

## **Closing the Achievement Gap for African American Students Grant**

### **581-018-0225 Definitions**

The following definitions apply to OAR 581-018-0225 to 581-018-0250:

- (1) “Achievement gap” means the research-based gap in achievement that often exists between students who are economically disadvantaged, students learning English as a second language and students who are African American, Hispanic or Native American and their peers.
- (2) “African American” means persons from African descent living in America; also referred to in census data as “Black.”
- (3) “Closing the Achievement Gap for African American Students Grant” means the Grant established in OAR 581-018-0205 to implement section 1(3)(f), chapter 661, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 3233).
- (4) “Non-profit organization” means:
  - (a) An organization established as a nonprofit organization under the laws of Oregon; and
  - (b) Qualifies as an exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as defined in ORS 314.011.

Stat. Auth.: Section 1, chapter 661, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 3233)

Stat. Implemented: Section 1, chapter 661, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 3233)

### **581-018-0230 Establishment**

- (1) There is established the Closing the Achievement Gap for African American Students Grant to support nonprofit organizations who are working to design, implement, improve, expand, or otherwise revise programming and services for African American students. The programs and services assist African American students by offering unique opportunities to make strong home, school, and community connections in an effort to increase academic achievement and personal well-being. Research suggests that community organizations are positioned to provide targeted support to learners who are sometimes neglected in traditional school systems.
- (2) Subject to available funds, the grants will be awarded for one year based on a detailed description of proposed programming or services. This can include but is not limited to:
  - (a) Planning phase.
  - (b) Implementation phase.
  - (c) Program evaluation phase.
- (3) The purpose of the grant program is to provide funds to non-profit organizations that understand the unique needs of African American students, who have the potential to become exemplar programs and who can create collaborative practices around:
  - (a) Strengthening ties between home, school, and community;
  - (b) Creating space for active parent participation;
  - (c) Innovative programming that focuses on closing achievement gaps for African American students;

- (d) Training or professional development for parents, educators, and interested community entities on closing achievement gaps for African American students;
- (e) Literacy initiatives for closing achievement gaps for African American students; and
- (f) College and career readiness and transition to college or career.

Stat. Auth.: Section 1, chapter 661, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 3233)

Stat. Implemented: Section 1, chapter 661, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 3233)

### **581-018-0235 Eligibility**

- (1) To be eligible to receive the Closing the Achievement Gap for African American Students Grant an organization must:
  - (a) Be a non-profit organizations; and
  - (b) Provide data to the Department of Education documenting that the majority of the students served through programming and resources by the organization are African American
- (2) A single grant proposal may include more than one eligible applicant, but the fiscal agent must be one of the eligible applicants identified in subsection (1) of this rule.

Stat. Auth.: Section 1, chapter 661, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 3233)

Stat. Implemented: Section 1, chapter 661, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 3233)

### **581-018-0240 Criteria**

- (1) The Oregon Department of Education shall establish a request for proposal solicitation and approval process to be conducted for the Closing the Achievement Gap for African American Students Grant funds. All proposals must comply with the requirements of section 1, chapter 661, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 3233) and rules adopted to implement that section.
- (2) Grants shall be awarded based on the following criteria:
  - (a) Whether the grant application identifies how the funds will be used to reach the 40-40-20 goal and improve education outcomes for African American students as identified by the Oregon Education Investment Board Equity Lens document.
  - (b) Whether the grant applicant demonstrates support, commitment and readiness to design or revise programming specifically for African American students.
- (3) The Department shall give priority to proposals that meet the minimum criteria and:
  - (a) Provide a sustainability plan to continue the program for at least two years after the grant funding has ended.
  - (b) The extent to which the applicant clearly documents its capacity to implement and carry out programming and services for closing the achievement gap for African American student populations, including demonstrated intentions to work in a collaborative way with school districts, other non-profits or post-secondary institutions.
- (4) The Department of Education shall allocate funds for the grant program based on the evaluation of the grant application and the following considerations:
  - (a) Geographic location of the non-profit organization to insure geographic diversity within the recipients of grant program funds throughout the state;

- (b) Organizations who have documented evidence of serving a primarily African American student population;
- (c) Organizations who have a high level of students who are economically disadvantaged; and
- (d) Give preference to entities that have demonstrated success in improving student outcomes.

Stat. Auth.: Section 1, chapter 661, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 3233)

Stat. Implemented: Section 1, chapter 661, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 3233)

### **581-018-0245 Funding**

- (1) Each grantee may receive up to \$100,000 which shall be awarded during the following phases based on a detailed budget narrative and budget template:
  - a. Planning phase.
  - b. Implementation phase.
  - c. Evaluation phase.
- (2) Grantees shall use funds received for the planning, implementation, and evaluation phases of the grant for activities outlined in the request for proposal.
- (3) Grantees must be able to expend the funds for allowable purposes specified in the request for proposal within the grant timeline according to acceptable accounting procedures.

Stat. Auth.: Section 1, chapter 661, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 3233)

Stat. Implemented: Section 1, chapter 661, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 3233)

### **581-018-0250 Reporting**

The Oregon Department of Education shall provide to grant recipients a template for an interim and final grant report. Grantees are required to submit a final report prior to receiving their final request for funds.

Stat. Auth.: Section 1, chapter 661, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 3233)

Stat. Implemented: Section 1, chapter 661, Oregon Laws 2013 (Enrolled House Bill 3233)