

Comprehensive Literacy State Development Subgrant Limited Second Round Eligibility Requirements

General Guidance

Ohio was awarded a \$42 million Comprehensive Literacy State Development subgrant from the U.S. Department of Education to continue its work to improve the language and literacy development of the state's children. Approximately 95 percent of the award will be distributed directly to local education agencies and early childhood education programs to improve literacy outcomes for children from birth through grade 12 through this grant opportunity.

The four-year subgrant will focus on developing model literacy sites in early childhood education programs, district preschools and elementary, middle and high schools across the state. The proposed model sites will concentrate on implementing practices consistent with *Ohio's Plan to Raise Literacy Achievement*. The partnership between the proposed sites and Ohio Department of Education will allow early childhood education programs, districts, schools and families to improve student literacy and increase educational options available to students who traditionally have been underserved.

The Department awarded its first round of Comprehensive Literacy State Development subgrants in July 2020, including all early childhood and kindergarten through grade 5 subgrants. Additional applications are requested for **grades 6 through 8 and 9 through 12 only** in this limited second round.

To apply for a Comprehensive Literacy State Development subgrant, local education agencies must meet specific eligibility criteria as outlined below.

In addition, all applicants must submit and implement a local literacy plan that:

- Is informed by a comprehensive needs assessment;
- Is aligned with *Ohio's Plan to Raise Literacy Achievement*;
- Includes interventions and practices that are supported by moderate or strong evidence or, in the case where limited research is available, the intervention and practices are supported by promising evidence;
- Includes a plan for professional development; and
- Includes a plan to track learner outcomes consistent with all applicable privacy requirements.

To complete this plan, applicants will be asked to use the local literacy plan [template](#) located on the Department's website.

Please note, the full application will be released in late September 2020. Interested applicants are encouraged to begin the local literacy plan development process as soon as possible to prepare for the application.

Email any questions to ComprehensiveLiteracy@education.ohio.gov.

Partnerships (formerly known as consortia)

Applicants may opt to form a partnership with others to collaborate and share resources in the same region. An education partnership is an association of two or more eligible local education agencies pooling resources to share human and material assets and link academic and administrative resources with the objective of

participating in the development and execution of a Comprehensive Literacy State Development subgrant. All members of a partnership must meet the eligibility criteria outlined in this document and be assigned to the same state support team region.

Examples of partnerships for this subgrant include:

- An application proposing model sites in multiple eligible entities (for example, site in District B for grades 6-8 and one site in District C for grades 9-12); and
- An application proposing multiple model sites in one or more age bands in more than one eligible entity (for example, a site for grades 6-8 in District A and a site for grades 6-8 in District B).

Eligible Applicants

Subgrant applicants are required to submit applications for funding for services for specific age bands that reflect the individual buildings they are proposing become model sites. These proposed model sites will be schools serving children in grades 6 through 8 and grades 9 through 12. The proposed sites will all be working toward full implementation of the practices described in *Ohio's Plan to Raise Literacy Achievement* but will have different entry points based on their needs. This means that though all sites are working toward a common goal, they will be engaged in different grant-supported activities throughout the four years. A common feature across all sites will be engagement with either Ohio's Peer Coaching Model for Literacy Instruction or Ohio's Traditional Coaching Model for Literacy Instruction. These models and training to support these models are further described in Ohio's [grant application](#). As the sites progress through the grant cycle, they will receive individualized performance feedback and be expected to make mid-course corrections to address any implementation barriers.

GRADE 6 THROUGH GRADE 12 APPLICANTS

Local Education Agencies for Public Elementary or Secondary Schools

Eligible subgrant applicants include districts, exempted village school districts, community schools, cooperative education school districts, joint vocational school districts and educational service centers. Per federal guidelines, chartered nonpublic schools are not eligible to apply for kindergarten through grade 12 subgrants.

Regional Eligibility

The Department will only consider subgrant applications from regions that did not receive a middle school and/or high school subgrant in the first round of the Comprehensive Literacy State Development subgrant competition. Applications from the following regions will be considered at the grade bands indicated below:

Region	Grade Bands
Region 1	6-8, 9-12
Region 2	6-8, 9-12
Region 4	6-8, 9-12
Region 5	6-8
Region 6	6-8, 9-12
Region 9	9-12
Region 14	6-8, 9-12
Region 15	6-8, 9-12

If no quality applications are received from the above regions, the Department will consider quality applications from other regions from the first round of the subgrant competition.

NOTE: If you are located in one of the regions above and applied for funding in these grade bands in the first round of the subgrant competition, you *must* complete an application in the second round to be considered for award.

Subgrant award prioritization

The Department will prioritize applicants where at least 50 percent of schools served by the local education agency meet the below definitions of “high-need schools” and the proposed model literacy site(s) meet the definition of “high-need schools.” See note below for joint vocational school districts and educational service centers.

- **Middle schools:** A “high-need” middle school is one in which not less than 50 percent of the enrolled students are children who come from low-income families.
- **High schools:** A “high-need” high school is one in which not less than 40 percent of the enrolled students are children who come from low-income families.

Subgrants serving students grade 6 through grade 12 will be prioritized within each region in the following order:

1. At least 50 percent of the schools served by the local education agency meet the definition of “high-need school” **and** all proposed model literacy sites meet the definition of “high-need school.”
2. At least 50 percent of the schools served by the local education agency meet the definition of “high-need school” but no proposed model literacy sites meet the definition “high-need school.”
3. At least 50 percent of the schools served by the local education agency do not meet the definition of “high-need school” but at least one proposed model literacy site meets the definition of “high-need school.”
4. At least 50 percent of the schools served by the local education agency do not meet the definition of “high-need school” and no proposed model literacy site meets the definition of “high-need school.”

Please note the following requirements for joint vocational school districts and educational service centers:

- Joint vocational school districts may apply as subgrantees but, to receive priority, the applicants must demonstrate in their applications that the home districts for all their students on average meet the priority criteria stated above. In addition, services proposed in a joint vocational school district’s application must be available to students from all home districts attending the joint vocational school district but not extend beyond the programming offered by the joint vocational school district.
- Educational service centers may apply for funding as a part of a partnership of one or more eligible local education agencies. The enrollment data from the districts included in the partnership will determine priority standing.