Building Opportunities for Out-of-School Time (BOOST) Grants
Request for Proposals
July 27, 2021
Updated 8/11/2021

I.   Introduction

Overview
With the passage of the American Rescue Plan in March of 2021, Georgia has an unprecedented opportunity to provide expanded and improved learning and supports for all students. The federal stimulus package will help Georgia combat learning loss and meet students' well-being, connectedness, and mental health needs as we move ahead and begin to recover from the setbacks exacerbated by the events of 2020. The Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network (GSAN) is proud to work with the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) to establish the Building Opportunities for Out-of-School Time (BOOST) Grant Program. Over the next 3 years, approximately $85 million will be available through competitive grants to expand access to and improve the quality of summer enrichment opportunities and comprehensive afterschool programming for K-12 youth statewide.

Purpose
BOOST Grants are intended to support the learning acceleration, connectedness, and well-being of Georgia's students, utilizing a whole child approach.

What is learning acceleration and what is a whole child approach?

Learning acceleration strategically prepares students for success in the present—*this* week, on *this* content. Rather than concentrating on a list of items that students have failed to master, acceleration readies students for new learning. Past concepts and skills are addressed, but always in the purposeful context of future learning. Acceleration jump-starts underperforming students into learning new concepts before their classmates even begin. Rather than being stuck in the remedial slow lane, students move ahead of everyone into the fast lane of learning. Acceleration provides a fresh academic start for students every week and creates opportunities for struggling students to learn alongside their more successful peers. Research, practice, and common sense confirm that a **whole child approach** to education will develop and prepare students for the challenges and opportunities of today and tomorrow by addressing students' comprehensive needs through the shared responsibility of students, families, schools, and communities. Educating the whole child means to acknowledge AND address non-academic factors that impact academic outcomes while expanding learning opportunities. A whole child approach ensures that each student is healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged. For more information on whole child supports, visit the Georgia Department of Education's Whole Child Toolkit.

Applicants must propose to use funds for at least one of the following purposes:
- Expand access to serve more youth, with an emphasis on children who were most impacted by the pandemic. Potential strategies include:
  - Increasing program slots for children and youth
  - Expanding an existing program to a community with few or no options currently available
  - Creating a new program in a community with few or no options currently available
  - Increasing weeks, days, hours of summer programming
- Reduce barriers to participation to ensure access for all. Potential strategies include:
  - Providing free transportation to and from the program site(s)
  - Offering subsidies/scholarships to offset enrollment costs
  - Increasing access for children and youth with disabilities, youth experiencing homelessness, youth in foster care, English language learners, youth receiving free or reduced-price lunch, and migratory youth
- Increase programmatic quality and expand or enhance supports/services offered. Potential strategies include:
  - Enhancing learning acceleration through increased staffing of certified teachers, new curriculum, staff professional development, and/or activities

- Enhancing behavioral health supports through hiring of social workers or counselors, training of staff, and/or utilizing well-being and connectedness curriculum
- Adding new enrichment opportunities, such as career exploration, youth entrepreneurship, STEAM, and/or the arts
- Developing new partnerships with other community-based organizations, municipalities, and/or schools

Two Grant Types: Statewide and Community

1. **Organizations with Statewide Reach and Impact** – Grants will be awarded to entities with a demonstrated track record of success, that operate year-round programming and will serve at least 2,000 youth annually across at least 15 counties.
2. **Community-Based Organizations** – Grants will be awarded to community-based organizations operating afterschool and/or summer learning programs.

II.   Eligibility: Applicants & Expenses

Eligible Applicants – organizations must meet all the following eligibility criteria to apply

- Nonprofit organizations, colleges/universities, and municipalities, such as Park & Recreation Departments. Nonprofit organizations will be asked to provide their 501(c)(3) number or that of their fiscal sponsor.
  - Nonprofit charter schools that did not receive funding from the American Rescue Plan Act are eligible to apply.
  - Private and independent schools and faith-based organizations are eligible to apply only if the program is open to all children and not just those who are of a particular faith, enrolled in a particular school or members of the applicant organization.
- Organizations located and providing direct services *(see below; must provide one or both)* to public school students in grades K-12 in the state of Georgia:
  - Comprehensive afterschool programming during the school year for youth 5-18 years-old
  - Summer enrichment programming for youth 5-18 years-old
  **Organizations providing afterschool or summer programming for students with special needs: If students are being served through an IEP and are enrolled in a Local Education Agency (LEA), they are eligible to receive services for afterschool and summer programming funded through the BOOST grant until they turn 22.
- If the applicant is a nonprofit, it must be registered with the Georgia Secretary of State as a nonprofit (click here to verify: https://ecorp.sos.ga.gov/BusinessSearch).
- All applicants must offer learning acceleration, as well as programming in at least 2 other critical content/service areas:
  - Learning acceleration (required component)
  - Enrichment activities, such as the arts and career exploration
  - Healthy eating & physical activity
  - Well-being and connectedness, such as mental health supports, problem solving, and team building

Ineligible Applicants

- Public schools and school districts, private and independent schools. *Note: schools and school districts that received funding from the American Rescue Plan Act may use their ESSER I, II or III funds to support summer programming, including through contracts with community-based organizations.*
  - Because public schools and school districts are not eligible to apply for funding, they are not eligible to serve as fiscal agents for BOOST grants.

- Organizations whose purpose is to raise funds for public schools.
- Nonprofit charter schools that received funding from the American Rescue Plan Act.
- For-profit afterschool and summer enrichment programs/organizations.
- Child-care centers serving only children under age 5.

Eligible Expenses
Allowable activities and associated expenses include:
- Reduction in costs to families for participation (e.g., sliding fee scales, lowered participation fees, scholarship programs, etc.)
- Expansion of existing program: number of summer weeks and hours, number of children served, staffing, space, activities, add a site, etc.
- Establishment of a new program
- Salaries and fringe benefits
- Professional learning and training related to the improvement of the program(s)
- Approved field trips (GaDOE will approve field trips after BOOST grantees are selected; form can be found here.). Field trips must be aligned with learning acceleration activities; bring college and career awareness; support the program goals and objectives as listed in the grant application; and have a positive impact on student growth and achievement. Field trips must occur during regular program days and hours.
- Consultants, subcontractors, and evaluators
- Program materials and supplies (must submit Technology Request Form for technology items. Form can be found here in the Helpful Tools section.)
- Transportation
- Food
- Equipment
- T-shirts purchased for safety reasons associated with field trips. These must have the program name or logo on it.
- Planning and partnership development, particularly the development of school-community partnerships
- Remedial education activities and academic enrichment learning programs, including providing additional assistance to students to allow the students to improve their learning acceleration
- Literacy education programs, including financial literacy and environmental literacy programs
- Provision of qualified instructors to provide math and literacy instruction
- Hands-on enrichment programs
- Integration of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programming to build skills
- Telecommunications and technology education activities
- Arts and music education activities
- Enrichment activities
- Activities that build college awareness and readiness
- Activities to explore careers and gain workforce skills
- Recreational activities
- Integration of whole child supports and/or youth connectedness and well-being programming
- Provision of resources to allow for full participation of students with disabilities and/or special needs, students experiencing homelessness, those in foster care, English language learners, youth receiving free or reduced-price lunch, and migratory youth
- Activities that support healthy and active lifestyle
- Programming focused on drug and violence prevention, counseling, and character education
- Increase of youth supports (e.g., mental health provider and/or a social worker, tutors, mentors, etc.)
- Family engagement and parenting skills activities that promote parental involvement and family literacy

- Other activities as identified by the local community to establish and/or expand access to summer and afterschool programming
- Instruction space improvements related to preparation and/or response to COVID (must submit Capital Improvements Form)

Ineligible Expenses
The following activities and associated expenses are not eligible to be funded by the BOOST Grants:
- Pre-award expenses
- Field trips purely for entertainment purposes
- Field trips that were not approved
- Reimbursement of field trip tickets purchased in advance for those who do not attend. The GaDOE will only reimburse up to 110% of the actual attendance cost and not necessarily the full cost of pre-purchased tickets for field trips.
- Unapproved out-of-state or overnight field trips, including retreats, lock-ins, etc.
- End-of-year celebrations or food associated with parties or socials
- Incentives including plaques, trophies, stickers, certificates, t-shirts (unless approved and purchased for safety reasons for field trips), and give-a-ways
- Advertisements, promotional or marketing items
- Decorative items
- Purchase of facilities and vehicles (e.g., buses, vans, cars) or land acquisition
- Capital improvements and permanent renovations (except for instruction space improvements related to preparation and/or response to COVID)
- Dues to organizations, federations, or societies for personal benefits
- Internal Financial Controls

IMPORTANT NOTE: This is not an all-inclusive list of allowable and un-allowable expenses. 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.420-475 lists general allowability for selected items of costs. If you have questions about whether an expense is allowable or unallowable, please contact Charmaine Simmons at GaDOE at csimmons@doe.k12.ga.

III.   Timeline

Application Timeline

Tuesday, July 27, 2021	RFP released and Statewide Organizations invited to submit Letters of Intent (LOI; *more information in section VIII, Statewide Grants*)
Tuesday, August 3, 2021	LOIs from Statewide Organizations due
Wednesday, August 4, 2021	Statewide Organizations notified of the status of their LOIs
Thursday, August 5, 2021	Application opens. Application must be completed online here.*
Monday, August 9, 2021	*Optional* Applicant Workshop at 11:00 a.m. Register here. • 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. BOOST Overview • 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. Deep dive into FLUXX grants portal
Tuesday, August 10, 2021	Submit questions by noon, for posted answers by noon on 8/11/21
Wednesday, August 11, 2021	FAQ updated by noon. Applicant Workshop recording posted on GSAN's website.
Thursday, August 19, 2021	**Application deadline at 5:00 p.m.**
Thursday, September 30, 2021	Funding recommendations for approval at Georgia State Board of Education meeting.
Friday, October 1, 2021	GSAN notifies all applicants of the status of their request.
By Friday, October 15, 2021	Georgia Board of Education sends grantees official Grant Award Notification and agreements/contracts.

*IMPORTANT: Applicants that do not have an Organizational Profile on United Way of Greater Atlanta's FLUXX Grants Portal should begin their applications no later than Tuesday, August 17 as it takes up to 24 hours for the Organizational Profile to be approved and for applicants to receive their username and password for FLUXX, United Way's Grants Portal. Within 24 hours of completing the first step (setting up the Organizational Profile), applicants will receive an email with their username and password and be notified that they may begin the second step of the process, completing the BOOST Grants Application.

IV.   Grant Details

Grant Period
Grants will be awarded for the next 3 academic years beginning in October 2021. Grants will be awarded to organizations that provide afterschool programming during the school year (academic year only), summer programming during the summer months (summer only), and afterschool and summer programming (year-round). The grant periods for these three different types of programming are outlined below.
- Academic Year Only: October– May (August – May for 2022 and 2023)
- Summer Only: June – July
- Year-Round: September – July

Reporting
Grantees will report on an annual basis using the following schedule.
- Academic Year Only: June 2022, 2023, and 2024
- Summer Only: August 2022, 2023, and 2024
- Year-Round: August 2022, 2023, and 2024

Annual Renewal
Following the receipt and review of the grantee's annual report, grants will be renewed using the following schedule:
- Academic Year Only: July 2022 and 2023
- Summer Only: September 2022 and 2023
- Year-Round: September 2022 and 2023

NOTE: Grant awards will be equal amounts for all three years. If a grantee serves significantly fewer students during its grant year, GSAN may reduce the grant award for subsequent years.

Payments
BOOST Grants are reimbursement grants, and GaDOE will process the reimbursements. Grantees are expected to have 3 months of working capital to start their programs while trainings are conducted and budgets/invoices are reviewed. GaDOE anticipates being able to process reimbursements monthly thereafter.

V.   Application Process & GSAN Contact

How to Apply
The Application will be available beginning on Thursday, August 5, 2021. Applications must be submitted no later than Thursday, August 19, 2021, at 5 p.m. Applicants may only apply using the online application found here. Incomplete applications and those submitted after 5 p.m. on the deadline will not be considered for funding. The application questions are included later in this RFP in section XII, Application Questions.

*IMPORTANT: Applicants that do not have an Organizational Profile on United Way of Greater Atlanta's FLUXX Grants Portal should begin their applications no later than Tuesday, August 17 as it takes up to 24 hours for the Organizational Profile to be approved and for applicants to receive their username and password for FLUXX, United Way's Grants Portal. Within 24 hours of completing the first step (setting up the Organizational Profile), applicants will receive an email with their username and password and be notified that they may begin the second step of the process, completing the BOOST Grants Application.

Only one application will be accepted from each organization. The only exception will be for a youth development organization that also serves as a fiscal agent for another program/organization.

TIPS: GSAN encourages applicants to work on their application answers in a document saved to their local drive rather than drafting all answers in the online application. If there are technical challenges, drafting your responses and saving them to your local drive/desktop will prevent applicants' work from being lost. Additionally, applicants should use the Google Chrome web-browser to complete their applications. The online application portal works best with Google Chrome. Learn more about Google Chrome and download the browser here.

Who to contact with questions?
Visit GSAN's BOOST Grants Program webpage for the recording of the Applicant Workshop, the FAQs document, and an Application Guidance document. If you still have questions about the BOOST Grants after reviewing these resources, submit your questions via email to GSAN staff at BOOST@georgiavoices.org.

VI.   Target Populations & Geographic Considerations

Target Populations
To ensure these grants support programs that serve the target populations, organizations that serve the following population groups will receive additional points during the scoring process. Additionally, GSAN is committing at least 75% of the Community Grant funds to programs that serve these population groups.
- Youth with disabilities
- Youth experiencing homelessness
- Youth in foster care
- English language learners
- Youth receiving free or reduced-price lunch
- Migratory youth

Geographic Considerations
To ensure these grants support programs across as many of Georgia's counties as possible, organizations operating programs in counties with no current programs receiving government funds through 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program or the Afterschool Care Program will receive additional points during the scoring process. Click here for a list of counties with no such programming. Additionally, GSAN is committing at least 10% of the Community Grant funds to programs in these counties.

More information about how applications will be scored and how funding will be determined is included in the Application Rubric and Funding Matrix sections found later in this RFP.

VII.   Evidence-Based Strategies for Afterschool and Summer Enrichment Programs

All applicants must demonstrate their use of evidence-based afterschool and/or summer learning program practices. GSAN encourages all applicants to review evidence-based practices for afterschool and summer enrichment. The list below is a sampling of resources:

- Georgia Afterschool and Youth Development Quality Standards http://georgiaasyd.org/quality-standards/
- Evidence-Based Interventions: Summer Learning or Enrichment and Comprehensive Afterschool Programs https://bit.ly/EvidenceBasedAfterschoolandSummer
- Planning for Impactful Summer Learning 2021 http://bit.ly/SummerImpactPlan
- Help Kids Recover Evidence-Based Strategies https://www.helpkidsrecover.org/evidence-based-strategies/

More information about how applications will be scored and how funding will be determined is included in the Application Rubric and Funding Matrix sections found later in this RFP.

VIII.   Statewide Grants

Letter of Intent
The following youth development organizations and associations with statewide reach and impact were invited to submit a Letter of Intent to apply for a BOOST Statewide Grant:

- Georgia Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs
- Georgia Alliance of YMCAs
- Georgia Recreation and Parks Association
- Communities in Schools of Georgia

Following a review of the submitted letters of intent, all four organizations were invited to submit applications for Statewide Grants.

IMPORTANT: If a local organization is a member of or associated with one of the above-named organizations and the above-named organization is invited to apply for a Statewide Grant, the local organization may not apply separately for a Community Grant. Organizations receiving Statewide Grants will determine how to disseminate grant funds to local members/affiliates.

Specific Eligibility
Organizations must meet eligibility criteria as outlined in Section II of this RFP. In addition, organizations wishing to apply for a Statewide Grant must:

- Provide year-round youth development programming through evidence-based comprehensive afterschool and summer enrichment programming
- Serve at least 2,000 youth (5-18 years old) annually
- Provide programming across at least 15 counties in Georgia
- Offer learning acceleration, as well as programming in at least 2 other critical content/service areas:
  - Learning acceleration (required component)
  - Enrichment activities, such as STEM, the arts, and career exploration
  - Healthy eating & physical activity
  - Well-being and connectedness, such as mental health supports, problem solving, and team building
- Offer programming at least 4 days per week, with at least 2.5 hours offered per day during the school year and at least 6 hours offered per day during the summer
- Have a demonstrated track record of success

Invitation to Apply
Letters of Intent for the Statewide Grant will be due on Tuesday, August 3, 2021. Following a review of all submitted Letters of Intent to assess eligibility for a Statewide Grant, GSAN will reach out to applicants to either invite them to apply for a Statewide Grant or notify them that they should apply for a Community Grant by Wednesday, August 4, 2021.

Grant Range
Organizations that are invited to apply for a Statewide Grant will be able to apply for grants of up to $5 million per year for each of three years. Grants will range from $1 million to $5 million per year for the three-year grant period. Additional information on how funding amounts will be determined can be found in the Funding Matrix section (section XIII) of this RFP.

Scoring
Grant applications will be read and scored using the Rubric found in section XIV of this RFP. GSAN is pursuing expansive, statewide outreach to engage 20-50 application reviewers, with a focus on recruiting strong representation of individuals with experience or connection to youth development. All reviewers will be asked to disclose conflicts of interest. Small groups of reviewers will read and score applications. Review group assignments will ensure that no reviewers review proposals from programs/organizations in which they serve as a staff member, board member, volunteer, or consultant. Reviewers will participate in training prior to beginning their application reviews. All reviewers will use the same scoring rubric. GSAN will guide the review process and will review the scoring from across all groups once review groups have completed a thorough review and scoring of their applications.

IX.   Community Grants

Specific Eligibility
Organizations must meet eligibility criteria as outlined in section II of this RFP.

IMPORTANT: If a local organization is a member of or associated with one of organizations invited to apply for a Statewide Grant, the local organization may not apply separately for a Community Grant.

Grant Range
Organizations operating academic year only or summer-only programs will be able to apply for grants of up to $250,000 per year for each of three years, while organizations operating year-round programming will be able to apply for grants of up to $550,000 per year for each of three years. Grants will range from $7,500 to $550,000 per year for the three-year grant period. Additional information on how funding amounts will be determined can be found in the Funding Matrix section (section XIII) of this RFP.

Scoring
Grant applications will be read and scored using the Rubric found in section XIV of this RFP. GSAN is pursuing expansive, statewide outreach to engage 20-50 application reviewers, with a focus on recruiting strong representation of individuals with experience or connection to youth development. All reviewers will be asked to disclose conflicts of interest. Small groups of reviewers will read and score applications. Review group assignments will ensure that no reviewers review proposals from programs/organizations in which they serve as a staff member, board member, volunteer, or consultant. Reviewers will participate in training prior to beginning their application reviews. All reviewers will use the same scoring rubric. GSAN will guide the review process and will review the scoring from across all groups once review groups have completed a thorough review and scoring of their applications.

X.   Program Quality Requirements

All organizations receiving grant funding must adhere to the following quality requirements. Note that nothing in this section shall be construed to affect existing legal requirements established for individuals with access to minor children, including but not limited to those related to camps, employee criminal background checks, and any relevant licenses and permits. All subcontracted/partner staff must meet the same requirements as if they were actual staff of the grantee.

- In addition to safety training, all staff must receive training on safe operations including COVID-19 mitigation strategies, (e.g., mask wearing, social distancing, hand hygiene, cleaning, and disinfecting), infection control requirements, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state guidelines and protocols.
- There shall be a designated staff person in charge, who is 18 years of age or older, always on site when the afterschool or summer program is in operation. Teacher/Lead Caregivers must be at least 18 years of age and the assistant caregiver/aide may be 16 or 17 years of age; however, a director must be at least 21 years of age.
- Any organization whose program includes activities at a waterfront or swimming area, whether as a regular part of their location or as a field trip, must have at least one person with current evidence of having successfully completed a training program in lifeguarding offered by a water-safety instructor certified by the American Red Cross, YMCA, YWCA or other recognized standard-setting agency for water safety instruction. Such person may be a program staff member or an employee of a water facility (e.g., local swimming pool) and be at least 18 years of age.
- Staff-to-student ratios when students are in or on the water (over 2 feet deep) is one staff person to 6 students for students aged 4 years and older who cannot swim 15 yards unassisted and a 1:15 ratio for students aged 4 years and older who can swim a distance of 15 yards unassisted.
- Staff-to-student ratios when students are in or on the water (less than 2 feet deep) is one staff person to 20 students for students aged 5 years or a 1:25 ratio for students aged 6 years and older.
- At least one additional staff member above the required staff to child ratios for any water-related activity (such as swimming, fishing, boating, or wading) shall be available to rotate among the age groups as needed when any of the following circumstances are present:
  - most of the children in a group are not accustomed to or are afraid of the water
  - most of the children in a group comprised of children who cannot swim 15 yards unassisted cannot touch the bottom of the water facility without submerging their heads
  - the water facility is particularly crowded or
  - the children have special needs which impact on their ability to participate safely in the water-related activity.
- Programs must maintain a staff to child ratio of at least 1:20 for children aged five years with a maximum group size of 40 and at least 1:25 for children aged six years and older with a maximum group size of 50. The ratio of staff to children shall always be maintained. The staff to child ratios for a mixed-age group shall be based on the age of the youngest group of children that includes more than twenty percent (20%) of the total number of children in the mixed-age group. The ratio of staff to children, as specified in this subsection, shall always be maintained, including during all outings and trips except for structured activities offered exclusively for school age children.
- Prior to the start of the program, the organization's administrators shall develop a written plan for handling emergencies, including but not limited to severe weather, loss of electrical power or water and death, serious injury or loss of a child, a threatening event, or natural disaster which may occur at the program's location. The organization will have in place procedures for evacuation, relocation, shelter-in-place, lock-down, communication and reunification with families, and continuity of operations. The plan must apply to all children in care and will include specific accommodations for infants and toddlers, children with disabilities, and children with chronic medical conditions. Such plan shall include assurance

that the organization's personnel will not impede in any way the delivery of emergency care or services to a child by licensed or certified emergency health care professionals.
- The organization shall conduct drills for fire, tornado, and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly, and tornado and other emergency drills will be conducted every six months. The organization shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years.

XI.   Data, Monitoring, and Program Implementation Reporting and Assurances

Reporting
Organizations will report annually for the next 3 years using the following schedule:
- Academic Year: June 2022, 2023, and 2024
- Summer: August 2022, 2023, and 2024

GSAN will provide a link to the online reporting form 30 days prior to its due date. Reports must be submitted using the online form within the FLUXX grants portal. The following is the preliminary list of metrics GSAN anticipates collecting from grantees:
- Number of youth served
- Demographics of youth served with a focus on often underserved populations, including youth experiencing homelessness, youth in foster care, and English language learners
- Program attendance
- Dosage: Number of days and hours of programming offered
- Types of programming and services offered, including learning acceleration, whole child supports, student well-being and connectedness, and enrichment
- Youth satisfaction and sense of belonging
- Grantee specific goals/outcomes as outlined in grant application

NOTE: Grantees will have the opportunity to submit a year 2 and year 3 budget in 2022 and 2023 when the annual report is submitted. While the grant dollars will be the same for each of the three years as long as the number of youth served is not significantly less than what was projected in the application, grantees will be able to submit revised budgets at those times if desired.

Assurances
In accepting a BOOST grant, applicant organizations agree to:
- Adhere to the Program Quality Requirements
- Adhere to the [Georgia Department of Education American Rescue Plan Act (ESSER) 2021-2024 Program Assurances for Subgrantees](#)
- Participate in any data collection that is required by the state or federal government for the use of this funding
- Unannounced, on-site monitoring visits conducted by GaDOE staff or their subcontractor at any time during the program
- Participate in GSAN training and technical support
- Submit a report at the end of each academic year and/or summer grant period to GSAN
- The application must be completed by the entity that maintains full responsibility and therefore is the operator of the program, regardless of any partnership, volunteer, or subcontract arrangements
- Make every reasonable effort to be accessible to individuals with disabilities. This includes making all materials available in accessible formats (e.g., printed, digital and web-based information)
- [Complete the Georgia Department of Education Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Policy](#)

XII.   Application Questions

The questions and information required to complete the application for BOOST grant awards are listed below. **Your program's/organization's response to the application must be submitted online.** Please make sure your organization/program meets the eligibility criteria outlined in the RFP before beginning an application.

As was noted earlier in the RFP, applications must be submitted no later than Thursday, August 19, 2021, at 5 p.m. Applicants may only apply using the online application found here. Incomplete applications and those submitted after 5 p.m. on the deadline will not be considered for funding. The application questions are included later in this RFP in section XII, Application Questions.

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Organizational Profile

Organization Information
- Organization Name
- Organization's Mailing Address
- Organization's Phone Number
- Organization's Website
- Agency Type
- Year Agency Founded
- Tax ID
- Primary Contact

CEO Contact Information
- CEO's Name
- CEO's Phone Number
- CEO's Email Address

General Information
- Current Fiscal Year Start Date (MM/DD)
- Current Fiscal Year End Date (MM/DD)
- Annual Income: Please enter your total revenue for the most recently completed fiscal year (whole numbers only).
- Annual Expenses: Please enter your total operating expenses for the most recently completed fiscal year (whole numbers only).
- Annual Budget: Please enter your total annual operating budget (whole numbers only) for current fiscal year.
- If expenses exceeded income for the most recently completed fiscal year, please explain the reason for the deficit and how the organization is addressing the shortfall.

BOOST Application

General Information
- Does your organization have a fiscal agent? Yes/no
    - If yes, Name of Fiscal Agent
    - Contact Info for Fiscal Agent
    - Mailing Address for Fiscal Agent
- For how many years has the afterschool and/or summer learning program been operating?
- Are you applying for:
    - Summer enrichment grants (programming for youth 5-18 years-old)
    - Comprehensive afterschool grants (for those that provide programming during the school year for youth 5-18 years-old)
    - Year-round programming grants (summer enrichment + comprehensive afterschool)

Sites & Program Duration
- Total number of summer enrichment sites
- Total number of afterschool sites
- Site Locations (counties)
- What percent of your afterschool and/or summer enrichment sites are located in counties with no current programs receiving government funds through 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program or the Afterschool Care Program? Click here for a list of counties with no such programming.
- Summer enrichment program
    - Start date
    - End date
    - Days per week (summer)
    - Hours per day (summer)
    - # of learning acceleration hours per day (summer)
    - Total summer weeks
    - Total summer hours of programming available
- Afterschool program
    - Start date
    - End date
    - Days per week (afterschool)
    - Hours per day (afterschool)
    - # of learning acceleration hours per day (afterschool)
    - Total afterschool year weeks
    - Total afterschool year hours of programming available

Youth Served
- Summer program
  - On a typical DAY in your *summer* program how many youth do you anticipate serving?
  - Age range grant will serve:
    - Elementary (rising K-5 students) # of children:
    - Middle school (rising 6-8 students) # of youth:
    - High school (rising 9-12 students) # of youth:
  - Demographics of youth served:
    - Race
    - Gender
    - Free and reduced-price lunch recipients or directly certified
    - If not collected, please explain.
    - If free and reduced-price lunch recipients is not collected, please estimate the % of students served based on school districts or individual schools served. Please use GaDOE's database to guide your estimate.
  - School district(s) served:
- Afterschool program
  - On a typical DAY in your *afterschool* program how many youth do you anticipate serving?
  - Age range grant will serve:
    - Elementary (current K-5 students) # of children:
    - Middle school (current 6-8 students) # of youth:
    - High school (current 9-12 students) # of youth:
  - Demographics of youth served:
    - Race
    - Gender
    - Free and reduced-price lunch recipients or directly certified
    - If not collected, please explain.
    - If free and reduced-price lunch recipients is not collected, please estimate the % of students served based on school districts or individual schools served. Please use GaDOE's database to guide your estimate.
  - School district(s) served

Program Application
- Title of Project/Program
- Grant Purpose (a two-sentence explanation of the grant project)
- All applicants must use grant funds to address at least 1 of the 3 BOOST purposes. Which purpose(s) will your program be addressing?
  - Expanding access to serve more youth, with an emphasis on children who were most impacted by the pandemic.
  - Reducing barriers, such as transportation and enrollment costs, to ensure access for all.
  - Increasing programmatic quality and expanding or enhancing supports/services offered.
- All applicants must offer learning acceleration, as well as programming in at least 2 other critical content/service areas. Which content/service areas will your program be offering?
  - Learning acceleration (required component)
  - Enrichment activities, such as the arts, career exploration, and service learning
  - Healthy eating & physical activity
  - Well-being and connectedness, such as mental health supports, problem solving, and team building

Organization History and Program Design

- Briefly describe your agency/organization, its structure, staff, and its history of successful grant management. If this is a new program, describe your structure, staff and proposed fiscal management. (Limit: 1250 characters)
- How was the need for this program/project identified? Please describe the population demographics of the primary communities served and how your program design is meeting community needs. (Limit: 1500 characters)
- Describe the youth, family, and community outreach methods to support program design and to recruit youth to the program. (Limit: 950 characters)
- Are measures in place to provide low or no-cost programming for students? ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - If yes, please describe scholarships awarded to decrease or remove the cost to participate and/or the fees, including a sliding fee schedule, students pay to participate. If some or all youth are able to attend at no or low cost, please note that. (Limit: 950 characters)
  - If no, please explain. (Limit: 950 characters)
- Is transportation for youth included? ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - If yes, please describe. (Limit: 625 characters)
  - If no, please describe why transportation is not included. (Limit: 625 characters)
- Are strategies in place to recruit, serve, and/or address specific needs of the following populations:
  - Youth receiving free or reduced-price lunch? ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - Youth with disabilities and/or special needs? ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - Youth experiencing homelessness? ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - Youth in foster care? ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - English language learners? ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - Migratory youth? ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - Please describe program strategies to serve the selected population(s). (Limit: 1900 characters)

Programming Overview

- Please provide a description of the proposed activities for which you would use these grant funds to meet your identified program purpose(s). How will the program help youth re-engage and connect, support learning and developmental skill building, and meet the immediate needs of youth and families? (Limit: 3000 characters)
- Which of the following components do you plan to provide as part of your programming? Please select all components that your program will offer.
  - Learning acceleration (required)
  - Learning acceleration: literacy/reading skills
  - Learning acceleration: academic remediation/credit recovery
  - Learning acceleration: STEM
  - Learning acceleration: college readiness
  - Learning acceleration: job/career readiness
  - Enrichment activities: visual and performing arts
  - Enrichment activities: crafts
  - Enrichment activities: career exploration
  - Enrichment activities: financial literacy
  - Healthy eating and physical activity: sports/recreation
  - Health eating and physical activity: nutrition education
  - Well-being and connectedness: mental health supports
  - Well-being and connectedness: problem solving
  - Well-being and connectedness: team building

- Well-being and connectedness: mentoring
- Well-being and connectedness: Social-Emotional Learning
- Well-being and connectedness: civic engagement
- Well-being and connectedness: community service and service learning
- Well-being and connectedness: family & parent activities

- Please provide a brief description of the proposed activities to help youth accelerate learning. (Limit: 1900 characters)
- Please provide a brief description of the proposed activities to help youth explore new interests, build social and emotional skills, connect with peers, and build positive relationships with caring adults. (Limit: 1900 characters)
- Please provide a description of the program environment, including how it differs from and is complementary to the school day, provides a positive, supportive climate for all youth, and promotes whole child well-being, development, and connectedness. (Limit: 625 characters)
- Please provide a description of the opportunities for physical activity and access to outdoors provided. (Limit: 625 characters)
- Does your program participate in federal meal programs, such as the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Summer Meals Program? ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - If yes, which meals are provided. ☐ Afterschool Snack ☐ Afterschool Supper ☐ Summer Breakfast ☐ Summer Lunch ☐ Summer Supper ☐ Summer Snack
- Will nutrition, including snacks and meals, be provided to youth? ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - If yes, please describe which meals and what will be provided. (Limit: 625 characters)
  - If no, please explain why not. (Limit: 625 characters)

Staffing & Partnerships
- Describe your staffing for this program. If you are adding staff, how will they be selected? What qualifications are required? (Limit: 1250 characters)
- Will certified teachers be used to support learning acceleration? ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - If yes, please describe. (Limit: 625 characters)
  - If no, describe your plan for staffing the program. (Limit: 625 characters)
- Describe the training and supports that will be provided for staff. (Limit: 1250 characters)
- We encourage collaborating with schools and developing strong school-community partnerships. Please provide a description of how your organization partners with schools to identify and meet youth needs and/or how you will develop and strengthen school partnerships. (Limit: 1250 characters)
- Please list any partner organizations that are working with you and identify what support they will provide. (Limit: 1250 characters)

Outcomes & Evaluation
- For organizations providing afterschool programming during the academic year, please list and describe three distinct specific and measurable 3-year intended programmatic outcomes. One outcome must be related to learning acceleration; the other two may be related to any area of programming.
  - Intended Year 1 (October 2021- May 2022) programmatic outcome
  - Intended Year 1 (October 2021- May 2022) programmatic outcome
  - Intended Year 1 (October 2021- May 2022) programmatic outcome
- For organizations providing summer enrichment programming, please list and describe three distinct specific and measurable 3-year intended programmatic outcomes. One outcome must be related to learning acceleration; the other two may be related to any area of programming.
  - Intended Year 1 (June-July 2022) programmatic outcome
  - Intended Year 1 (June-July 2022) programmatic outcome
  - Intended Year 1 (June-July 2022) programmatic outcome

- Describe how you will evaluate the effectiveness of your program activities in helping children and youth to re-engage, connect, and learn; meet the immediate needs of families; and measure impact in the funding priorities you have identified. (Limit: 1900 characters)

Budget
- For the current fiscal year, what is the total budget for the afterschool program?
- For the current fiscal year, what is the total budget for the summer enrichment program?
- Indicate how much funding you are requesting per year after consulting the Funding Matrix found in section XIII of this RFP.
- Describe other sources of funding that support your afterschool and summer enrichment programming, including participant fees, other government grants, foundation grants, in-kind services, or fundraising efforts. Please give readers an understanding of the percent of funding comes from the various sources. (Limit: 1250 characters)

*Organizations must also complete the BOOST Grants Budget Worksheet linked here.

Statewide Organizations
This section is only required of the organizations applying for a Statewide Grant. If your organization did not receive an invitation to apply for a Statewide Grant, there is no need for you to answer these questions.
- How will you determine funding allocation across program sites and ensure emphasis on serving youth most impacted by the pandemic? (Limit: 1500 characters)
- How will you ensure sub-grantees are meeting the purpose(s) of grants? (Limit: 1500 characters)
- How will you collect data and compile reporting from all sub-grantees? (Limit: 1500 characters)
- Describe your organization's need for the funds and how funding would not be duplicative with other funding the organization has been granted and is utilizing/accessing. (Limit: 1500 characters)

Attachments
- BOOST Budget Projection Planning Worksheet
- Sample schedules of comprehensive afterschool program day and/or summer enrichment program day
- Last completed audit or last fiscal year internal year-end balance sheet and year-end budget with year-end actuals
- Memorandum of Agreements with community partners if activities involve other entities
- GaDOE American Rescue Plan Act (ESSER) 2021-2024 Program Assurances for Subgrantees
- GaDOE Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Policy form

XIII.   Funding Matrix

As was noted in sections VIII and IX, Statewide Grants and Community Grants respectively, grants will vary in size depending on the category of the grant (Community or Statewide). Determinations on maximum grant size applicant organizations may request are based on:
- Whether organizations offer afterschool OR summer enrichment programming only vs. those that provide programming year-round: organizations that provide year-round programming are eligible for 2x the amount of funding than those that only provide afterschool OR summer enrichment programming.
- The number of unduplicated youth served annually: the amount organizations are eligible to apply for increases as the number of unduplicated youth served increases.
- The percent of youth served who receive free or reduced-price lunch: there are three tiers of funding based on the percent of youth served who receive free or reduced-price lunch. Refer to GaDOE's database if your organization does not track this information.

1. Organizations where less than 40% of students receive free or reduced-price lunch are eligible to apply for the amount noted in the tables below
2. Organizations where 40%-70% of students served receive free and reduced-price lunch are eligible for an additional 12.5% of funding on top of the amount in that first column
3. Organization where more than 70% of students served receive free and reduced-price lunch are eligible for an additional 25% of funding on top of the amount in that first column

IMPORTANT: The amounts listed in the table below are amounts that organizations may apply for per year for each of the three years.

Community Grants

Number of UNDUPLICATED Students Served Annually	Afterschool OR Summer enrichment				Year-round programming*		
	Less than 40% of students receive free & reduced-price lunch	40%-70% of students receive free & reduced-price lunch	More than 70% of students receive free & reduced-price lunch		Less than 40% of students receive free & reduced-price lunch	40%-70% of students receive free & reduced-price lunch	More than 70% of students receive free & reduced-price lunch
Less than 25	$7,500	$8,500	$9,500		$15,000	$17,000	$19,000
26 – 50	$11,000	$13,000	$14,000		$23,000	$25,000	$28,000
51 – 100	$23,000	$25,000	$28,000		$45,000	$51,000	$56,000
101 – 250	$48,000	$53,000	$59,000		$95,000	$107,000	$119,000
251 – 500	$95,000	$107,000	$119,000		$190,000	$214,000	$238,000
501 – 1,000	$190,000	$214,000	$238,000		$380,000	$428,000	$475,000
More than 1,000	$225,000	$250,000	$275,000		$450,000	$500,000	$550,000

NOTE: When completing the budget worksheet, organizations applying for funding for year-round programming should divide the funds equally between afterschool and summer enrichment programming.

Statewide Grants

Number of UNDUPLICATED Students Served Annually	Less than 40% of students receive free & reduced-price lunch	40%-70% of students receive free & reduced-price lunch	More than 70% of students receive free & reduced-price lunch
Less than 5,000	$1,000,000	$1,125,000	$1,250,000
5,000 – 15,000	$2,000,000	$2,250,000	$2,500,000
15,000 – 25,000	$3,000,000	$3,375,000	$3,750,000
More than 25,000	$4,000,000	$4,500,000	$5,000,000

While we have outlined the maximum funding that will be awarded through the two types of grants (Community and Statewide) and the grant ranges in previous sections, actual awards will be contingent on the number of qualified and highly-rated applications received for each type of grant.

XIV.   Rubric
Items with a "" beside them were added to the rubric following the Applicant Workshop.*

	Community Grants (afterschool only OR summer only)	Community Grants (year-round program)	Statewide Grants
Organizational History & Program Design	42	42	42
Programming Overview	54	64	64
Staffing & Partnerships	20	20	20
Outcomes & Evaluation	21	21	21
Budget	16	16	16
Statewide Applicants	0	0	20
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE	153	163	183

	EXCELLENT (well-conceived and thoroughly developed)	GOOD (clear and complete)	FAIR (requires additional clarification)	WEAK (lacks sufficient information)	NOT ADDRESSED (information not provided)
Organizational History & Program Design (42 points)					
Describes agency/organization, its structure, staff, and its history of successful grant project management. If the program is new, the applicant adequately describes structure, staff and proposed fiscal management.	8	6	3	1	0
Organization has operated afterschool and/or summer programming in the past three years.	3	0	0	0	0
Provides a description of the children/youth to be served and makes a strong connection between the specific needs of the community to be served and the proposed program.	8	6	3	1	0
Program sites are located in communities with no current programs receiving government	5 (all sites are in counties with no 21st	4 (75-99% of sites are in counties with	2 (50-74% of sites are in counties with	1 (25-49% of sites are in counties with	0 (less than 25% of sites are in counties with no

funds through 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program or the Afterschool Care Program	CCLC or Afterschool Care Program)	no 21st CCLC or Afterschool Care Program)	no 21st CCLC or Afterschool Care Program)	no 21st CCLC or Afterschool Care Program)	21st CCLC or Afterschool Care Program)
Applicant describes a strong plan including a variety of outreach strategies and is serving one or more of BOOST's six (6) target populations. Describes a realistic, achievable plan to recruit a full complement of program participants, including additional expanded capacity.	8 (program serves at least 4 target populations)	6 (program serves at least 3 target populations)	3 (program serves at least 2 target populations)	1 (program serves at least 1 target population)	0
Describes the measures in place to provide low or no -cost programming for eligible students. Applicant is providing programming at low or no cost to at least a segment of students served.	5 (low or no-cost programming provided to at least 75% of students served)	4 (low or no-cost programming provided to at least 50% of students served)	2 (low or no-cost programming provided to at least 25% of students served)	1 (low or no-cost programming provided to less than 25% of students served)	0 (low or no-cost programming not provided to any students served)
Describes the measures in place to provide transportation for students. If not in place, this is adequately explained. *Consider that transportation may not be needed for some programs.*	5	4	2	1	0
Programming Overview (54 points for afterschool only OR summer only; 64 points for year-round and statewide)					
Describes how the grant funding will be used to serve additional children or youth and/or to subsidize enrollment costs, particularly for students most impacted by the pandemic.	5	4	2	1	0
Describes how the grant funding will be used to reduce barriers, such as transportation and	5	4	2	1	0

enrollment costs, to ensure access for all.					
Describes how the grant funding will be used to increase programmatic quality and expand or enhance supports/services offered.	5	4	2	1	0
Program uses evidence-based strategies in programming. Describes proposed activities to help youth re-engage, connect, and learn.	5	4	2	1	0
Describes a strong learning acceleration component.	5	4	2	1	0
Program addresses at least 2 and up to 3 other critical content/service areas (enrichment; healthy eating & physical activity; well-being and connectedness).	4 (all 3)	2 (2 of 3)	0	0	0
For afterschool programs: # of days/week program operates	5 (5 days)	3 (3-4 days)	2 (1-2 days)	0	0
For afterschool programs: # of hours/day program operates	5 (3.5 or more hours)	3 (2.5-3.5 hours)	2 (1.5 or fewer hours)	0	0
*For afterschool programs: # of weeks program operates in a school year	5 (34+ weeks)	4 (31-33 weeks)	3 (28-30 weeks)	2 (24-27 weeks)	1 (20-23 weeks)
For summer programs: # of days/week program operates	5 (5 days)	3 (3-4 days)	2 (1-2 days)	0	0
For summer programs: # of hours/day program operates	5 (9 or more hours)	3 (7-9 hours)	2 (5 or fewer hours)	0	0
*For summer programs: # of weeks program operates during the summer	5 (8+ weeks)	4 (7 weeks)	3 (6 weeks)	2 (5 weeks)	1 (4 weeks)
The space to be used for the program is described, including how the space is appropriate for the	5	4	2	1	0

ages of children and youth being served, sufficient in size, different than school-day classroom.					
Provides details that ensure healthy snacks and meals are available and appropriate for the program schedule.	5	4	2	1	0

Staffing & Partnerships (20 points)					
Describes current staffing structure. If applicant is adding staff, answer outlines how new staff will be chosen and what qualifications will be required. Description demonstrates adequate supervision and support for all staff that have contact with children.	4	3	2	1	0
Applicant has appropriately certified and/or trained staff in place to address learning acceleration component of programming.	4	3	2	1	0
Provides professional development opportunities and supports for staff.	4	3	2	1	0
Provides a detailed description of how the applicant partners with schools and outlines how they actively strengthen the partnership.	4	3	2	1	0
Provides a detailed description of other partners they work with, including their respective roles and responsibilities.	4	3	2	1	0

Outcomes & Evaluation (21 points)					
Proposed outcomes follow the SMART framework.	7	5	3	1	0
Proposed outcomes align with proposed activities.	7	5	3	1	0

Plans are outlined to measure the effectiveness of program activities in meeting the needs of children, youth and families.	7	5	3	1	0
Statewide Applicants (20 points)					
Outlines process for determining funding allocations across the state, including identifying youth most impacted by the pandemic.	5	4	3	2	0
Describes process for ensuring sub-grantees are meeting the purpose(s) of grants.	5	4	3	2	0
Explains process for collecting data and compiling reporting info from sub-grantees	5	4	3	2	0
The need for BOOST funds is clearly made; BOOST funds will not be duplicative.	5	4	3	2	0
Budget (16 points)					
The budget is aligned with the program purpose and goals.	4	3	2	1	0
Budget narrative provides adequate detail about how the grant funding, related to cost categories, would be spent.	4	3	2	1	0
Funding ask is justified given the number of persons to be served and the anticipated results and benefits.	4	3	2	1	0
The applicant has other sources of funding that can support programming.	4	3	2	1	0