

**School Redesign Planning Grant Application**

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State Superintendent of Education

February 6, 2017

**Introduction to the School Redesign Planning Grant Application**

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires every local school system design a plan for improving student performance in their struggling schools. Research indicates that nearly every effective model of school transformation includes some external support. The School Redesign Summit was an opportunity for school systems and school redesign organizations to begin brainstorming strategies to improve the achievement of persistently struggling schools across Louisiana. School systems will be developing multi-year plans to address these challenges that may include some of these partner organizations, but the Department has heard from school systems a desire to explore partnerships further before committing to any long term plans. The goal of the School Redesign Planning Grant is to allow school systems to learn more about what a potential partner could offer to their schools and students.

The School Redesign Planning Grant Application asks local school systems to identify the schools on which they are most focused, identify new redesign partner or partners with which each school system is interested in partnering, and provide a brief description of what will be accomplished using planning grant funding. These funds are intended to help school systems make a determination about whether each partner is the right fit for their schools as they build a school redesign plan for their school system.

**Timeline**

There will be two rounds of applications for planning funding. All school systems who submit an application for eligible schools will be funded at a fixed amount regardless of the round in which the application is submitted.

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| **Event** | **Date** |
| Applications Due (Round 1)  | Monday, February 20 |
| BESE Consideration of Funding Recommendations (Round 1)  | Tuesday, March 7 |
| Applications Due (Round 2)  | Wednesday, March 15 |
| BESE Consideration of Funding Recommendations (Round 2)  | Tuesday, April 18 |

**Funding**

School systems with eligible schools are eligible to receive up to $50,000 dollars including a base of $10,000 with $5,000 dollars for each school on the [Planning Grant Eligible Schools list](http://www.louisianabelieves.com/schools/school-redesign) up to a maximum of $50,000 dollars per school system.

**Application**

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| Each application must include all information below. Applications must be submitted via email to hunter.brown@la.gov by Monday, February 20, 2017 to be considered in Round 1. The application should consist of one single PDF document and one single excel document. The PDF document should contain responses to the 2 questions below and the completed assurances; and the excel document should contain a completed Planning Grant Budget Form which can be found [here](https://www.louisianabelieves.com/schools/school-redesign). Any application received after Monday, February 20 will be considered in Round 2 provided that it is submitted by email to hunter.brown@la.gov by Wednesday, March 15, 2017.  Any questions that arise during the application process should be addressed to hunter.brown@la.gov. |

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| **School System Name** |  |
| **Primary contact for school system** |  |
| **Position title of primary contact** |  |
| **Email address of primary contact** |  |
| **Phone number of primary contact** |  |

**Question 1: For which schools will our school system utilize planning funds?**

School systems are eligible to apply for School Redesign Planning Grant funds on behalf of schools that meet at least one of the following criteria:

* A “D” or “F” letter grade in each of the following school years: 2013-14, 2014-15, and 2015-16
* A graduation rate less than or equal to 67% in 2014-15

The list of schools eligible for planning grant funding can be found on the LDE’s school redesign webpage, [here](https://www.louisianabelieves.com/schools/school-redesign). In the table below, list the site code and school name of each school which will be focused on through this planning grant, adding more rows as necessary.

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| \ | **Site Code** | **School Name** |
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**Question 2: In what specific ways will my school system work with identified partner organization(s) to develop the school improvement strategy for our schools?**

In no more than 2 pages total, please describe:

1. Which partner organization(s) your school system is looking to learn more about
2. For each partner organization, please describe what the school system will do with this planning grant

School systems may review the list of partners who attended the School Redesign Summit on the Department’s [school redesign webpage](http://www.louisianabelieves.com/schools/school-redesign/partner-profiles). Please note that school systems may select any partner organization nationally, who they do not currently work with, whether or not that organization was in attendance at the School Redesign Summit.

The goal of this grant is to learn more about the ways each partner could support your school system. School systems could propose, but are not limited to, any of the following activities:

* A workshop where the organization models how they might offer coaching to teachers, principals or school system staff
* A full school-level needs assessment (data review, school visits) completed in partnership with an organization to help identify the biggest areas of need
* Brainstorming session around a specific challenge the school system is facing

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**Assurances**

* By placing an “X” in this box the school system shown at the top of this document verifies that we will comply with all federal requirements for the use of 1003(a) funds, including supplement not supplant, maintenance of effort, and comparability. More information about these rules can be found on pp. 20-22 of [this](http://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/teacher-toolbox-resources/program-specific-guidance-for-leas.pdf?sfvrsn=2) document.
* By placing an “X” in this box the school system shown at the top of this document verifies that each partner organization identified in Question 2 is a partner organization that does not currently have a contractual relationship with our school system.