



Grants Available Encouraging Innovative Partnerships Improve Student Learning



In January 2015, school districts will receive an invitation to apply for the SC Community Block Grants for Education Pilot Program, a matching grants program designed to encourage sustainable partnerships among South Carolina school districts and community groups. The 2014-15 General Appropriation Act created the program, which is focused on "state-of-the-art education initiatives and models to improve students learning."

Grant applications, which must include matching financial support, cannot exceed \$250,000 unless the grants committee finds that exceptional circumstances warrant exceeding that amount. However, the General Appropriations Act allocated \$1 million for the program, allowing the grants committee to award multiple grants if it chooses to do so. It is expected that funded grants will be announced in late March.

The grants review committee, an independent group of representatives from the business and education communities, will make the final decision on grant recipients. The committee will be appointed by the Executive Director of the SC Education Oversight Committee, which will review and report on the results of the funded programs.

Applications will be sent to school districts on January 5. The deadline will be February 13.

For more information, visit the SC Education Oversight Committee website, www.eoc.sc.gov.

SC School Improvement Council

<http://sic.sc.gov>

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