



Mohammed Choudhury
State Superintendent of Schools

January 19, 2023

Dr. Jeffrey A. Lawson
Superintendent
Cecil County Public Schools
202 Booth Street
Elkton, Maryland 21921

Dear Dr. Lawson:

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) is pleased to inform you that your grant for Title IV, Part A Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) has been approved.

The Notice of Grant Award (NOGA) is for the period of **July 1, 2022**, through **September 30, 2023**. The NOGA reflects 100% of funds available through Title IV, Part A as of July 1, 2022. Under the "Tydings amendment," section 421(b) of the general education provisions act, 20 U.S.C. 1225(b), any funds that are not obligated at the end of the federal grant funding period shall remain available for obligation for an additional period of 12 months. A budget amendment is required to request the Tydings amendment. Please sign the Assurances on the third page of the NOGA document and return to Don Corbin, School Safety Specialist (contact information provided below) at your earliest convenience, keeping a copy for your records.

This grant is subject to the provisions of Title IV Part A and Title VIII, as applicable, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and the general education provisions act (P.L. 103-382). This grant is also subject to the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR Parts 76, 77, 81, and 82, 2 CFR 3485, and the uniform administrative requirements, cost principles, and audit requirements for federal awards in 2 CFR Part 200 and 3474.

Title IV, Part A SSAE Grants are provided to State Education Agencies (SEAs) to increase the capacity of Local Education Agencies (LEAs), schools, and local communities to: (1) provide all students with access to a well-rounded education; (2) improve school conditions for student learning; and (3) improve the use of technology in order to improve the academic achievement and digital literacy of all students.

The Cecil County Public Schools' grant will be used for the approved activities in the submitted Title IV, Part A Plan. Success will be determined by the evaluations that are built into the Plan and reported to the MSDE. The results should include the measurable outcomes of each activity and the activity's success in completing the objectives. If the activity is meeting the goals of the sub-criterion, the report should clearly state and explain the impact the activity has had.

It is required that the LEA provide interim progress reports to the MSDE. The interim progress report due dates are March 31, 2023, October 31, 2023, and March 29, 2024. In the report, the LEA should include an update on the work completed to that point, including the progress made towards objectives and outcomes of approved programs/activities. Additionally, the LEA should include any questions or issues that require MSDE's attention. Furthermore, an Annual Financial Report (AFR) will be due to the MSDE by December 15, 2023. If the LEA requests the Tydings amendment, the final AFR will be due to the MSDE by December 15, 2024.

Special Conditions

The MSDE Program Evaluation tool contains 13 indicators which are used to assess the sub-awardee risk based on the areas previously described. Each indicator is considered independently and rated on a scale of 1 to 5. A composite score was derived by adding the total number of points from all rated indicators. The average score, on a scale of 1 to 5, is the level of risk for the entire grant. Sub-awardees with lower levels of potential risk (1-3) will have fewer special conditions than sub-awardees with higher levels of potential (4-5). Conditions specific to this grant are noted on the Notice of Grant Award.

Per the Uniform Guidance, the MSDE must notify the sub-awardee regarding the nature of the additional conditions, the reason why the additional conditions are being imposed, the nature of the action needed to remove the additional conditions if applicable, the time allowed for completing the actions if applicable, and the method for requesting reconsideration of the additional conditions imposed. Please note that special conditions will be promptly removed once the conditions that prompted them have been corrected. Attached, you will find a document that provides the required information pertaining to your grant program.

This grant is subject to a pre-award assessment as required in the Federal Uniform Grants Guidance, §200.205-200.210. The risk level for this grant is 1 and is subject to the following additional conditions: (a) Onsite or desk monitoring of select components/requirements annually; and (b) mandatory attendance of the MSDE technical assistance and administrative meetings pertaining to this state program.

The Lead Specialist for Title IV, Part A is Don Corbin. Mr. Corbin can be reached by phone at 410-767-0792 or by email at donald.corbin@maryland.gov. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Mr. Corbin with any questions or concerns.

We thank you for your commitment to education in Maryland and look forward to continued collaboration with you.

Sincerely,



Mary L. Gable
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Student Support, Academic Enrichment, and Educational Policy

cc: Walter Sallee, Director of Student Services and Strategic Planning
Donald Corbin, School Safety Specialist