State Summer Learning Grant 2024

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

April 2024







Table of Contents

Navigate directly to each section or question by clicking on it in the list below.

General

- Q: What is the overall grant timeline?
- **Q:** May grantees use Summer Learning Grant funds spent on special education services in their Maintenance of Effort calculations?

Eligible Entities & Allocations

- Q: Which entities are eligible to apply for a Summer Learning Grant?
- **Q:** Are CBOs eligible for grants this year?
- **Q:** Are virtual charter schools eligible for this grant? Can districts pass through funds to a virtual charter school that they host?
- Q: How were the prioritization and allocations determined?
- Q: What happens to the allocations for ESDs, districts, and charter schools that do not apply?
- Q: May eligible entities opt to apply for only part of their allocation?

Application

- Q: Where can I find the application?
- **Q:** When is the application period? If we are currently on the waitlist, what is the latest date we could be notified that we are eligible if other eligible entities don't accept their allocation?
- Q: What qualifies as an "existing plan for summer learning"?
- **Q:** Does the existing plan for summer learning have to be serving the same grade levels as the programming provided with Summer Learning Grant funds?
- Q: Will ESDs need to apply for funds? If so, is the application different?
- **Q:** Can we use College and Career Related Learning Standards (CCRLS) and/or Career and Technical Education (CTE) academic standards for academic growth goals for high school programs?
- **Q:** Is the estimated enrollment by grade based on summer programming attendance or actual enrollment in the whole school?

Grant & Program Requirements

- **Q:** Are there matching requirements for the Summer Learning Grant?
- Q: Do all grade levels of Summer Program have to meet all three grant goals?
- **Q:** Are ESDs required to meet the same requirements as school districts and charter schools or are there different requirements for ESDs?
- **Q:** How long does a Summer Program need to be?
- Q: Does lunch and recess mid-programming count towards the 80 hours?



Q: Would family activities be included in the 80 hours?

Q: Does providing space and time on campus for online credit recovery as part of our summer learning programming count towards the 80 hours of programming required?

Q: If grantees offer overnight camps (i.e. 3 days), does that fulfill the required 80 hours of programming?

Q: May grantees fund additional program time that is not continuous in addition to the continuous 80 hours required?

Q: Are Summer Programs required to be in person?

Q: May grantees provide summer programming for students either entering kindergarten or leaving 12th grade?

Q: Do grantees have discretion for allocating to different grade levels as needed?

Q: May grantees use the Summer Learning funds to provide activities and opportunities for all students in their community? May programs target focal student groups exclusively?

Q: What are the program participation expectations?

Q: Are grantees required to partner with other organizations to provide Summer Programs?

Q: Does our grant funding have to be shared with our partnering entity?

Q: What constitutes an eligible entity for a partner? Are there requirements about how many hours grantees need to work with their partnering entity?

Q: May grantees partner with nonprofit organizations to meet the partnership requirement?

Q: May grantees partner or collaborate with religious affiliated camps under the Summer Learning Grant?

Q: Can partnerships include entities providing day programming or camps?

Q: What are the insurance requirements for partnering entities?

Q: Does each partnering entity's program need to be 80 hours?

Q: Is there a Letter of Support template for partnering entities that will be provided or does each district need to create their own?

Q: Are there restrictions for ESDs on passing through dollars to component and/or non-component school districts?

Q: Can eligible charter schools apply for the grant funds and pass them through to their sponsoring district if the district is not an eligible entity, but will be serving the charter school students with their programming?

Q: May grantees braid Summer Learning Grant funds with other funding sources (e.g. ELD Early Learning Hub funds, Jumpstart Kindergarten Grant, Early Literacy Grant, Title I-C Migrant Education Summer Program, etc.)?

Q: Are there academic or curriculum requirements? Will ODE vet summer learning curriculum for districts to choose from?

Q: Can one program or 80 hour cohort focus on multiple academic areas (e.g. 1/2 language arts and 1/2 math)?



Q: Are there limitations on cohort sizes with incoming kindergarten?

Q: Are Summer Programs required to provide meals and snacks and are there nutrition requirements? Can meals and snacks be provided through partnership (e.g. summer parks lunch and play programs)?

Eligible Uses of Funds

Q: May grantees use the Summer Learning Grant funds to extend their school year or pay for additional school days?

Q: When can grantees spend the funds for the Summer Learning Programs?

Q: Is there a full list of eligible expenses?

Q: May grantees use Summer Learning funds for administrative and indirect costs?

Q: If a grantee's partner organization bills for administrative expenses, do those expenses count toward the 10% maximum allowed for administrative expenses?

Q: May grantees use the Summer Learning funds for transportation?

Q: May grantees use the State School Fund Transportation Grant to offset transportation expenses?

Q: May ESDs use funds to pay for transportation for students to get to summer programs in their region?

Q: May grantees use these funds for capital expenses such as facilities updates and transportation equipment?

Q: May grantees use funds to support all the various types of staffing required to run summer programming (e.g. principals, administrative staff, health assistants, counselors, library staff, family engagement specialists, etc.)?

Q: May grant funds be used to pay teachers for time spent planning and preparing before programming begins? Is there a limit on how much prep time teachers can be paid for?

Q: May grantees use these funds to pay a portion of unemployment costs for classified staff who worked the summer program?

Q: May grantees use funds to provide professional development opportunities for staff?

Q: May grantees use funds to offer a PE/Weights program as a credit earning opportunity for high school students?

Q: May grantees use these funds to pay a library staff person to provide open library hours, and for some grade levels, offer story time? If the library staff person is licensed, may they also provide instructional programming?

Q: If grantees offer open library hours, may they use funds to purchase popular books for the library to ensure a good selection and sufficient copies on hand to entice students to read?

Q: May grantees hire high school students to assist with summer programming for K-8 students?

Q: May grantees hire high school students as part of work study programs?



Q: May grantees offer incentives to staff and students to participate in summer programming (e.g. staff stipends for summer work, purchasing instruments for music programs, purchasing uniforms/equipment for sports programs, etc.)?

Q: May grantees use funds to offer college campus tours/visits as part of the grant?

Q: May grantees use funds to pay for students to take college courses as part of high school summer programming?

Q: May grantees use the Summer Learning Grant funds to provide scholarships to other summer activities in the community?

Q: May grantees use funds for students to attend in or out of state overnight camps?

Q: May grantees use funds to support family engagement activities (such as OMSI family passes)?

Q: If supplies or materials ordered for a summer program arrive after the program has ended, but prior to October 18th, may grant funds be used to pay for them?

Q: May grantees use funds to pay for our partnering entity's insurance coverage?

Q: If an eligible entity is part of a consortium with shared Early Literacy and SIA plans, can grant funds be used across the consortium, or only for the eligible entity?

Reimbursement

Q: Will grantees have to report on these funds separately from other funds?

Q: Is there a required fund code to be used to track Summer Learning Grant expenditures?

Q: How will grantees submit reimbursement requests?

Q: How will ESDs, districts, and charter schools that apply as a consortium submit reimbursement requests?

Q: When can grantees submit reimbursement requests?

Reporting

Q: What final reporting requirements will grantees have?

Q: When are Final Reports due?

Q: How will grantees report the required information?

Q: How will ESDs, districts, and charter schools that apply as a consortium report?

Q: What if a grantee cannot obtain a student's SSID?



General

Q: What is the overall grant timeline?

A: The Oregon Department of Education's (ODE's) planned timeline is as follows:

- March 18: ODE released list of eligible entities and allocations
- March 21: ODE provided an informational webinar about the State Summer Learning Grant
- April 1: First day incurred expenses will be eligible for reimbursement
- April 2: ODE will initiate Round 1 of the application process for eligible entities
- April 2: ODE will provide an application webinar for eligible entities
- April 15: Round 1 Applications Due
- April 16-19: ODE will update allocations based on Round 1 of applications
- April 22: ODE will initiate Round 2 of the application process for newly eligible entities
- April 22 May 10: ODE will send application approvals
- May 3: Round 2 Applications Due
- May 13: ODE will release final allocations based on the applications submitted
- June 3: ODE will begin executing Grant Agreements with grant recipients
- October 15: Last day incurred expenses will be eligible for reimbursement
- November 15: Last day to submit reimbursement claims to ODE
- November 15: Final reports due to ODE

Q: May grantees use Summer Learning Grant funds spent on special education services in their Maintenance of Effort calculations?

A: Yes. Districts may use Summer Learning Grant funds in Maintenance of Effort calculations.



Eligible Entities & Allocations

Q: Which entities are eligible to apply for a Summer Learning Grant?

A: School districts, charter schools, and education service districts (ESDs) that are identified as eligible to apply in the <u>Summer Learning Grant Allocations</u> may apply either individually or in a consortium with other eligible entities.

Q: Are CBOs eligible for grants this year?

A: CBOs are not eligible to apply directly for these funds. To access funds, CBOs must partner with one of the school districts, charter schools, or ESDs that receive grant funds.

Q: Are virtual charter schools eligible for this grant? Can districts pass through funds to a virtual charter school that they host?

A: Virtual charter schools are ineligible for funding this year. The intention of the legislation under HB 4082 for summer programs is to provide robust learning that is "hands-on, inquiry-based, and project-based" as well as to "support students' mental, emotional, and social well-being". These phrases are interpreted to mean inperson learning opportunities. It's important to note that students attending a virtual charter school within a district's boundaries may participate in that district's summer learning program. This approach ensures all students, including those from virtual settings, have access to enriching, face-to-face educational experiences during the summer.

Q: How were the prioritization and allocations determined?

A: A detailed description of the prioritization and allocation process can be found in the <u>State Summer</u> Learning Grant Program Parameters.

Q: What happens to the allocations for ESDs, districts, and charter schools that do not apply?

A: If an eligible entity chooses not to participate in this grant program or is unable to meet the grant requirements, their allocated funding will be reallocated to the next entity on the waiting list. Final allocations are anticipated to be posted by **May 13th**.

Q: May eligible entities opt to apply for only part of their allocation?

A: Yes. If an eligible entity would like to apply for a portion of their allocation, they should indicate the amount they want to apply for in their application submission email.



Application

Q: Where can I find the application?

A: The application will be sent directly to eligible entities and posted on the <u>State Summer Learning Grant</u> webpage.

Q: When is the application period? If we are currently on the waitlist, what is the latest date we could be notified that we are eligible if other eligible entities don't accept their allocation?

A: There will be two rounds of applications. The first round of applications will open with ODE notifying eligible entities on **Tuesday**, **April 2** with applications due **Monday**, **April 15**. The second round of applications will open with ODE notifying eligible entities on **Monday**, **April 22** with applications due **Friday**, **May 3**.

It is important to note that the application periods are very short, so eligible entities need to ensure they are submitting their applications by the given deadlines. <u>Late applications will not be accepted</u>.

Q: What qualifies as an "existing plan for summer learning"?

A: A plan for summer learning does not need to be funded to qualify. However, it is essential that the plan clearly demonstrates your district's capability to successfully run a program that meets all the requirements of HB 4082. While the format of the plan can be flexible, the focus should be on showcasing your district's readiness and ability to deliver the required summer programming. It is beneficial to include examples of past successful programs, especially if they align with what you intend to offer this summer. The overarching goal of this requirement is to ensure that your district has a well-established understanding and the necessary resources to effectively implement a summer learning program, rather than starting from scratch.

Q: Does the existing plan for summer learning have to be serving the same grade levels as the programming provided with Summer Learning Grant funds?

A: No, State Summer Learning Grant funds may be used to extend and enhance current plans, which includes the expansion to include additional grade levels. This means you can use the grant to build upon a K-8 program and extend it to serve high school students as well.

Q: Will ESDs need to apply for funds? If so, is the application different?

A: Yes, ESDs are required to apply for grant funds and do not have a separate application. Any ESDs that receive 2024 Summer Learning Grant funds will be required to comply with all grant requirements, including providing direct services to students.

Q: Can we use College and Career Related Learning Standards (CCRLS) and/or Career and Technical Education (CTE) academic standards for academic growth goals for high school programs?

A: Yes. Grantees may create goals aligned to Oregon's state approved CTE Programs of Study standards and Career Related Learning Standards.



Q: Is the estimated enrollment by grade based on summer programming attendance or actual enrollment in the whole school?

A: The estimated grade enrollment should reflect the number of students estimated to attend the summer learning program.



Grant & Program Requirements

Q: Are there matching requirements for the Summer Learning Grant?

A: Local matching funds are not required for these grants.

Q: Do all grade levels of Summer Program have to meet all three grant goals?

A: Yes, all three goals (academic enrichment, youth development, and equitable access and outreach/family engagement) must be met. If a program is held at multiple sites to serve different cohorts of students, then all sites must meet the three main grant requirements. Grantees and their partner entities may work together to provide comprehensive programming that meets all three goals.

Q: Are ESDs required to meet the same requirements as school districts and charter schools or are there different requirements for ESDs?

A: ESDs that apply as an eligible entity are treated the same as school districts and charter schools and must meet all program requirements. If an ESD is a partner to an applying district, then the ESD and district can determine the requirements of the partnership subject to the overall requirements of the grant.

Q: How long does a Summer Program need to be?

A: Recipients of the 2024 Summer Learning Grants are required to offer 80 hours of programming to a consistent group of students. Though it is not required that every student attend all 80 program hours offered, regular attendance should be highly prioritized. These summer programs are not intended to be drop-in programs. Hours provided by partner entities as part of the program count towards the required 80 hours.

Q: Does lunch and recess mid-programming count towards the 80 hours?

A: Yes. Lunch and recess time within the programming can count towards the 80 hours. However, it's important that the majority of program time is dedicated to purposeful learning activities that align with the goals and objectives of the grant. Recess and lunch periods offer valuable opportunities for students to build friendships, eat healthy food, connect, and engage in unstructured play, which are essential aspects of youth development.

Q: Would family activities be included in the 80 hours?

A: Family activities, especially those that enrich educational experiences like literacy events at the local library or family science nights can indeed be part of the programming. However, the primary focus of the 80 hours should be on direct student services and educational opportunities that closely align with the grant's educational objectives. Family activities can complement and extend the learning experience but should not replace the core instructional time dedicated to students.

Q: Does providing space and time on campus for online credit recovery as part of our summer learning programming count towards the 80 hours of programming required?

A: Yes.



Q: If grantees offer overnight camps (i.e. 3 days), does that fulfill the required 80 hours of programming?

A: Attending overnight camps can be included as a component of a state summer learning program. However, it's important to note that the core focus of these programs should be on fostering academic achievement through cumulative and scaffolded learning experiences over a period of weeks. Given that overnight camps, including those lasting 3 days, incorporate sleeping and other non-academic activities, they alone would **not** fulfill the academic engagement or 80 hours of programming requirements.

Q: May grantees fund additional program time that is not continuous in addition to the continuous 80 hours required?

A: Maybe. **U**nder HB 4082, the foundational requirement is to provide at least 80 continuous hours of programming, emphasizing the development of a high-quality learning experience within this framework. Priority should be on maximizing the effectiveness and coherence of the program during these hours. After ensuring these core hours are optimally planned and aligned with the grant's educational goals, you may consider adding supplemental, non-continuous programming. Such additional activities should also support the grant objectives, offering further enrichment to students' summer learning journey. As you plan your program, reflect on the following questions to ensure alignment and quality:

- How do each of our planned activities, both continuous and any supplements, advance the grant's academic objectives?
- How can our additional activities enhance the foundational learning established in the initial 80 hours?
- Are we designing our supplemental programming to build upon and extend the educational value of our core summer program?

Q: Are Summer Programs required to be in person?

A: Yes. The intention of the legislation under HB 4082 for summer programs is to provide robust learning that is "hands-on, inquiry-based, and project-based" as well as to "support students' mental, emotional, and social well-being". These phrases are interpreted to mean in-person learning opportunities.

Q: May grantees provide summer programming for students either entering kindergarten or leaving 12th grade?

A: Yes, grantees may serve students in all grade levels from incoming kindergarten students to students leaving the 12th grade.

Q: Do grantees have discretion for allocating to different grade levels as needed?

A: Yes, eligible entities can distribute 2024 Summer Learning Grant funds across any and all grade levels from incoming kindergarten students to students leaving the 12th grade as dictated by local needs and priorities. Grantees have the flexibility to focus funding on specific grade bands, such as high school or Pre-K through 8th grade. The primary goal is to tailor fund allocation to best serve the identified focal student groups and meet all grant program requirements, facilitating targeted interventions for the most impactful support.



Q: May grantees use the Summer Learning funds to provide activities and opportunities for all students in their community? May programs target focal student groups exclusively?

A: The composition of the summer program should mirror the demographics of the school or feeder school population, ensuring representation is aligned with the community served. However, it's expected that focal student groups will comprise a larger proportion of the participants, underscoring the program's commitment to addressing their specific needs and promoting equitable educational opportunities.

Q: What are the program participation expectations?

A: Recipients of the 2024 Summer Learning Grants are required to **offer 80 hours of programming to a consistent group of students**. Though it is not required that every student attend all 80 program hours offered, regular attendance should be highly encouraged. These are not intended to be drop-in programs. Hours provided by partner entities as part of the program count towards the required 80 hours.

Q: Are grantees required to partner with other organizations to provide Summer Programs?

A: Yes. Grantees must have at least one partner to provide programming.

Q: Does our grant funding have to be shared with our partnering entity?

A: No, grant funding does not necessarily have to be shared with your partnering entity. Funding should be based on the services provided, ensuring they align with the program goals. This may or may not involve a fiscal commitment to your partner.

Q: What constitutes an eligible entity for a partner? Are there requirements about how many hours grantees need to work with their partnering entity?

A: Entities with which grantees may partner include school districts, ESDs, federally recognized Indian tribes in Oregon, community-based organizations, units of local government as defined in ORS 190.003, or local service districts as defined in ORS 174.116. While there is no strict requirement regarding the number of hours you must work with a partner entity, the collaboration should be meaningful and contribute significantly towards achieving the goals of the summer learning program.

Q: May grantees partner with nonprofit organizations to meet the partnership requirement?

A: Yes, a statewide nonprofit organization can partner with a school district, ESD, or school as a Community-Based Organization (CBO). Nonprofits, including those that provide curriculum to schools without directly delivering that curriculum to students, are eligible to partner with SDs, ESDs, or charter schools as CBOs. The key is that these partnerships should aim to enhance the educational experiences and outcomes of the summer learning program, aligning with its goals and requirements.



Q: May grantees partner or collaborate with religious affiliated camps under the Summer Learning Grant?

A: Eligible entities may collaborate with faith-based organizations (FBOs) for summer programs, provided that the services offered are secular in nature. This ensures that grant funds are used in a way that aligns with the inclusive and educational intent of the program, accommodating all participants without endorsing any specific religious beliefs.

Q: Can partnerships include entities providing day programming or camps?

A: Yes, partnerships can certainly encompass day programming or camps provided by these entities for students. The key is that these activities align with the overarching objectives of the summer learning program, ensuring they support academic enrichment, social-emotional learning, or other areas of focus outlined in the grant. It's important that these partnerships and the activities they entail are designed in a way that complements the direct services provided by the grantee, enhancing the overall learning experience for students.

Q: What are the insurance requirements for partnering entities?

A: Grantees must ensure that every partner organization involved in the grant meets all necessary insurance requirements, which **include coverage for Sexual Abuse and Molestation (SAM) insurance**. **It is advisable for grantees to consult with PACE, their insurance broker, or their attorney to fully understand their insurance obligations.** To prevent any disruptions in service delivery, discussions about insurance requirements between partners should occur early in the planning process, ensuring all parties are adequately prepared and compliant.

Q: Does each partnering entity's program need to be 80 hours?

A: Each eligible entity that receives 2024 Summer Learning Grant funds is required to offer a minimum of 80 hours of programming. Hours provided by partner entities count towards this requirement. Partner entities do not have a separate requirement to provide 80 hours of programming directly.

Q: Is there a Letter of Support template for partnering entities that will be provided or does each district need to create their own?

A: ODE will not be providing a template Letter of Support for partnering entities. The Letter of Support can be in many different formats, but **must clearly outline the following two components**:

- 1. The **specific services to be provided** by the partner organization.
- 2. The total budget designated for these services, with an important stipulation that contracted services must not exceed 90 percent of the total Summer Learning Grant award, excluding indirect rates.

Q: Are there restrictions for ESDs on passing through dollars to component and/or non-component school districts?

A: The 2024 Summer Learning Grant funds are intended for direct service provision rather than acting as pass-through or resolution funds. Eligible entities must themselves provide some services, taking on the



responsibility to meet program requirements and ensure reporting is completed accurately. While funds cannot be passed through to partners for their independent use, eligible entities are expected to work in closely with their partners, aligning on a common vision for the summer learning program. This collaboration should focus on how each party can contribute to realizing the grant's objectives together, with a requirement that eligible entities dedicate at least 10% of their grant funds, minus indirect costs, towards directly offering services within a summer learning program framework.

Q: Can eligible charter schools apply for the grant funds and pass them through to their sponsoring district if the district is not an eligible entity, but will be serving the charter school students with their programming?

A: The 2024 Summer Learning Grant funds are intended for direct service provision rather than acting as pass-through or resolution funds. Eligible entities must themselves provide some services, taking on the responsibility to meet program requirements and ensure reporting is completed accurately. While funds cannot be passed through to partners for their independent use, eligible entities are expected to work in closely with their partners, aligning on a common vision for the summer learning program. This collaboration should focus on how each party can contribute to realizing the grant's objectives together, with a **requirement** that eligible entities dedicate at least 10% of their grant funds, minus indirect costs, towards directly offering services within a summer learning program framework.

Q: May grantees braid Summer Learning Grant funds with other funding sources (e.g. ELD Early Learning Hub funds, Jumpstart Kindergarten Grant, Early Literacy Grant, Title I-C Migrant Education Summer Program, etc.)?

A: Eligible entities may braid Summer Learning Grant funds with any other applicable funding source as needed to provide a comprehensive summer learning program aligned to the goals of the grant. See ODE's Summer Learning Braiding Funds resources for more information. However, it is important to remember that all program activities provided, and students served using Summer Learning Grant funds must be reported on separately from any other funding sources used. When braiding with Title I-C funds, it is important to remember Migrant Education Program funds cannot supplant other local, state, and federal funding sources. Consult with the Migrant Education Program team at ODE to ensure supplanting will not occur.

Q: Are there academic or curriculum requirements? Will ODE vet summer learning curriculum for districts to choose from?

A: No, ODE does not require specific academic curriculum requirements for summer learning programs. Instead, programs are advised to incorporate curriculum and materials from the regular school year to provide continuity in learning, additional practice, and reteaching loops. This allows students to engage with content they are already familiar with, while providing opportunities to delve deeper into subjects, like utilizing science kits and lessons not covered during the regular year due to time constraints. Utilizing existing resources from the school year enables summer programs to enrich learning experiences and solidify academic concepts without relying on separate, summer-specific curriculum.



Q: Can one program or 80 hour cohort focus on multiple academic areas (e.g. 1/2 language arts and 1/2 math)?

A: Yes. Programs and cohorts may focus on multiple academic areas. Please note that grantees will be required to report on academic goals and growth for all grant academic focus areas (language arts, math, science, and personal finance) included in the program for each grade band served in the Final Report.

Q: Are there limitations on cohort sizes with incoming kindergarten?

A: No, there are no specific limitations on cohort sizes for incoming kindergartners. Nonetheless, if this group constitutes the primary focus of your State Summer Learning Grant program, you are required to fulfill all grant requirements, including the delivery of 80 continuous hours of programming.

Q: Are Summer Programs required to provide meals and snacks and are there nutrition requirements? Can meals and snacks be provided through partnership (e.g. summer parks lunch and play programs)?

A: State Summer Learning Programs are expected to provide snacks/meals during typical program operations through the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child Nutrition Programs for which they or their partners qualify.



Eligible Uses of Funds

Q: May grantees use the Summer Learning Grant funds to extend their school year or pay for additional school days?

A: No. All 2024 Summer Learning Grant funds must be spent on summer programs held outside the normal school year.

Q: When can grantees spend the funds for the Summer Learning Programs?

A: Grant funding can be used for any eligible use of funding related to a **summer program operated outside of the normal school year** incurred between **April 1, 2024** and **October 18, 2024**.

Q: Is there a full list of eligible expenses?

A: Yes. Recipients may use grant funds for expenses related to summer programming that fall into one of the following categories:

- **Personnel and Staffing:** Personnel and staffing for a summer learning program, including professional development.
- Curriculum, Supplies, and Technology: Curriculum, technology, and other supplies necessary for providing summer learning programs.
- Partnerships and Contracts: Contracting with partners and other third parties to provide summer learning programs. Contracted services cannot make up more than 90 percent of the total Summer Learning Grant award. This does not include the indirect rate.
- **Student Expenses:** Providing incentives and removing barriers to student participation in summer learning programs.
- Facilities: Providing facilities that will support and accommodate summer learning programs.
- Transportation: Providing student transportation to and from summer learning programs.
- Snacks and Meals: Providing nutritious snacks and meals to participants of summer learning programs.
- Family Engagement: Engaging family members in summer learning program activities.
- Administrative Expenses: Administrative expenses up to a maximum of 10% of the total Grant Funds.

Grant funds may <u>not</u> be used for capital expenditures (defined as a construction project or individual non-consumable item that has a useful life of more than one year and costs greater than \$5,000).

Q: May grantees use Summer Learning funds for administrative and indirect costs?

A: Yes. A maximum of 10% of the grant funds may be used for administrative/indirect expenses for the grantee and any partner organizations.

Q: If a grantee's partner organization bills for administrative expenses, do those expenses count toward the 10% maximum allowed for administrative expenses?

A: Yes. The 10% maximum applies to both the grantee and their partners.



Q: May grantees use the Summer Learning funds for transportation?

A: Yes. Summer Learning funds may be used for transportation. However, all <u>rules and regulations</u> covering the transportation of students and children, including proper vehicle usage, must be followed.

Q: May grantees use the State School Fund Transportation Grant to offset transportation expenses?

A: No. The Summer Learning Grant expenses are completely separate from the State School Fund. All transportation expenses must be paid with Summer Learning funds and may not be added to the State School Fund Transportation Grant expenses.

Q: May ESDs use funds to pay for transportation for students to get to summer programs in their region?

A: Yes, ESDs can allocate their funds to cover transportation solutions, facilitating student access to summer programs across their region as necessary and reasonable. However, it is important to note that **grant funds should be specifically used for transportation expenses related to attending programs supported by the State Summer Learning Grant**, ensuring alignment with the grant's objectives and maximizing the impact of the program's reach.

Q: May grantees use these funds for capital expenses such as facilities updates and transportation equipment?

A: No. 2024 Summer Learning Grant funds may <u>not</u> be used for capital expenditures (defined as construction projects or individual items that cost \$5,000 or more and have a useful life of greater than one year).

Q: May grantees use funds to support all the various types of staffing required to run summer programming (e.g. principals, administrative staff, health assistants, counselors, library staff, family engagement specialists, etc.)?

A: Yes. The reason for the large minimum grant is to give smaller eligible entities enough funds to adequately staff a summer learning program. As long as program requirements are met, including 80 hours of programming, and student improvement is quantitatively measured, then an eligible entity can determine what staff are necessary for the programs they offer.

Q: May grant funds be used to pay teachers for time spent planning and preparing before programming begins? Is there a limit on how much prep time teachers can be paid for?

A: Yes, paying teachers and staff for time spent planning summer programming is an allowable use of funds. There is no specific limit on the number of prep time hours that can be paid for, but the number of hours paid should be **necessary and reasonable** for the programming provided.

Q: May grantees use these funds to pay a portion of unemployment costs for classified staff who worked the summer program?

A: Yes, all associated payroll costs for employees assigned to the provided summer programs are allowable.



Q: May grantees use funds to provide professional development opportunities for staff?

A: Yes, the grant can cover the cost of adult professional development, provided it is explicitly linked to the implementation of a State Summer Learning program. Any professional development expenses must directly support the preparation, execution, or enhancement of the specific summer learning offerings planned for summer 2024.

Q: May grantees use funds to offer a PE/Weights program as a credit earning opportunity for high school students?

A: Yes. Implementing a PE/Weights program over the summer for PE credit is allowable. This initiative can effectively support the goals of maintaining student engagement, promoting health and physical fitness, and ensuring continuous learning during the summer months. Such programs not only align with educational objectives by fulfilling PE credit requirements but also contribute to students' overall well-being, which is essential for academic success.

Q: May grantees use these funds to pay a library staff person to provide open library hours, and for some grade levels, offer story time? If the library staff person is licensed, may they also provide instructional programming?

A: Yes. As long as program requirements are met, including 80 hours of programming, and student improvement is quantitatively measured, then an eligible entity can determine what staff are necessary for the programs they offer.

Q: If grantees offer open library hours, may they use funds to purchase popular books for the library to ensure a good selection and sufficient copies on hand to entice students to read?

A: Yes, grantees may allocate a portion of the funds to purchase popular books for the library, enhancing the selection and ensuring ample copies are available to encourage student reading, particularly if the library offers open hours. This expenditure aligns with the overarching goal of fostering a love for reading and enhancing literacy skills, especially when integrated into a broader strategy to engage students during the summer. The initiative should complement other summer learning activities, aiming to create a rich, inviting environment that supports academic growth and development.

Q: May grantees hire high school students to assist with summer programming for K-8 students?

A: Yes. Grantees must comply with all student labor rules and regulations, but may provide employment opportunities for high school students to assist with providing summer programming using Summer Learning Grant funds.

Q: May grantees hire high school students as part of work study programs?

A: Yes. Grantees must comply with all student labor rules and regulations, but may provide work study opportunities for high school students using Summer Learning Grant funds.



Q: May grantees offer incentives to staff and students to participate in summer programming (e.g. staff stipends for summer work, purchasing instruments for music programs, purchasing uniforms/equipment for sports programs, etc.)?

A: Yes, funds can be allocated for incentives for both staff and students in summer learning programs. Staff stipends are allowed for summer work. Student incentives should directly support the program's educational goals, like musical instruments for music programs or funding trips for college-prep students. However, careful consideration is needed when providing certain incentives, such as uniforms, to ensure they align with the program's objectives and do not primarily support other activities. Direct payments to students for participation are not permitted. **Incentives must enhance the educational experience and align with the grant's purpose and goals, focusing on advancing the intended educational outcomes.**

Q: May grantees use funds to offer college campus tours/visits as part of the grant?

A: Yes, incorporating college campus tours and visits is an eligible use of the grant funds, as long as these activities are part of a broader strategy to enhance students' academic growth and preparation for future educational opportunities. Such experiences can play an important role in motivating students, broadening their horizons, and providing them with a tangible sense of post-secondary paths. When planning these tours, it's important to ensure they are directly connected to the objectives of your summer learning program, aiming to inspire students and give them insights into college life and career possibilities.

Q: May grantees use funds to pay for students to take college courses as part of high school summer programming?

A: No. The funds cannot be used to pay for college courses. The intent of the legislation is specifically to accelerate learning to help students catch up to grade level standards and to enhance content retention during the summer months. The focus is reinforcing learning continuity at the K-12 level rather than funding post-secondary credit attainment.

Q: May grantees use the Summer Learning Grant funds to provide scholarships to other summer activities in the community?

A: The 2024 Summer Learning Grant funds are intended for direct service provision rather than acting as passthrough or resolution funds. Eligible entities must themselves provide some services, taking on the responsibility to meet program requirements and ensure reporting is completed accurately. While funds cannot be passed through to partners for their independent use, eligible entities are expected to work in closely with their partners, aligning on a common vision for the summer learning program. This collaboration should focus on how each party can contribute to realizing the grant's objectives together, with a **requirement** that eligible entities dedicate at least 10% of their grant funds, minus indirect costs, towards directly offering services within a summer learning program framework.

Q: May grantees use funds for students to attend in or out of state overnight camps?

A: Attending overnight camps can be included as a component of a state summer learning program. However, it's important to note that the core focus of these programs should be on fostering academic achievement through cumulative and scaffolded learning experiences over a period of weeks. Given that overnight camps,



including those lasting 3 days, incorporate sleeping and other non-academic activities, they alone would not fulfill the academic engagement or 80 hours of programming requirements.

Q: May grantees use funds to support family engagement activities (such as OMSI family passes)?

A: Yes, funding can be utilized to support family engagement activities, such as providing OMSI family passes. However, it's essential that these family engagement activities are integrated with the educational content of the summer program and have a clear connection to the learning objectives. This ensures that such engagement activities extend the educational experience beyond the classroom, fostering a collaborative learning environment that involves students and their families.

Q: If supplies or materials ordered for a summer program arrive after the program has ended, but prior to October 18th, may grant funds be used to pay for them?

A: Possibly. If both of the following criteria are true, then supplies and materials that arrive late may be charged to the grant:

- The estimated delivery date at the time of the order was reasonably expected to be prior to the start of the program; AND
- It would cost more resources (staff time, postage, etc.) to return the items than the refund would be worth (or the items cannot be returned for a refund).

Q: May grantees use funds to pay for our partnering entity's insurance coverage?

A: Grantees may <u>not</u> pay for their partnering entity's insurance coverage directly. However, partnering entities should consider the full cost of providing their services (including increased insurance requirements) when determining the rates they will charge for their services.

Q: If an eligible entity is part of a consortium with shared Early Literacy and SIA plans, can grant funds be used across the consortium, or only for the eligible entity?

A: State Summer Learning Grant funds may be used across the consortium; however, it's crucial to note that eligibility for these funds was based on the focal student group percentages within the specifically named eligible entity. The primary goal of this funding is to prioritize these focal student groups in the services provided. Although the funds may be utilized by various districts within the consortium, their implementation must strictly focus on enhancing support and resources for these targeted student groups, ensuring the intended objectives of the grant are effectively met.



Reimbursement

Q: Will grantees have to report on these funds separately from other funds?

A: Yes. Grantees will need to track these funds separately and follow the requirements in Appendix G of the Program Budget and Accounting Manual.

Q: Is there a required fund code to be used to track Summer Learning Grant expenditures?

A: There is no required fund code for grantees to use, unlike other state grants. Grantees have the flexibility to use the fund code that works best for them. However, creating a new special revenue fund in the 200 series is recommended

Q: How will grantees submit reimbursement requests?

A: Grantees will provide a list of expenditures by function and object code on a template Reimbursement Request Form provided by ODE (very similar to the ESSER Grants process). The Reimbursement Request Form will be submitted to the Summer Learning inbox and a corresponding Electronic Grant Management System (EGMS) claim must be made.

Q: How will ESDs, districts, and charter schools that apply as a consortium submit reimbursement requests?

A: Grantees that apply as a consortium will be required to identify a lead entity to act as the fiscal agent for the consortium. The Electronic Grant Management System (EGMS) subgrant will be in the lead entity's name and the lead entity will be responsible for submitting the Request Forms and EGMS claims for the consortium's combined expenses.

Q: When can grantees submit reimbursement requests?

A: Grantees may begin submitting Reimbursement Request Forms and Electronic Grant Management System (EGMS) once they have an executed grant agreement. Grant agreements are anticipated to be sent to grantees in early June. All Request Forms and EGMS claims must be submitted by **November 15, 2024**.



Reporting

Q: What final reporting requirements will grantees have?

A: The Final Report will include, but is not limited to, the following components:

- The number and demographics of students served by the summer learning program including;
 - Total number of students enrolled in program
 - SSIDs for all students served
 - Grade level of each student served
 - Number of hours each student attended program
 - Number of credits earned, if applicable
- Activities of the summer learning program including;
 - Number of days program offered
 - Number of hours per day program offered
 - Types and number of activities offered (based on broad predetermined categories)
 - Types of additional services offered (e.g. meals, transportation, etc.)
 - Types and number of specific accommodations provided to serve students experiencing disabilities (based on broad predetermined categories)
 - A description of how activities supported the grant requirements
- Assessment of academic growth in each of the grant's academic content focus areas (math, science, language arts, personal financial education, and/or credit recovery) provided for each grade band (elementary, middle, high) served;
- Information regarding staffing levels and training provided to staff of the summer learning program;
- Number and type of partnerships;
- Perception surveys of the summer learning program, as provided by students, staff, and families; and
- Qualitative data and stories of impact for the summer learning program.

NOTE: Grantees, to the greatest extent possible, must link the number of students served directly to the State Summer Learning Grant funds expended. If, for example, the State Summer Learning Grant enhances a current program, then those students served by the enhancement are the only ones that should be reported.

Q: When are Final Reports due?

A: Final Reports must be submitted by November 15, 2024.

Q: How will grantees report the required information?

A: Grantees will submit reports to the <u>Summer Learning inbox</u> using an ODE provided template, which can be found on the <u>Summer Learning Grants webpage</u>. The SSID report must be submitted via secure File Transfer Protocol.



Q: How will ESDs, districts, and charter schools that apply as a consortium report?

A: Grantees that apply as a consortium will be required to provide a single final report for the consortium's combined activities.

Q: What if a grantee cannot obtain a student's SSID?

A: Grantees are expected to report all student SSIDs that are known to them. If a grantee served incoming kindergarten students or other students that do not have an SSID, they will be required to report the students' names and dates of birth.