



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SDE offers grants for ‘21st Century Community Learning Centers’

(BOISE) – The State Department of Education will award about \$650,000 in five-year grants to operate programs beyond school hours across Idaho starting in the 2022-23 school year, and the SDE will hold two free virtual workshops later this month for prospective applicants.

Local educational agencies, community organizations, tribal organizations and other public and private organizations are eligible to apply for Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Center funds.

“These learning centers benefit the whole family,” Superintendent of Public Instruction Sherri Ybarra said. “They offer academic enrichment and other supports for students and parents, reducing achievement gaps while cutting child care costs and making it easier for working parents to stay on the job.”

The 21st CCLC program currently funds 45 grants that serve 84 schools throughout Idaho. The program provides a broad array of services such as STEM, art, music, physical fitness, cultural diversity, drug and violence prevention, and youth development activities to students in addition to academic help.

The application period for 2022-23 grants opens Monday, Dec. 13, 2021, and all applications must be received by 4 p.m. MST Friday, Jan. 28, 2022.

Eligible applicants are encouraged to attend a Request for Application (RFA) virtual workshop to learn more about the process and requirements. Both meetings will be held over Zoom.

- Tuesday, Nov. 16: 10 am-12:30 pm MT
- Friday, Nov. 19: 1-3:30 pm MT

To register for an RFA workshop, [visit the State Department of Education website](#). Participants should download the Application Guidance and Scoring Rubric from the website before attending the workshop.

Grants will be awarded through a rigorous peer review process. The SDE is currently accepting applications for qualified individuals interested in reviewing 2022-2023 application submissions.

If you would like to serve as a peer reviewer, fill out an interest form at <https://forms.office.com/r/ew2fwsMaCT> no later than Friday, Dec. 3, 2021.

Applicants seeking additional information can contact Sheena Strickler or Hillary Blackstone sstrickler@sde.idaho.gov or hblackstone@sde.idaho.gov.

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