the SUBGRANTEE for educational purposes.
 22. That the SUBGRANTEE will comply with all relevant laws relating to privacy and protection of individual rights including 34 C.F.R. Part 99 (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974).
 23. That the SUBGRANTEE will comply with any applicable federal, state and local health or safety requirements that apply to the facilities used for a project.
 24. That it shall maintain records for 3 years following completion of the activities for which the SUBGRANTEE uses the federal or state funding and which show:
 - (A) The amount of funds under the subgrant or grant.
 - (B) How the SUBGRANTEE uses the funds.
 - (C) The total cost of the project.
 - (D) The share of that total cost provided from other sources.
 25. If real property or structures are provided or improved with the aid of Federal financial assistance, the SUBGRANTEE will comply with applicable statutes, regulations and the project application in the use, encumbrance, transfer or sale of such property or structure. If personal property is so provided, the SUBGRANTEE will comply with applicable statutes, regulations and the project application in the use, encumbrance, transfer, disposal and sale of such property.
 26. That in the event of a sustained audit exception, and upon demand of ODE, the SUBGRANTEE shall immediately reimburse ODE for that portion of the audit exception attributable under the audit to the SUBGRANTEE. The SUBGRANTEE agrees to hold ODE harmless for any audit exception arising from the SUBGRANTEE's failure to comply with applicable regulations.
 27. That the SUBGRANTEE is aware all Federal and state funds granted to it are conditioned upon the availability and appropriation of such funds by the United States Congress and the Ohio General Assembly. These funds are subject to reduction or elimination by the United States Congress or Ohio General Assembly at any time, even following award and disbursement of funds. Except as otherwise provided by law, the SUBGRANTEE shall hold

- ODE harmless for any reduction or elimination of Federal or state funds granted to it. In the event of nonappropriation or reduction of appropriation and notice, the SUBGRANTEE shall immediately cease further expenditures under any Federal or state project.
28. The SUBGRANTEE will adopt and use the proper methods of administering the subgrants, including, but not limited to:
 - (A) The enforcement of any obligations imposed by law.
 - (B) The correction of deficiencies in program operations that are identified through program audits, monitoring or evaluation.
 - (C) The adoption of written procedures for the receipt and resolution of complaints alleging violations of law in the administration of such programs.
 29. The SUBGRANTEE will comply with the Safe and Drug Free Schools Act (as amended) and the ProChildren Act of 1994 (as amended).
 30. Personnel employed as teachers and instructional aides by the SUBGRANTEE or personnel contracted to provide such service to the SUBGRANTEE shall be certified as required by Ohio Revised Code Section 3319.22, 3319.30 and 3319.088.
 31. The SUBGRANTEE, by submission of a grant proposal, agrees that the DEPARTMENT or ODE have the authority to take administrative sanctions, including, but not limited to, suspension of cash payments for the project, suspension of program operations and/or, termination of project operations, as necessary to ensure compliance with applicable laws, regulations and assurances for any project. The SUBGRANTEE acknowledges this authority under 34 CFR 80.43, 34 CFR 74.62 and Ohio Revised Code Section 3301.07 (C), as applicable.
 32. For the construction of facilities with Federal funds, the SUBGRANTEE will comply with the provisions of the DavisBacon Act.
 33. When funded on an advance basis by ODE, the SUBGRANTEE agrees to minimize the time between the transfer of funds and the disbursement by the local entity in accordance with the Cash Management Improvement Act (31 CFR part 205). Additionally, the SUBGRANTEE agrees to maintain cash balances which meet their immediate cash needs only. Any interest earnings by the SUBGRANTEE will require repayment in accordance with OMB Circular A102 Section __.21 (i) or OMB Circular A110 Section __.22 (l), as applicable.
 34. In the purchase of equipment and supplies, the SUBGRANTEE will comply with local, state and Federal procurement policies. In addition, equipment and supplies purchased for use in a Federal or state program will comply with the provisions of OMB Circular A102 or OMB Circular A110, as applicable, and any individual program regulations.
 35. The SUBGRANTEE will comply with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended.
 36. That the SUBGRANTEE will acquire, use, maintain and dispose of equipment purchased for the approved project in accordance with 34 CFR 80.32.
 37. That the SUBGRANTEE will have effective financial management systems which conform to the standards present in 34 CFR 80.20, which includes, but is not limited to, the ability to report financial data verifying compliance with program regulations and maintaining effective internal control over the operations of the approved grant.
 38. That the SUBGRANTEE will conform all activities conducted under the approved grant to the provisions contained within OMB Circular A87, A21 and/or A122, as applicable.
 39. That the SUBGRANTEE will obligate funds within the approved project period as set forth in the approved application and will liquidate said obligations not later than 90 days after the end of the project period for grants applied for electronically. For purposes of approved projects, obligations have the same meaning as contained in 34 CFR 76.707.
 40. That no SUBGRANTEE will subgrant the approved project to another entity without the express written consent of ODE.
 41. Additionally, to certify compliance with requirements regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion; and, DrugFree Workplace, as prescribed in 34 C.F.R. Part 82 and Part 85, and 7 C.F.R. Part 3017, and the required regulations implementing Executive Order 12549. The SUBGRANTEE assures that (see "Document Library Consolidated Application Guidelines" for explanation of requirements):
 - (A) All fund participants certify, by submission of this statement, that project funds will not, in any way, be used for the purpose of Lobbying or otherwise influencing decisions supporting the granting of funds administered by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE).
 - (B) The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this statement, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

(C) If the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this statement.

(D) That subgrantees receiving ODE administered funds will provide a drugfree workplace.

42. Any additional assurances listed within the document library for a specific application as required by the ODE program office administering the program.

43. The SUBGRANTEE will comply with the requirements of the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act (Boy Scouts Act), 20 U.S.C. 7905, 34 C.F.R. Part 108, and with other federal civil rights statuses enforced by OCR.