

VISION for SUCCESS

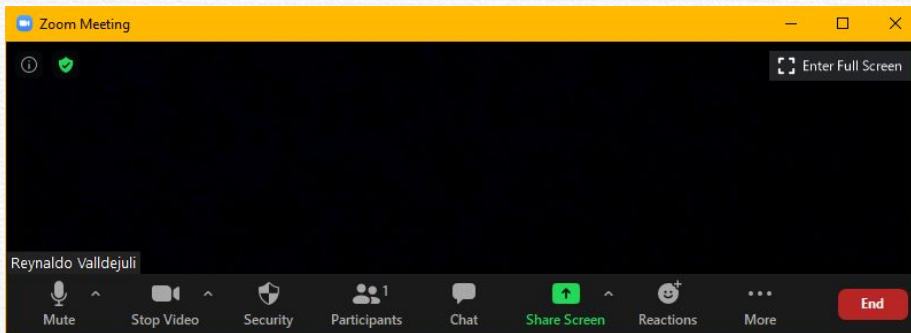


Bipartisan Safer Communities Act *Stronger Connections Grant Program Webinar*

March 16, 2023

Zoom Meeting Preparation

- Please make sure your phone or computer is muted to minimize background noise.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Mute.”
- Please make sure you have turned off your camera to save bandwidth and prevent any connectivity issues.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Stop Video.”
- Please submit questions during the presentation in the “Chat” function located on the bottom of your screen.



NOTICE: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance at this meeting please contact ldoecommunications@la.gov.





Dr. Cade Brumley

State Superintendent

Louisiana Department of Education



Bipartisan Safer Communities Act

- On June 25, 2022, the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) was signed into law.
- BSCA provides:
 - \$1 billion for School-Based Mental Health (SBMH) grant program and the Mental Health Service Professionals (MHSP) grant program.
 - \$50 million for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program.
 - \$1 billion through Title IV, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act for States to competitively award subgrants to high-need school systems.



Stronger Connections Grant Program

- The Stronger Communities Grant (SCG) seeks to provide funding to school systems on a **competitive** basis to support school safety efforts.
- LDOE has designed a **competitive** sub-grant competition.
- Subgrants will go to “high-need” local educational agencies (LEAs) as determined by LDOE.
- Supplement not supplant and equitable services will apply to this grant.

Louisiana’s Award - \$21,279,385 (one time funds)

Funds Expire - 9/30/2025



High-Need LEA

Louisiana's definition of "high-need LEA"

- An LEA with a **poverty percentage of 50% or greater AND**
 1. A chronic absenteeism rate greater than the state average of 19.4% (2021-2022).**OR**
 2. Significantly impacted by a natural disaster or traumatic event within the last 3 years.

This is an optional grant opportunity for those schools systems that will be deemed a "high-need LEA".



Competitive Subgrant Process

- “High-need LEAs” will answer a set of narrative questions that will be scored using a [rubric](#).
 - **Total Possible Score = 24**
 - **Up to 5 bonus points** may be awarded for a score of 4 out of 4 for the use of funds for single points of entry on application question #2.
- There will be two levels of review for each application submitted.
- Once submitted, there will not be an opportunity for updates, revisions or re-submissions.
- Applicants will utilize this funding to provide a secure, safe environment for students, educators, and staff through minor remodeling with a focus on the creation of single points of entry.



Instructions for Application Completion

- The application for the Stronger Connections Grant Program will be accessible in the [electronic grants management system \(eGMS\)](#).
- Once logged in select the GMS/Access Select page choose the FY 23 drop down.
- In order to complete the Stronger Connections Grant assurance, select to open the LEA Central Data.
- Navigate to the Competitive Contact Information tab and complete the Stronger Connections Grant Contact information.



Instructions for Application Completion

- Navigate to the Assurances tab:
 - Select Competitive Program Assurances
 - Select Stronger Connections Grant Assurance
 - Complete the assurances and return to the GMS/Access Select page
- Scroll to the bottom of the GMS/Access Select page, under the “Available” ribbon, and select the create button next to the Stronger Connections Grant to begin the competitive application.



LEA Central Data

GMS Access Select

011 Caldwell Parish

Select Fiscal Year: [Click to view Funding Summary](#)

Created

Central Data **NOTE: Before a new year application will be available, you MUST complete the contact information (LEA Central and related program), and agree to assurances (Common and related program).**

Application Name	Revision	Status	Date	Actions
LEA Central Data	Original Application	Created		Open

Complete Contact Information

[Click to Return to Menu List / Sign Out](#)

Contact Information			Assurances		
Central Contacts	Super App Contacts	Formula Program Contacts	Competitive Program Contacts	Discretionary Contacts	
Early Childhood Program Contact	Early_Childhood CCR Contact	Early_Childhood SI Contact	21st_CCLC Program Contact	High_Cost Services Contact	Stronger Connections Contact



LEA Central Data

Complete Assurances

Contact Information			Assurances			
Common Assurances	Super App Assurances	Formula Program Assurances	Competitive Program Assurances	Discretionary Assurances	MOE Assurances	
Early Childhood Program Assurances	Believe! Assurances	Early_Childhood SI Assurances	21st_CCLC Program Assurances	High_Cost Services Assurances	Stronger Connections Assurances	

Navigate to GMS/Access select page and scroll to the bottom of the page

▶ Available

Central Data

There currently aren't any Central Data applications available.

Formula Grant

There currently aren't any Formula Grant applications available.

Discretionary Grant

There currently aren't any Discretionary Grant applications available.

Competitive Grant

Stronger Connections Title IV

Submissions due by 4/3/2023

Create



Stronger Connections Grant Overview Page

[Click to Return to Menu List / Sign Out](#)

Overview	Allocations	Program Specific	Budget Detail	Budget Summary	Submit	Amendment Description	Application History	Page Lock Control	Application Print
Stronger Connections Title IV Overview									
Program:	Stronger Connections Grant (SCG) Program								
Purpose:	On June 25, 2022, President Biden signed into law the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA). BSCA provides \$1 billion through Title IV, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act for States to competitively award subgrants to high-need school systems through the Stronger Connections Grant Program. The grant is to be utilized for "activities to support safe and healthy students". Subgrants will go to eligible "high-need" LEAs as determined by the State through a competitive process. Stronger Connections Scoring Rubric								

Budget Details will not be submitted at this time



Timeline

- Deadline to submit applications: **April 3, 2023**
- Systems notified of application status: **Week of May 1, 2023**
- Allocations to school systems: **June BESE**

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with subject line: **Stronger Connections Grant** with any questions.



Questions & Answers

