

The application will launch November 29, 2021 and close January 9, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. This is a preview of the application for your planning.

A link to the live application will be provided on November 29, 2021. Applications will *only* be accepted through the application link. No paper applications will be accepted.

Voice4Change Proposal

Get Involved. Be Heard. Make Change. Use your Voice4Change!

Congrats-- you're on your way to using your Voice4Change. The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and your school district applaud you.

Voice4Change will allow you to suggest how \$20,000 of the ARP ESSER state set-aside be spent in your school.

What's the process?

- Attend CSDE webinars to brainstorm and learn how to craft a proposal.
- Submit your application to CSDE by January 9, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.
- CSDE makes sure your proposal is allowed under ARP ESSER rules.
- Allowed proposals are put on a ballot in your school.
- Campaign for your proposal.
- On March 11, 2022—one year after the historic American Rescue Plan was passed—high schoolers across Connecticut will vote for the initiative they want to see come to life in their school.
- Students, school administrators, and CSDE work together to implement the winning proposal.

Have questions before starting? Send them to SDE.ARPESSER@ct.gov, and we'll be sure to get back to you.

Q2 Please provide the best person to contact about the proposal.

Name _____

School E-Mail _____

Phone _____

School District _____

Name of School _____

Current Grade _____

Q12

If your proposal is chosen for funding, it must be used in the school district in which you are enrolled at the time of this application. Funding is not guaranteed to be given to your district by the end of the 2021-22 school year.

If the contact you provided in the previous question is in grade 12 or is planning leave the current school district next year for any reason (college, career, family move, etc.), you **MUST** describe the plan for ensuring your proposal is carried out. **We strongly recommend partnering with one or more partners and listing them in the following question.**

I am not a senior AND I am not planning to move.

I am planning to leave the school next year, but I am working with a partner(s) who will remain in the school district next year.

I am planning to leave the school next year and my plan to see my proposal through is... (2-3 sentences) _____

Q6 If you are working with other group members, please provide their names, grades, and e-mails below following this format:

Sally Suzie/ 11 / sallysuzie@school.com

Q8 Please see the CSDE Voice4Change Funding Guidance for proposal requirements.

After reviewing the document and attending one of our webinars to support your proposal process, you're now ready to make your pitch.

The #Voice4Change application is asking you to summarize your proposal, explain which priority (or priorities) your pitch falls under and why, and show proof that your proposal falls within the given budget.

Thanks for helping us reimagine schools to transform students' lives.

Q9 Provide a proposal title. If selected for the ballot, this is the title that will be displayed. *CSDE will not be judging the creativity of your title, but it should accurately capture your proposal and a catchy one may help your campaign!*

Q10 Provide a (1-2 paragraphs) description of your proposal.

Q11 Why is your proposal needed in your school? (If applicable, what problem does it solve?)
What will be the outcome of your proposal? (3-5 sentences per question)

Q12 The CSDE outlined 5 priorities for ARP ESSER spending at the state and district levels. Which priorities does your proposal align with and why? (4-6 sentences for each justification)

Learning Acceleration, Academic Renewal, & Student Enrichment

Family & Community Connections

Social, Emotional, and Mental Health of Students and School Staff

Strategic Use of Technology, Staff Development, and the Digital Divide

Building Safe and Healthy Schools

Q13 **Budgeting your proposal**

It is important that you have done the necessary research to ensure that your proposal is possible given a budget of \$20,000. Possible expenditures may include but are not limited to materials and supplies, staffing, transportation, etc.

Approximately how much will your proposal cost?

Q14 Please provide a breakdown of your costs below. Possible expenditures may include but are not limited to materials and supplies, staffing, transportation, etc.

Q15 Upload any documentation here (research, screenshots, e-mails, etc.) to support the accuracy of your budgeting. **Only one file will be accepted; compile all of these materials into one document.**

Q16 If you have solicited monetary support (in addition to the \$20,000 from the CSDE) from an external funding source, please attached a signed letter of support here that explicitly addresses support for your project and the amount of funding the organization is committing to your proposal.

Q17 Please upload a screenshot of an e-mail from your principal confirming support for your proposal.
