Menstrual Hygiene Product Accessibility Grant Program 2025-2026

Legislative Intent and Goals

Pursuant to statute C.R.S. 22-2-147, Colorado SB 21-255,"Free Menstrual Hygiene Products to Students," created the Menstrual Hygiene Products Accessibility (MHPA) Grant Program to provide menstrual hygiene products at no expense to students. Grant recipients shall ensure that menstrual hygiene products are accessible to a student regardless of the student's gender identity. Colorado HB 24-1164 expanded the program's eligible recipients to: Rural or small rural Colorado school districts and charter schools, districts and charter schools who enroll 50% or more students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, facility schools, and the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind.

Grant Webpage:

Menstrual Hygiene Product Accessibility Grant Program

Legislation:
C.R.S. 22-2-147
SB 21-255
HB 24-1164

Grantees and Funding

During the 2025-2026 academic year, the MHPA program awarded $90,000 available funding to 53 eligible local educational providers through grant award amounts ranging from $1,425 to $4,250. Of the 53 grantees, 37 were previously funded and 16 were first-time applicants. See Table 1 and Table 2 for distribution information.

Table 1: The number of each type of eligible entity that received the grant during the 2025-2025 academic year.

Entity	Number
School District	38
Charter School authorized by a district	7
Charter School authorized by the Charter School Institute	7
Facility School	1

Table 2: The number of funding recipients per region during the 2025-2026 academic year.

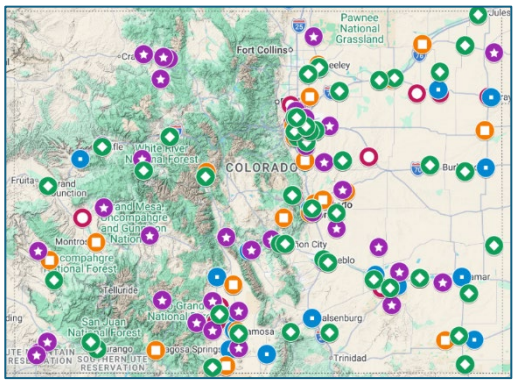
Region	Number
Metro	15
North Central	6
North East	5
Pikes Peak	7
Southeast	9
Southwest	5
West Central	2
North West	4

Grantee Map

Legislative funding allocations varied by year. All eligible applicants were funded each year, and all available allocations were awarded.

View MHPA webpage for lists of grantees.

- Year 5: 2025-2026, $90,000 distributed to 53 grantees
- Year 4: 2024-2025, $180,000 distributed to 65 grantees
- Year 3: 2023-2024, $100,000 distributed to 35 grantees
- Year 2: 2022-2023, $100,000 distributed to 32 grantees
- Year 1: 2021-2022, $100,000 distributed to 40 grantees



Reporting Metrics

Required Report

C.R.S. 22-2-147 requires reporting the total amount of money spent on the acquisition and distribution of menstrual hygiene products and the total amount of money spent on the acquisition, installation and maintenance of dispensing machines or disposal receptacles for menstrual hygiene products. This information was collected from all 53 grantees on the required Final Expenditure Report in the GAINS grant management system. Of the $90,000.00 awarded funds, the 53 grantees spent $86,891.97. The remaining $3,108.03 unexpended funds are to be returned to the state. Amount spent per category is provided in Table 3.

Table 3: Amount spent by category

Category	Amount Spent
Menstrual Hygiene Products	$77,080.87
Dispensing Machines or Disposal Receptacles for Menstrual Hygiene Products	$9,811.10
Total Spent	$86,891.97

Optional Program Survey

An optional program survey was completed by 23 of the 53 grantees. When asked if they would apply again, 20 grantees reported they would apply again. Two small districts reported they currently have adequate supplies so do not intend to apply again soon, and one reported they would be interested if funding could be spent on storage needs for extra products.

Program Successes Reported by Grantees:

- Increased access to menstrual products
- Reduced missed instructional time
- Reduced financial barriers for families or schools
- Strengthened student independence and supported student dignity and privacy
- Straightforward grant implementation

Program Challenges Reported by Grantees:

- Limited storage space
- Forecasting demand and managing inventory
- Product waste or vandalism
- Dispenser compatibility and ongoing costs

Highlighted Grantee Comments:

- “Providing access to Menstrual Hygiene products is essential in a district our size. With this grant we are able to comply with Colorado law (HB24-1164) and offer products in all 6th-12th grade bathrooms.”
- “Having products readily available at school has helped reduce missed class time, embarrassment, and anxiety related to unexpected periods.“
- “We observed a noticeable decrease in students needing to visit the nurse's office or front desk for supplies, which in turn minimized instructional time loss.”

Contact Information

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