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Funding for School Redesign Plans
Wednesday, June 13, 2018

DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

Objectives

School system grants managers will:

- Review the Department's approach to identifying and supporting high-quality school redesign plans

- Understand the set of funding sources that are supporting these plans

- Learn next steps for accessing funds from each source

Agenda

1. Theory of action

2. Funding sources

3. Source-specific information

4. Next Steps

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Theory of Action

2018-2019 School System Planning

Like in previous years, the 2018-2019 school system planning process has helped school systems create strong academic plans for the upcoming school year.

For the first time in 2018-2019, ESSA required school systems to create plans for their struggling schools and submit those plans to the state.

Schools improve when individual classrooms improve. Thus, the LDOE approved plans that focused on ensuring that:

- 100% of teachers are using high-quality curriculum
- 100% of teachers receive training from high-quality partners on the curriculum
- Classrooms are led by fully prepared, appropriately certified teachers

Implementation Phases

In order to ensure that 100% of teachers are implementing a high-quality curriculum, school systems should implement their plans in three phases.

Phase	Purpose
Pre-Implementation (Summer)	Ensure that all materials and professional development calendars are in place for the start of the new school year. Remove low-quality materials from classrooms.
Early Support (Fall)	Observe classrooms to determine what additional support and professional development teachers need to help them use their curriculum effectively.
Deep Support (Spring)	Provide for concentrated and comprehensive support for schools that need additional help with implementation.

Pre-Implementation Checklist

To ensure that teachers are prepared to implement curriculum on the first day of school, districts have been focused on these [milestones](#):

1. Develops list of staff responsible for each component of curriculum, professional development, assessment, and teacher pipeline partnership pre-implementation

2. Uploads approved budget into eGMS

3. Purchases curriculum, necessary supporting materials (e.g. technology), and assessments

4. Creates calendar for curriculum training by professional development vendors for all teachers

5. Signs MOUs with preparation providers to meet workforce needs in redesign schools

6. Distributes curriculum and necessary supporting materials to classrooms and removes old materials

Grants Manager Role

Grants managers should support implementation of these milestones by:

- Managing budgets in eGMS
- Participating in SRCL consortia as a partner or fiscal agent
- Managing IDEA contracts with the Department to support these activities

Funding Sources Overview

Funding Sources

In order to maximize funds to support high-quality school redesign plans, the Department has recommended that BESE support these plans from multiple funding sources, including:

- School Redesign
- SRCL
- IDEA
- School Improvement 1003(g)
- School Improvement 1003(a)

To access funds from each of these sources, school systems need to take a specific set of steps.

Expenditures

School systems should spend funds on the eligible expenditures included in the approved redesign plan documents shared by the Department.

Funding Source	School systems may have received funds for...
Redesign	Any high-quality (bolded) element of an approved school redesign plan
SRCL	● ELA Content Leaders ● High school ELA curriculum and professional development
IDEA	● Professional development for teachers of students with disabilities ● School system specific interventions for students with disabilities
School Improvement 1003(g)	Any high-quality (bolded) element of an approved school redesign plan at a school with an existing school improvement 1003(g) grant.
School Improvement 1003(a)	Any high-quality (bolded) element of an approved school redesign plan

Accessing Funds

School systems will gain access to funds by…

- **Redesign-** Entering a budget into eGMS.

- **SRCL-**
  - *Fiscal agents*: Entering the consortium's budget into eGMS
  - *Other school systems*: Reviewing and approving the consortium's budget with the fiscal agent before it is entered into eGMS

- **IDEA-** Entering into a contract with the Department

- **School Improvement 1003(a)-** Entering a budget into eGMS

- **School Improvement 1003(g)-** Amending an existing budget in eGMS

Funding Periods

The Department will support school systems to ensure funds are spent by the end of their funding periods.

Funding Source	Start Date	End Date
Redesign	6.20.18	9.30.19
SRCL	6.20.18	9.30.18
IDEA	6.20.18	9.30.18
School Improvement 1003(g)	6.20.18	9.30.21
School Improvement 1003(a)	6.20.18	9.30.18

Funding Source Specific Information

Redesign, 1003(a), and 1003(g)

School systems should submit budgets for redesign, 1003(a), and 1003(g) that include the expenditures identified in the approved redesign plan document that the Department has shared with each school system.

These eGMS applications will become available by the end of June.

SRCL

School systems are receiving SRCL funds for two things:
1. ELA Content Leaders
2. High school ELA curriculum and professional development support

The LDOE's federal SRCL grant allows the Department to provide a fixed number of grants at a set value. In order to make sure all of these funds are used, the Department has recommended that BESE allocate funds to consortia.

Each consortium includes a fiscal agent and other member school systems. The Department has confirmed a fiscal agent for each consortium.

Formalizing Consortia

In order to formalize their consortia, school systems should:
- Confirm their school system's funding amounts and uses for the consortium budget
- Enter into an MOU with the fiscal agent

To facilitate this process the Department will share an MOU template and the breakdown of consortium funding by school system by Friday, June 15th.

School systems will be responsible for:
1. Providing fiscal agents a breakdown of funds for eGMS
2. Completing MOUs and sharing them with their fiscal agent

Fiscal agents will be responsible for:
1. Collecting and signing completed MOUs from each partner
2. Sending signed MOUs to hunter.brown@la.gov prior to loading eGMS budget
3. Working with partners to break down budgets into object codes
4. Uploading budgets to eGMS

Accessing SRCL Funds

School systems will be notified when the SRCL eGMS application is open. Budgets should be uploaded by Thursday, July 5th.

After budgets are approved in eGMS, fiscal agents will:
- Collect supporting documentation from partners
- Submit reimbursement requests
- Reimburse partner school systems for expenditures.

SRCL MOU

Review the [SRCL MOU](#).

What questions do you have about this MOU?

SRCL Funds for ELA Content Leaders

The Department is pleased to provide funding for every ELA content leader through SRCL. The Department has recommended that school systems receive:

- $3,500 for tuition for each content leader
- $1,856 for stipends, travel, and / or substitute pay for each content leader

Some school systems already have access to this funding through their Round 1 SRCL grants. These school systems can amend their SRCL budgets in eGMS to include content leader expenditures.

Other school systems are receiving content leaders funding in Round 2. The Department identified ELA content leader funding in redesign approved plan documents for these school systems.

ELA Content Leader Payment

Checks for ELA Content Leaders are due to the Department on July 20th. They should be made out to the Louisiana Department of Education and mailed to:

Louisiana Department of Education
Attention: Appropriation Control
P.O. Box 94064
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9064

School systems should indicate "Content Leader" on the reference line of the check.

IDEA

All school systems that are recommended to receive funds to support curriculum and professional development in approved redesign plans will also receive IDEA contracts to support these plans.

The goal of these contracts is to ensure that all teachers who teach students with disabilities receive professional development on high-quality curriculum materials. These contracts will support professional development activities in approved redesign plans.

IDEA Contracts

Review the [IDEA contract template](#).

What questions do you have?

School systems may opt out of receiving IDEA contracts. School systems that do not wish to enter into an IDEA contract should email hunter.brown@la.gov by Monday, June 18th.

Completing IDEA Contracts

By Friday, June 15th the Department will share the IDEA contract and a Letter of Authority that gives districts the authority to enter into contracts

In order to complete the contract, school systems should:
1. Enter their approved vendor name that is [registered with the state](#)
2. Enter the IDEA contract amount included in the school system's approved plan
3. Enter the school systems federal tax ID number
4. Print, sign, and scan the contract into a single-sided PDF.

School systems should also print, sign, and scan the Letter of Authority as a single-sided PDF. Both documents should be emailed to hunter.brown@la.gov by Wednesday, June 27th. Original signed copies should also be mailed to:

Louisiana Department of Education
Attn: Hunter Brown
1201 North Third St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

IDEA Contract Deliverables

School systems can request payment after completing two sets of deliverables. The deliverables and the dates on which they are due align with the pre-implementation milestones.

Deliverable	Description	Due Date	Percent of Contract
PD calendar	This is the same PD calendar that school systems should complete for pre-implementation milestone 2. School systems should indicate sessions in which teachers of students with disabilities participate.	July 31	20%
PD session agendas and sign-in sheets	School systems should submit agendas and calendars for at least one training for each grade band in ELA and math that is being supported through this contract.	September 30	80%

In order to request payment for deliverables, school systems should submit a professional services billing form and evidence of deliverables to megha.upadhyaya@la.gov.

Next Steps

Next Steps

The goal of each funding source that is being used to support redesign plans is to support effective curriculum implementation. To that end, grant managers' next steps support the pre-implementation milestones:

Source	Next Steps
Redesign, 1003(a), 1003(g)	July 5: Enter budgets into eGMS as part of the second milestone
SRCL	July 5: Fiscal agent emails completed consortium forms to Department July 5: Fiscal agent enters budget into eGMS July 20: Content Leaders payments due to the Department
IDEA	June 18: Inform LDE if opting out of IDEA contract June 27: Contract and Letter of Authority due to the Department July 31: Request payment for first deliverable September 30: Request payment for second deliverable

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