

TITLE I, SECTION 1003 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT COHORT 2

JUNE 2021

INTRODUCTION



Jennifer Webb
Education Consultant,
School Improvement Grant Manager
Turnaround Office
Jennifer.webb@ct.gov



LEARNING TARGETS

This webinar will address:

- Identification of Schools
- Evidence-based Requirements
- Purpose and Distribution
- eGMS Funding Application
- Timeline



PURPOSE

The 1003 School Improvement Grant (SIG), authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Act (ESEA), provides states and districts with funds to leverage change and turn around chronically underperforming schools.



DISTRIBUTION

Title I, Section 1003

Formulaic
Distribution
for
Opportunity
Districts

Competitive RFP for all remaining LEAs



OPPORTUNITY DISTRICT - FORMULAIC DISTRIBUTION

- Under Connecticut's ESSA Consolidated State Plan, each Opportunity District receives SIG funding for use with Title I Turnaround and Focus Schools
- Based on a formulaic distribution, each Opportunity
 District receives an allocation equal to its proportion of the Turnaround and Focus Schools
- The district allocation varies annually because it is based on the state's annual Title I allocation from the US Department of Education. Approximately \$9 million in 1003 SIG funds is available to Opportunity Districts for 2021-22.

ALL OTHER LEAS COMPETITIVE PROCESS

- For all other eligible Turnaround or Focus schools that reside outside of the state's Opportunity District there is a competitive grant process.
- Applications are scored using the 1003 School Improvement Grant District Application Rubric.
- Funding is awarded to only those applicants submitting well-developed applications and transformative plans.
- For this second cohort, approximately \$2 million in 1003
 SIG funds is available for competition for 2021-22.





Under ESEA, as amended by ESSA, states must identify two types of low-performing schools:

Comprehensive
Support and
Improvement

Targeted
Support and
Improvement



Comprehensive Support and Improvement

- In Connecticut, these schools are referred to as Turnaround schools
- The lowest-performing five percent of Title I schools in the state
- Any public high school with a six-year adjusted cohort graduation rate for all students that is less than 70%
- Title I schools with a consistently underperforming subgroup*

Targeted Support and Improvement

- In Connecticut, these schools are referred to as Focus schools
- Schools with one or more consistently underperforming subgroups
 - o ELA
 - Math



Graduation Rate

Connecticut schools that are eligible to participate in the SIG program for Cohort 2 are Title I schools designated as **Turnaround** and **Focus** schools as identified through the 2018-19 Next Generation Accountability System results.

A complete list of eligible schools can be accessed here.





All SIG plans must outline comprehensive and transformative strategies in four domains identified by the Turnaround Office while ensuring compliance with the requirement that only evidence-based interventions identified with strong, moderate or promising are funded.





TALENT

Employ systems and strategies to recruit, hire, develop, evaluate, and retain excellent school leaders, teachers, and support staff.





ACADEMICS

Design and implement a rigorous, aligned, and engaging academic program that allows all students to achieve at high levels.





CULTURE & CLIMATE

Foster a positive learning environment that supports high-quality teaching and learning and engages families and the community as partners in the educational process.





OPERATIONS

Create systems and processes that promote organizational efficiency and effectiveness, including through the use of time and financial resources.



EVIDENCE-BASED INTERVENTIONS



REQUIREMENT FOR EVIDENCE-BASED INTERVENTIONS

ESSA, Section 1003 funds require the use of evidence-based interventions that meet the top three levels of evidence.

Evidence Level	Description
Tier I: Strong Evidence	Based on at least one well-designed and well- implemented experimental study
Tier 2: Moderate Evidence	Based on at least well-designed and well-implemented quasi-experimental study
Tier 3: Promising Evidence	Based on at least well-designed and well-implemented correlational study with statistical controls for selection bias

For more information on evidence-based interventions and the CSDE Evidence-Based Practice Guides, please access the webinar here.



ESSA SIGAPPLICATION COHORT 2



APPLICATION PROCESS



- The 2021-22 ESSA SIG
 Cohort 2 application for
 funding is managed in the
 Connecticut eGrants
 Management System (eGMS)
- The eGMS is a web-based system that allows LEAs to submit, view, print and modify the application for funding



APPLICATION PROCESS

Opportunity Districts

Funding Application:
Opportunity District ESSA SIG – Cohort 2

All Other Districts

Funding Application: ESSA SIG Competitive (NEW)



APPLICATION COMPONENTS

District Level

- Guidance and Instructions
- District Application
- Certifications and Assurances

School Level

- School Data
- Needs Assessment
- Strengths, Growth Areas, Resource Inequities
- Overarching Goals
- Specific Interventions
- Budget



DISTRICT LEVEL

District Level Questions and Guidance

District Guidance and Instructions

District Application

Certifications and Assurances

- District Capacity and Organizational Structure
- District Support for Development of School Improvement Plans
- Accountability and Monitoring Strategy
- Review of External Partners
- Alignment of Resources
- Conditions for Success
- School Budgets



DISTRICT LEVEL

Assurances

🧧 * The Local Educational Agency (LEA) hereby assures the State Educational Agency (SEA) that the LEA follows all regulations applicable for CSDE, including those outlined below.

Α	The applicant h	nas the r	necessary	legal	authority	to apply	for and	receive t	he proposed	grant:

- B. The filing of this application has been authorized by the applicant's governing body, and the undersigned official has been duly authorized to file this application for and on behalf of said applicant, and otherwise to act as the authorized representative of the applicant in connection with this application;
- C. The activities and services for which assistance is sought under this grant will be administered by or under the supervision and control of the applicant;
- D. The project will be operated in compliance with all applicable state and federal laws and in compliance with regulations and other policies and administrative directives of the State Board of Education and the Connecticut State Department of Education;
- Grant funds shall not be used to supplant funds normally budgeted by the agency;
- F. Fiscal control and accounting procedures will be used to ensure proper disbursement of all funds awarded;
- The applicant will submit a final project report (within 60 days of the project completion) and such other reports, as specified, to the Connecticut State Department of Education, including information relating to the project records and access thereto as the Connecticut State Department of Education may find necessary.
- H. The Connectiout State Department of Education reserves the exclusive right to use and grant the right to use and/or publish any part or parts of any summary, abstract, reports, publications, records and materials resulting from this project and this grant;
- If the project achieves the specified objectives, every reasonable effort will be made to continue the project and/or implement the results after the termination of state/federal funding;
- J. The applicant will protect and save harmless the State Board of Education from financial loss and expense, including legal fees and costs, if any, arising out of any breach of the duties, in whole or part, described in the application for the grant;
- K. At the conclusion of each grant period, the applicant will provide for an independent audit report acceptable to the grantor in accordance with Sections 7-394a and 7-396a of the Connecticut General Statutes, and the applicant shall return to the Connecticut State Department of Education any moneys not expended in accordance with the approved program/operation budget as determined by the audit;
- .. REQUIRED LANGUAGE (NON-DISCRIMINATION)

References in this section to "contract" shall mean this grant agreement and to "contractor" shall mean the Grantee.

- (a) For purposes of this Section, the following terms are defined as follows:
 - (1) "Commission" means the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities
 - (2) "Contract" and "contract" include any extension or modification of the Contract or contract;
 - (3) "Contractor" and "contractor" include any successors or assigns of the Contractor or contractor;
 - (4) "Gender identity or expression" means a person's gender-related identity, appearance or behavior, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the person's physiology or assigned sex at birth, which gender-related identity can be shown by providing evidence including, but not limited to, medical history, care or treatment of the gender-related identity or any other evidence that the gender-related identity is sincerely held, part of a person's core identity or not being asserted for an improper purpose.
 - (5) "good faith" means that degree of diligence which a reasonable person would exercise in the performance of legal duties and obligations;



SELECTING SCHOOLS & ALLOCATIONS

Setting Allocations for Individual Schools

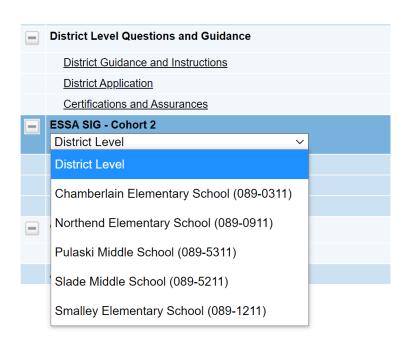
Focus School	Not less than \$50,000
--------------	------------------------

Turnaround School Not less than \$200,000

No school may not receive more than \$500,000



SELECTING SCHOOLS & ALLOCATIONS



- After completing the district portion of the application, the next step is to complete the school level plan portion of the application.
- Only eligible schools will be available on the drop down menu.
- Not all eligible schools have to be funded.
- A school level plan must be completed for each school that is applying for funding.



PLANNING TEAM

- School Improvement funds are allocated to the schools.
- The school leadership team is vital to the development and implementation of the plan.
- The principal has the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that development and implementation is based on input from the school's stakeholders (including other school leaders, teachers, parents and students).

PLANNING





SCHOOL DATA

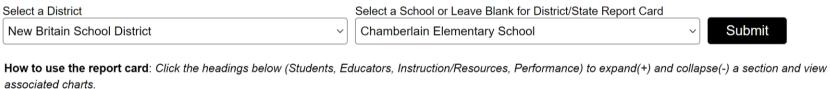
 Complete the Target column for this year based upon historical data provided in the Connecticut Report Card and the <u>ESSA</u> <u>Milestone</u> targets for your school.

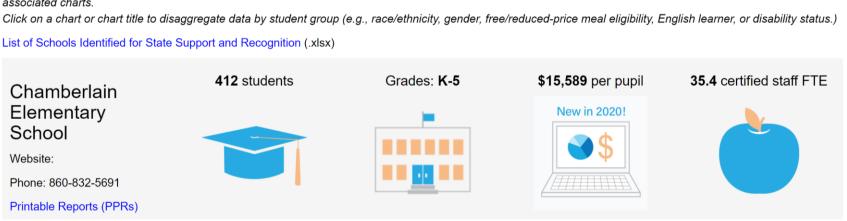
tep 1: Complete your Target based on your school's latest Connecticut Report Card data and ESSA M	ilestones targets
School Data	2021-22 Target
Grades Served	
Student Enrollment	
Percentage Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Meals	%
Percentage of Students with Disabilities	%
Percent of English Learner Students	%
Percentage of Students Chronically Absent	%
Feacher Average Daily Attendance	
Suspension/Expulsion Rate	
School Performance Index (SPI) for ELA	
Smarter Balanced Growth ELA	
School Performance Index (SPI) for Math	
Smarter Balanced Growth Math	
School Performance Index (SPI) for Science	
High School Only: Meeting Benchmark on College Readiness Exam	



SCHOOL DATA









ESSA MILESTONES

- The Milestones are located on EdSight
 - Next Generation Accountability
 - ESSA Milestones
 - Select your school
- The ESSA Milestones should be uploaded in the Related Documents section.

ESSA Milestones -

These milestones align with Connecticut's approved federal plan for the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The plan establishes a 13-year time-frame for the attainment of long-term goals listed below. These goals are identical to some of the indicators in



Connecticut's Next Generation Accountability System for districts/schools. Based on performance in the baseline year (first column) and the ultimate target (last column), linear interim milestones are established for every third year (shaded in tan). Annual targets are provided as a reference.

School	Perf	formance	Indexes ((SPI))
--------	------	----------	-----------	-------	---

Indicator 1

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
ELA	50.1	52.0	53.9	55.8	57.7	59.7	61.6	63.5	65.4	67.3	69.2	71.2	73.1	75.0
Math	40.2	42.9	45.6	48.2	50.9	53.6	56.3	58.9	61.6	64.3	67.0	69.6	72.3	75.0

Smarter Balanced Growth

Indicator 2

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
ELA	44.4%	48.7%	52.9%	57.2%	61.5%	65.8%	70.0%	74.3%	78.6%	82.9%	87.2%	91.4%	95.7%	100.0%
Math	41.2%	45.7%	50.2%	54.8%	59.3%	63.8%	68.3%	72.9%	77.4%	81.9%	86.4%	91.0%	95.5%	100.0%

LAS Links Growth

Indicator 2

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Literacy	47.3%	51.4%	55.4%	59.5%	63.5%	67.6%	71.6%	75.7%	79.7%	83.8%	87.8%	91.9%	95.9%	100.0%
Oral	68.2%	70.7%	73.1%	75.6%	78.0%	80.5%	82.9%	85.3%	87.8%	90.2%	92.7%	95.1%	97.6%	100.0%

Chronic Absenteeism

Indicator 4

2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
15.7%	14.9%	14.1%	13.2%	12.4%	11.6%	10.8%	9.9%	9.1%	8.3%	7.5%	6.6%	5.8%	5.0%

Four-year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate

Indicator 8

-													
2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
N/A													

Six-year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (High Needs Students)

Indicator 9

1	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
	N/A													

Accountability Index

2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
52.7	55.2	57.7	60.1	62.6	65.1	67.6	70.1	72.6	75.1	77.5	80.0	82.5	85.0



NEEDS ASSESSMENT

ABOUT THE NEEDS ASSESSMENT TOOLKIT

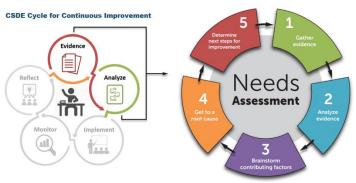


Evidence Analyze Implement Monitor Reflect **CSDE Cycle for Continuous Improvement**

Use evidence, including data, to determine focus areas and intervention strategies Plan, execute, observe, reflect and revise strategies Execute planned strategies and observe outcomes Implementation data is used to determine next steps Determine whether to sustain or change strategic direction

The Connecticut State Department of Education Cycle for Continuous Improvement highlights the cyclical nature of improvement. The continuous cycle of change begins with gathering evidence. The evidence is then analyzed in order to understand the trends, correlations, and outliers. This information is gathered in order to develop an action plan that will lead to improvement. The plan is implemented and monitored for fidelity of implementation and outcomes. The final step of the cycle is reflection. Stakeholders must engage in reflection to determine if the action plan is working and additional evidence is needed to continue improvement.

The graphic below highlights how this toolkit focuses on the first two steps of the continuous cycle, Evidence and Analysis.



- Each school must conduct a needs assessment.
- The CSDE Needs Assessment Toolkit provides guidance and tools.
- Using the Needs Assessment Tool, identify the school's level of implementation for each of the talent, academics, culture and climate, and operations indicators.
- The needs assessment must be completed with stakeholder engagement.
 The checkbox certifies the assurance that stakeholders were engaged.



SIGNIFICANT STRENGTHS, GROWTH AREAS AND RESOURCE INEQUITIES

Based upon the needs assessment, identify and provide data to substantiate:

- 3 most significant strengths
- 3 most significant growth areas
 - > Cite root cause for growth areas
 - > Identify resource inequities



OVERARCHING SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOALS



Whenever possible, SMART goals should be aligned to ESSA Milestone targets.



SPECIFIC INTERVENTIONS TO ADDRESS IDENTIFIED REFORM PRIORITIES

Priority Statement



SMART Goal



Evidence-Base



Evidence Tier

Specific Talent Priorities and Strategies	S.M.A.R.T. Goal	Evidence-Base	Evidence Level
Sample: Reading Interventions: Because the needs assessment revealed a need to improve student performance in reading, the school will provide intensive, systematic instruction at least three times weekly for approximately 20-40 minutes on up to three foundational reading skills in small groups of students who score below the benchmark on school screening. The school will contract with an external partner who will assist in revising the school schedule to build in time for teachers to provide reading interventions and enrichment, to build collaboration time for teachers to plan interventions and to build the capacity of teachers to effectively develop collaborative reading interventions/enrichment plans across grades.		Sample: What Works Clearinghouse IES Practice Guide, Assisting Students Struggling with Reading: RTI and Multi-Tier Intervention in Primary Grades, identifies a strong evidence-base for providing intensive, systematic instruction through intervention to students below benchmark on school screening with a strong evidence-base.	
1.4 Professional Development To provide intensive professional development to staff on curriculum components for reading/English Language Arts which encompass individual online learning. Grade level content instructional data teams will meet weekly and utilize the effective practices rubric to Check Spelling 610 of 2000 characters	Goal #1 By June 2021, the percentage of students meeting proficiency on the Smarter Balanced ELA Assessments as measured by SPI will increase from 54.3% in June 2021 to 59.0% in June 2022. Check Spelling 188 of 500 characters	Connecticut State Department of Education Evidence Based Practice Guide for Reading: Implement a specific set of core in-school strategies and practices to support reading. Implementation of a set of specific instructional and classroom practices is effective in closing the reading achievement gap. Strategies include but Check Spelling 693 of 1000 characters	Strong



BUDGET

Budget Detail		Narrative Description	
Object:	100 - Personal Services > Salaries V		
Purpose:	01 - Public School Activities ∨		
Focus Area: (Select at least 1 tag(s))	Select Tag V		
LEA / School:	Dwight-Bellizzi Dual Language Academy (064-0711) V		
Quantity:	1.00		
Cost:	\$0.00		,
Budget Detail Total:	\$0.00		//
		Total for all other Budget Details:	\$0.00
		Total for all Budget Details:	\$0.00
		Allocation:	\$1.00
		Remaining:	\$1.00



COMPETITIVE PROCESS – SCORING RUBRIC

APPENDIX B: 1003 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT DISTRICT APPLICATION SCORING RUBRIC

1003 SIG applications will be evaluated using the criteria shown below. Each section of the application will be rated from 0 to 3 points. Sections of the 1003 SIG applications are weighted differently. Each section will be scored from 0 to 3 and multiplied by the weight factor indicated below. Plans can receive up to 102 possible points. 1003 SIG is a competitive grant; awards and award amounts will be based on the quality and transformative potential of the application.

Application Components The Local Education Agency (LEA) has included all required components of the 1003 School Improvement Grant (SIG) application, and the school's plan incorporates evidenced-based interventions. Should the application score 0 points on either of the two indicators, the application will not be considered for award. An application cannot receive 1 point or 2 points for the Application Components section.

Indicator	0 Points	1 Point	2 Points	3 Points	Indicator Score:	Weight Factor:	Points Per Indicator:	
Completed Application, including District Information and school selection, District application,	A score of 0 points will be awarded if any of the following are true about the application: The district has not submitted completed application by the deadline.			The district has submitted completed application. Where applicable, the district has answered questions using less than or equal to the maximum number of allowable characters.		1		
to award 1003 SIG funding to schools with the highest need, Title I schools identified as	The school for which the district is applying for 1003 funding is identified as a Title I Focus school according to the CT Next Generation Accountability System.			The school for which the district is applying for 1003 funding is identified as a Title I Turnaround school according to the CT Next Generation Accountability System.		2		
Because 1003 SIG can only be used to support activities that meet ESSA's top three tiers of evidence (strong, moderate, promising), grant applications must identify the evidence-base	The School Plan does not include both the evidence-base level for each of the proposed priorities and strategies and the source to substantiate that the proposed priority and strategy has strong, moderate or promising evidence-base.			The School Plan includes both the evidence-base level for each of the proposed priorities and strategies and the source to substantiate that the proposed priority and strategy has strong, moderate or promising evidence-base.		2		
			Total Points for Application Components					

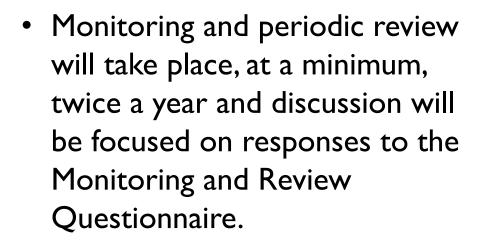


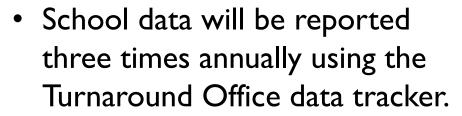
OPPORTUNITY DISTRICTS - CHECKLIST

Chec	Checklist Description (Collapse All Expand All)				
_	1. District Application	Not Reviewed ~			
	1. Responses are complete, and satisfactory.				
_	2. Needs Assessment	Not Reviewed ~			
	1. The Needs Assessment is complete and realistic.				
	2. The needs assessment was completed with stakeholder engagement.				
_	3. Significant Strengths, Growth Areas and Resource Inequities	Not Reviewed ~			
	1. Strengths and Growth Areas align to those identified in the Needs Assessment.				
	2. Data used to substantiate Strengths and Growth Areas is complete and sufficient.				
	3. Root causes are clear and well substantiated.				
	4. Resource inequities are clear, substantiated and aligned to Growth Areas.				
_	4. School Improvement Plan, Overarching School Improvement Goals	Not Reviewed ~			
	1. SMART goals are complete and aligned to ESSA targets.				
_	5. School Improvement Plan, Specific Interventions to Address Identified School Reform Priorities	Not Reviewed ~			
	1. Selected interventions address root causes and resource inequities identified in the needs assessment.				
	2. SMART goals are complete and aligned to selected interventions.				
	3. Strong, moderate or promising evidence-base specifically aligns to each selected intervention.				
_	6. School Budgets	Not Reviewed ~			



MONITORING & PERIODIC REVIEW







The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act [ESSA], requires states to monitor and provide technical assistance to schools receiving Title II, Part A Significial poils School Improvement Grants [SiG]. Please respond beliefly to the following supersions that serves the basis of the monitoring and review of your school's progress on your goals and strategies. Please submit the completed document to your assigned Turnaround Office Consultant will by February 5, 2021. If necessary, your Turnaround Office Consultant will contact you regarding any follow-up our Turnaround Office Consultant will contact you regarding any follow-up our formation of the consultant will be consultant with the contact provides the contact provides of the contact provides and the contact provides of the contact provides and the contact provides of the contact provides and the contact

School Name

School Principal's Name

School Principal's email:

- 2020-21 SIG Award Amount: \$
- ESSA requires each LEA to show how it will support schools implementing plans supported by SIG funds. What specific supports do you have in place to
 assist the school in successful implementation of the school's approved SIG-funded interventions? (A bulleted list is appropriate.)
- 2. ESSA requires each LEA to monitor schools receiving funds. What specific protocols have you put in place at the district level to monitor use of SIG fund at the school? (A bulleted list is appropriate.)
- LEAs provided two to three overarching school improvement SMART goals and SMART goals specific to each of the school's SIG-funded interventions.
 Provide evidence of progress toward each of the overarching goals, using applicable district- or school-level data. Please list each goal and evidence of progress.

	Goals	Mid-Year Progress	Year End Progress
Overarching Goal #1			
Overarching Goal #2			
Overarching Goal #3			

LEAs conducted a needs assessment to determine up to three specific needs for which the school would provide interventions. Please provide evidence
of progress toward the SMART goals you identified for each individual intervention. Please list each intervention and evidence of progress.

Talent Priorities	Progress Metric	Mid-Year Evidence of Progress	Year End Evidence of Progress
Academic Priorities	Progress Metric	Mid-Year Evidence of Progress	Year End Evidence of Progress
Climate Priorities	Progress Metric	Mid-Year Evidence of Progress	Year End Evidence of Progress
Operations Priorities	Progress Metric	Mid-Year Evidence of Progress	Year End Evidence of Progress

- 5. Please list any grant revision requests approved by CSDE since the initial award of SIG funding for 2020-21.
- 6. Keeping in mind that 2000-21 funds must be expended by <u>June 30, 2022</u>, please provide an update to explain year-to-date expenditures. Include information about interventions which may have not begun as anticipated for which a possible grant revision can be expected. Include description of the contingent action the LEA has planned which will support the needs identified by the needs assessment.



MODIFICATIONS AND ANNUAL RENEWAL

Schools must demonstrate progress on the following indicators:

- School classification/rating
- Discipline incidents
- Dropout rate
- Student chronic absenteeism rate
- Progress on student achievement on assessments for both regular education and high needs subgroups
- Number and percentage of students completing advanced coursework
- Four-year and six-year cohort graduation rate
 - Teacher attendance rate

GRANT PERIOD

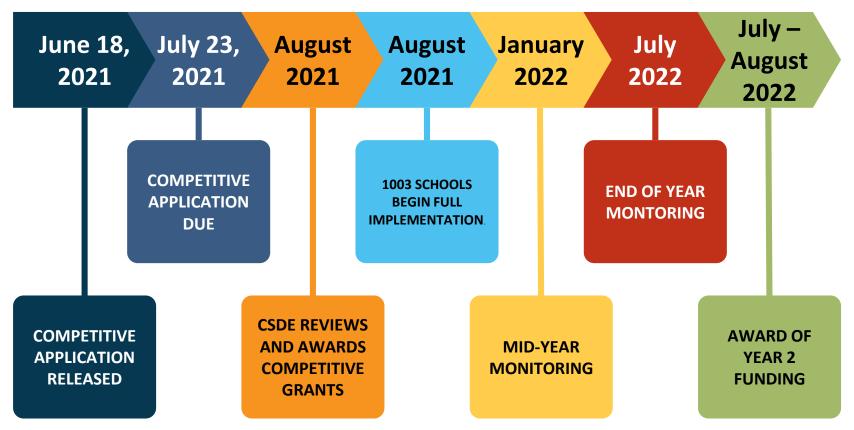
- The 2021-22 ESSA SIG application for funding covers a grant period beginning Fall 2021 and ending June 30, 2023.
- While this is a two-year award, this is intended to be a one-year plan.
- It is the expectation of the CSDE that at least 85% of grant funds will be expended by June 30, 2022.
- This cohort of schools will receive a new allocation of funding on an annual basis for four years.
- The last year for award will be 2024-25 (with funds expiring on June 30, 2026).

42

TIMELINE



Competitive SIG Timeline





Opportunity District SIG Timeline







If you have questions regarding the School Improvement Grant, please contact Jennifer Webb at the Turnaround Office:

Jennifer.webb@ct.gov or 860-713-6603

