



Relevant Upcoming Funding Opportunities for School Districts

Current Funding Opportunities for NYS School Districts as of 11/21/2023

Anticipated Funding Opportunities

Please Note: Most of the information presented below are anticipated opportunities and are subject to change or may not actually be released. The summaries provided in many anticipated cases are based on the last open round for this competition. It is possible that some of the information below will change when the new RFP is released. However, for many of these application, pre-planning is advised.

Fund synchronous real-time interactive distance learning to expand educational opportunities from colleges and other schools- USDA Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant.

Fund Personalized Learning and Learning Technology – Learning Technology Grant

Fund the purchase of food service equipment – NLSP Food Service Equipment Grant

Fund school safety programs, equipment, and technology-COPS: School Violence Prevention Program

Prevent school violence, school safety, mental health training - DOJ BJA STOP School Violence Program

Obtain equipment for CTE, P-TECH, and Adult Education Programs-Empire State Development Fund

Professional development to increase expertise in STEM, including computer science, and/or educational technology among teachers of grades K-8-Smart Start Grant.

Establish a Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH)



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Anticipated Funding Opportunities

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Opportunity: Fund synchronous real-time interactive distance learning to expand educational opportunities from colleges and other schools. Recommended for districts with a municipal population with less than 20,000 and where students are not able to take courses due to low enrollment.

USDA Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grants

The USDA Rural Utilities Division offers grants to provide distance learning in rural communities. There are three categories of eligible purposes:

1. equipment, for synchronous interactive distance learning,
2. acquiring instructional programming, and
3. technical assistance and instruction for using eligible equipment.

The intent of the Traditional DLT Program is to benefit rural areas (20,000 or less). This means the end-user is a rural facility such as rural elementary, secondary, and other educational institutions; rural hospitals, primary care centers, or other rural community facilities.

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine program helps rural communities use the unique capabilities of telecommunications to connect to each other and to the world, through synchronous interactive video, overcoming the effects of remoteness and low population density. For example, this program can link teachers and students in a rural school or medical and clinical service providers in one area to patients and individuals in a rural area. Distance learning can provide real-time, interactive distance learning between classrooms to offer shared courses between college and high schools, and school to school. Telehealth programs can also be used for mental health, substance abuse prevention, tele-health, school to school sharing of low-density courses, professional development, and any other use that will benefit the community.

Eligibility: IHEs, Non-profits, School Districts (in communities of less than 20,000 people), hospitals, municipalities, government agencies, tribal governments.

Awards: Approximately 80 up to \$1,000,000

Match: A 15% match is required.

Expected Release: December 2023

Analysis: These are very achievable grants, normally driven by a Community College working with rural school districts, however rural school districts, and intermediary agencies such as a BOCES are also eligible and may form their own collaborative. Approximately 50% of the points are driven by the areas Small Area Income and Poverty Estimate (SAIPE), a measurement of the counties poverty and rurality. You need a SAIPE above 10% and rurality of each community to be under 10,000 people although you can have an outlier (less than 15,000) if it doesn't hurt your average.

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Opportunity: Purchase food service equipment.

National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Equipment Assistance Grant for School Food

Authorities (SFAs)

The School Food Service Equipment Grant is intended to provide schools the opportunity to purchase equipment that will allow the school to serve healthier meals that meet the updated meal patterns, improve the overall quality of meals, improve efficiency of production and service, and expand participation.

Eligibility: All schools under a School Food Authority (SFA) in the NSLP are eligible. The SFA will apply on behalf of their eligible schools.

Requirements: The SFA will submit a separate application for each piece of requested equipment for an eligible school.

Priorities/Bonus points: The school must not have received an award in the last 3 years. Some years NYSED provides bonuses for:

- High Level of participation in the NSLP – 5 points
- 40% FRL or above – 5 points
- If the school has not had a previous award in 3 years – 10 points

Note: We (not NYSED) recommend you do not apply unless you have at least 10 bonus points

Previous Food Service Equipment Grant Recipients

Funds Available: Only funds equipment - grant maximum is \$20,000.

Expected Release Date: November 2023

Analysis: This is a simple application. If assistance is provided, it will still be up to the food service director to identify the equipment, get at least three (apples to apples) quotes, and provide the reason the equipment is needed.

For More Information: <https://www.p12.nysed.gov/funding/currentapps.html#nslp2021>

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Opportunity: Fund Personalized Learning and Learning Technology Learning Technology Grant

General: The goals of the program are:

1) The creation of fully-developed programs that utilize learning technology (also referred to as educational technology) to enhance teaching and learning, improve culturally- and/or linguistically-responsive learning environments, and support the goals of the NYS Board of Regents. Programs must address on one (or a combination) of the following Focus Areas:

- Personalized Learning
- Online, Blended, and/or Distance Learning
- Professional Development on Topics Related to Educational Technology

2) Implementation of programs with intended audiences of students, teachers, or administrators.

3) Evidence-based evaluation of programs to determine program strengths and weaknesses, adjustments to be made, additional areas for development, and next steps, with the goal of increasing effectiveness, efficiency, scope, and scale.

4) Publication of programs on district website(s), including any and all materials and artifacts (with the exception of PII and artifacts created by K-12 students, such as coursework) produced over the course of the grant, provided in downloadable formats and under [Creative Commons License](#), so that other NYS districts can freely use, copy, adapt, and implement similar programs in their districts

Awards: 5-10 Rest of State Awards expected. \$100,000 for single district, \$200,000 for consortiums.

Eligibility: Public school districts and consortia of districts or district(s) and BOCES. Charter Schools are not eligible to apply.

Anticipated Release Date: December 2023 – April 2024

Analysis: This is very competitive, and collaboratives are being encouraged. This could align with efforts to develop more on-line courses, personalized learning efforts, and also could be used to provide teachers with the ability to pursue the Advanced Certificate in Digitally-Rich Teaching in K-12 Schools that some districts are pursuing. In the last round we had six applications that were all funded using a collaborative approach.

For More Information: <https://www.nysed.gov/edtech/learning-technology-grants-ltg>

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Opportunity: Fund school safety programs, equipment, and technology

COPS: School Violence Prevention Program

General: SVPP is designed to provide funding to improve security at schools and on school grounds in the grantee's jurisdiction through evidence-based school safety programs. FY 2020 funding may be used for coordination with local law enforcement; training for local law enforcement officers to prevent school violence against others and self; placement and use of metal detectors, locks, lighting, and other deterrent measures; acquisition and installation of technology for expedited notification of local law enforcement during an emergency; and any other measure that, in the determination of the COPS Office Director, may provide a significant improvement in security.

Eligible Costs:

SVPP funding will provide up to 75% funding for the following school safety measures in and around K-12 schools and school grounds for the following activities:

- Coordination with local law enforcement
- Training for local law enforcement officers to prevent student violence against others and self
- Metal detectors, locks, lighting, and other deterrent measures
- Technology for expedited notification of local law enforcement during an emergency
- Development and operation of anonymous reporting systems
- Development and operation of a school threat assessment
- Training for school personnel and students to prevent student violence against other and self
- Any other measure that, in the determination of the COPS Office Director, may provide a significant improvement in security.

The following are the eligible costs:

- Coordination—Civilian/Nonsworn Personnel (Salaries and Benefits). Please note that personnel hired under SVPP must function in a role directly related to the SVPP project (examples of allowable personnel may include project coordinators, project managers, technology managers, emergency management coordinators, or trainers).
- Equipment. Entry control equipment, school site alarm and protection systems.
- Technology. Communication technology, emergency alerts, identification technology, laptops, maps of schools and bus routes, printers, social media monitoring, tracking systems, and video surveillance technology.
- Supplies. Manuals, paper, pens, and postage.
- Travel/Training for law enforcement officers to prevent school violence.
- Contracts/Consultants.
- Subawards.
- **Other costs.** Allowable overtime, other office supplies not already listed, and shipping costs.
- School Resource Officers is not an eligible cost.

Eligibility: The COPS Office School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP) solicitation is open to



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all states, units of local government to include school districts, Indian tribes and their public agencies.

Funding: Up to \$500,000 over the 3-year period. Expected awards nation-wide 235. Up to \$73 million is available through this year's COPS School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP).

There is a 25% local match for this grant.

Expected Release: February-March 2024.

Project Duration: Three years

Recommendations: It is recommended school districts first consult with their local law enforcement agency and county mental health agency in regard to their interest. They will need to be either a partner or the lead agency. It is highly recommended, almost imperative, that districts **conduct a safety assessment prior to the release of the grant.** The grant requires that districts be registered in the System of Awards Management (SAMS), Grants.Gov, and JustGrants. These processes can be time consuming, so it is highly recommended to start early.

For More Information: <https://cops.usdoj.gov/svpp>

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Opportunity: Prevent school violence, school safety, mental health training.

DOJ BJA STOP School Violence Program

General: BJA's Students, Teachers, and Officers Preventing (STOP) School Violence Grant Program is designed to improve K–12 school security by providing students and teachers with the tools they need to recognize, respond quickly to, and prevent acts of violence and ensure a positive school climate.

Eligible Activities and Costs:

- Develop and operate technology solutions.
- Develop and implement multidisciplinary behavioral treatment assessment and/or intervention teams.
- Train school personnel and educate students on preventing school violence, including strategies to improve a school climate. This includes training for school officials on intervening and responding to individuals in mental health crises, social emotional learning, anti-bullying prevention, suicide prevention, and other evidence-based programs that may improve school climate. When proposing training, states, schools, and school districts should also consider training developed for and provided to different audiences. In addition to teachers, school administrator training on psychological and physical safety should be considered.
- Provide specialized training or create specialized training policies for law enforcement who work in schools and/or with school-age populations such as school resource officers (SROs) and probation officers.
- Hiring school support personnel such as climate specialists, school psychologists, school social workers, school-based violence interrupters, and others directly supporting the prevention of school violence.

Eligibility: State Governments, County governments, Institutes of Higher Education, Local governments, Nonprofits, School Districts, and others.

Awards: 75 Category 2 Awards up to \$1,000,000 over a three year period.

Expected Release: February-March 2024.

Project Duration: Three years

Recommendations: It is recommended school districts first consult with their local law enforcement agency and county mental health agency in regard to their interest. They will need to be either a partner or the lead agency. It is highly recommended, almost imperative, that districts **conduct a safety assessment prior to the release of the grant**. The grant requires that districts be registered in the System of Awards Management (SAMS), Grants.Gov, and JustGrants. These processes can be time consuming, so it is highly recommended to start early.

For More Information: <https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/opportunities/o-bja-2023-171666>

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Opportunity: Obtain equipment for CTE, P-TECH, and Adult Education Programs

NYS Empire State Development Fund

General: Funds capital development to include equipment for programs to equip programs that provide a skilled workforce in high-demand industries. Capital grant funding is available for capital-based economic development projects intended to create or retain jobs; prevent, reduce or eliminate unemployment and underemployment; and/or increase business or economic activity in a community or Region. Grant funding will be allocated among the ten regions, each represented by a Regional Council. Funding decisions will be based on each Regional Council's development and implementation of a five-year strategic plan that sets out a comprehensive vision for economic development and specific strategies to implement that vision, coupled with New York State's economic growth priorities. Funding will be allocated to projects, including priority projects identified by the Regional Councils, identified as significant, regionally supported and capable of stimulating economic invest

Allowable Costs:

- Acquisition of land, buildings, machinery and/or equipment;
- Demolition and environmental remediation;
- New construction, renovation or leasehold improvements;
- Acquisition of furniture and fixtures;
- Soft costs of up to twenty-five percent (25%) of total project costs; and
- Planning and feasibility studies related to a specific capital project or site.

Expected Release: Released with the NYS Consolidate Fiscal Application (CFA) in May.

Funding: Based on ability to provide and 80% match, range has typically been from \$200K to \$1 million. Match can be any improvements made to the "whole" building or program such as capital improvements.

Match: Typically, awards will be less than 20% of the eligible total project cost and the likelihood of winning an award improves as the percentage of ESD assistance is reduced and private investment or other sources are better leveraged. Exceptions to this limit may be made at the sole discretion of ESD in cases where it is found that a project or projects will have an unusual or extraordinary regional or statewide impact. ESD requires that the Applicant contribute a minimum of ten percent (10%) of the total project cost in the form of equity contributed after the Applicant's acceptance of ESD's incentive proposal. Equity is defined as cash injected into the project by the Applicant or by investors and should be auditable through the Applicant's financial statements or accounts, if so requested by ESD. Equity cannot be borrowed money secured by the assets in the project or grants from a government source. *Note: Some BOCES have been successful using capital improvement project funds as a match to allow them to purchase equipment.*

For More Information: <https://esd.ny.gov/empire-state-economic-development-fund-program> or contact Chris Semler at csemler@organizationalharmony.org

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Funding to increase expertise in STEM, including computer science, and/or educational technology among teachers of grades K-8.

Smart Start Program: To provide professional development and support services to increase expertise in STEM, including computer science, and/or educational technology among teachers of grades K-8, to enable such teachers to become in-house experts in their schools. For elementary and middle school students, computer science concepts and skills may be integrated into teaching science and mathematics as well as art and music, or other core classes. Per the statute, professional development and support services must be provided by qualified non-profit partners or institutions of higher education. Though, over the course of its implementation, the Smart Start Grant program will build expertise among K-8 educators, the program's initial rollout will be targeted to K-5 educators to enable a phase-in of opportunities for students as they advance in grade levels. It appears this is an opportunity to establish experts (coaches, mentors, facilitators, masters, etc.) and teacher leaders.

Eligibility: BOCES, School Districts, with a professional development partner.

Anticipated Release Date: December 2024

Funding: \$6 Million annually for a five-year period.

For More Information: <https://www.nysed.gov/edtech/smart-start-grant-program>

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**Opportunity: Establish a Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH)
NYS Pathways in Technology Early College High Schools**

General: The New York State Pathways in Technology Early College High School (NYS P-TECH) program will prepare thousands of New York students for high-skills jobs of the future in technology, manufacturing, healthcare and finance. The model incorporates a six-year program that combines high school, college and career training and will be targeted to at-risk, disadvantaged students. NYSED is seeking competitive grant proposals from partnerships of school districts, postsecondary education institutions and committed business/industry partners for the development and operation of seven-year Early College/Career and Technical Education programs that span grades 9-14.

The NYS P-TECH model delivers five core benefits to students:

1. A rigorous, relevant and cost-free “grades 9 to 14” education focused on the knowledge and skills students need for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) careers;
2. Workplace learning that includes ongoing mentoring by professionals in the chosen career sector, worksite visits, speakers and internships;
3. Intensive, individualized academic support by K-12 and college faculty within an extended academic year or school day that enables students to progress through the program at their own pace;
4. An Associate of Applied Science degree in a high-tech field; and
5. The commitment to be first in line for a job with the participating business partners following completion of the program.

The program is also designed to:

- Develop programs of study in high-wage, high-skill, high-demand career areas;
- Align school, college and community systems in these programs of study;
- Support strong academic performance;
- Promote informed and appropriate career choice and preparation; and
- Ensure that employers in key technical fields have access to a talented and skilled workforce.

Through these programs of study, students will be able to earn transcribed college credit toward an Associate degree. Career pathways begin in grade nine and include workplace learning and high school and college coursework. The pathway provides a seamless sequence of study extending through two years of postsecondary career and technical education which culminates in an A.A.S degree.

Expected Release: February 2025.

For More Information: <http://www.nysed.gov/postsecondary-services/pathways-technology-nys-p-tech-program>

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