Expanded Learning & Enrichment Programs in Oregon

Summer Needs Fun(ding)

In order to mitigate deep, long term impact on children, families, educators, and expanded learning programs, you must act now to implement targeted funding designed to bridge widening gaps. Using key metrics within the application, support, and data collection process, underserved youth and families could have access to transformative opportunities that truly impact their lives and their community.

Serving Priority Populations

- In alignment with previous summer and state investments, programs would be selected based on those serving youth and families historically or currently impacted by gaps in service. Priorities include serving those experiencing disabilities, experiencing poverty or qualifying for free or reduced-price lunch, experiencing homelessness, rural youth, youth of color, English language learners, migrant youth, youth in foster care, youth in correctional facilities, and LGTBQIA2S+ youth.

Alignment with ODE Quality Programming Focus Areas

- Programs would select a minimum of one category they aim to reinforce in the summer with an expectation of reporting impact measures. To ease the application burden on small organizations and provide valuable metric guidance, potential strategies or services would be provided with space for specific narrative examples required.
  - Elevating Relationships & Enriching Environments
  - Deepen Community Partnerships
  - Integrate Well Rounded Learning
  - Ensure Mental Health & Well-Being
  - Engage Students & Families
  - Purposeful Planning & Quality Programs

Priority Program Components

Research indicates that expanded learning programs build protective factors that support whole child well being for a lifetime. To ensure Oregon youth and family needs are being met, programming would support the whole child, keep kids safe, support working families, and help youth and communities thrive. While we know that each community and family in Oregon is unique, addressing these key challenges would allow eligible programs to receive funding based on populations served and alignment with quality programs. Included below are examples of services that programs may be providing to meet youth and family needs.
• **Providing Essential Services to Increase Youth Health and Safety**
  - Increased access to food to combat the 1 in 6 youth experiencing food insecurity
  - Access to affordable, comprehensive child care
  - Training, templates, and technical assistance to ensure implementation of safe policies and procedures at every site
  - Providing focused programs supporting well-being, including mental health or behavioral health support

• **Increased Access to Enrichment, Skill Development, and Workforce Development**
  - Providing professional development and training for staff, particularly on creating universally-designed programs to serve youth with disabilities
  - Funding to support summer youth jobs, paid internships, etc
  - Adequate staffing to meet community need and hire qualified staff

• **Increased Equitable Access for Underserved Youth & Families**
  - Increased access to academically enriching opportunities that build engaged, excited, and equipped youth to more effectively succeed within their school.
  - Scholarships, especially for the 744,895 Oregon families who already make less than Oregon’s survival budget - the minimum average income that a household needs to afford housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, and a smartphone plan, plus taxes to live and work in Oregon
  - Transportation, particularly for rural communities
  - Hiring specialized staff to meet youth and community needs

• **Culturally-Affirming Youth, Family and Community Engagement**
  - Relationship building, particularly within affinity spaces where youth can build a sense of belonging with peers
  - Mentoring, civic engagement, and increased co-development of opportunities
  - Building bridges that support cooperative community, family, youth, and school relationships by hosting collaborative, co-located programs

**Reporting & Impact**

Based on quality and programming areas selected, programs would have a variety of aligned impact metrics that may include:

- Program level narrative case study or focus group participation
- Family survey or impact narrative, documentation of feedback integration within planning and implementation
- Youth feedback, which may include survey, narrative, qualitative data, etc.
- Documentation of services such as professional services summary, food service provided, increase in hours of supervision, etc
- Community partnership form, contract, and feedback integration within planning and implementation, culturally relevant artifacts
- Sample curriculum, resources used for engagement, templates or guides
Recommended Expedited Timeline

● **If Funding Commitment can be made by May 19th**
  ○ **Insurance Requirement by June 2:** For previous applicants, they may have existing policies that would need to be updated within 12 months, or it would take an additional 6-8 weeks to process and meet current insurance requirements. They would need to know funding was available and insurance is an allowable expense by early June.
  ○ **Application Closes by Mid-June:** Application would include assumptions of completed process and be structured with priority selections to prompt key narrative responses that would be reviewed using rubric aligned with existing expanded learning funding requirements.

● **If State Agencies Expedite Simultaneous Processing**
  ○ **Review Process / Approval by July 7th:** Using rubric to elevate priority populations and program components, a statewide review team would prioritize applicants based on available funds to send award letters and confirm acceptance of funds.
  ○ **Contracts and Funding Distribution in July**

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**Contact Us**

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