

## **R277. Education, Administration.**

### **R277-618. Homeless Teen Center Grant Program.**

#### **R277-618-1. Authority and Purpose.**

- (1) This rule is authorized by:
  - (a) Utah Constitution Article X, Section 3, which vests general control and supervision over public education in the Board;
  - (b) Subsection 53E-3-401(4), which allows the Board to make rules to execute the Board's duties and responsibilities under the Utah Constitution and state law.
- (2) The purpose of this rule is to provide:
  - (a) the criteria for ranking applications for a homeless teen center grant;
  - (b) the funding limit and allowable uses; and
  - (c) the required data collection for measuring success of the grant.

#### **R277-618-2. Definitions.**

- (1) "Family service worker" or "FSW" means a school employee who connects families and parents with the resources needed to self-sustain and thrive, including:
  - (a) identify physical and emotional self-care;
  - (b) stress-coping mechanisms; and
  - (c) advocate for the family's needs.
- (2) "Free application for student federal aid" or "FASFA" means the official form to apply for federal financial aid to pay for college provided by the Department of Education.
- (3) "Wrap-around services" means services that bring families, providers, and key members of the family's social support network together to collaborate to build a customized plan of care that responds to the unique needs of the child and family.

#### **R277-618-3. Application and Scoring Criteria.**

- (1) Subject to legislative appropriation, an LEA may apply for the homeless teen center grant.
- (2) An LEA's application shall include the following:

(a) capacity of the LEA to staff the center with a FSW that will provide wrap-around services for the students;

(b) ability to provide homeless students with assistance, guidance, and connection to necessary resources;

(c) the ability to provide the services within the center, including:

(i) a food pantry that is community-based allowing access to food services;

(ii) showers and hygiene necessities;

(iii) laundry facilities, including a washer and dryer;

(iv) academic counseling and advisement, including:

(A) FAFSA applications for grants and loans; and

(B) work study funds available at universities and tech colleges;

(v) collaboration with district and county agencies for mental, dental, medical and vision services;

(vi) mindfulness and social and emotional resources, including access to a FSW;

(vii) availability to connect with spiritual and religious resources; and

(viii) collaboration with a local tech college for technical job training before graduation;

(d) readiness of facilities to house a homeless teen center at a school campus, including general construction plans, if required;

(e) demonstrated need for a homeless teen center, including:

(i) homeless teen population within the LEA, including recent population trends;

(ii) lack of existing infrastructure or resources to service current population needs;

(iii) other quantitative or qualitative data that demonstrate overall need;

(f) a budget outlining the intended use of the grant funds;

(g) a timeline for achieving an operational homeless teen center; and

(h) ability to maintain and keep the homeless teen center operational over time.

(3) An LEA shall apply for the grant in a form and within the deadlines specified by the Superintendent.

(4) An LEA's application shall be scored and ranked by the Superintendent based upon the overall:

- (a) demonstrated need for a homeless teen center;
- (b) quality of the budget proposal and timeline as described in Subsection (2);

and

(c) capacity to maintain an operational homeless teen center, as described in Subsection (2).

(5) The Superintendent shall select and notify grant awardees within 30 days of the application deadline.

#### **R277-618-4. Funding and Measurements of Success.**

(1) A grant awardee may not receive more than \$250,000 for an approved application and all awards are reimbursement based.

(2) A grant awardee shall submit for reimbursement in a form and timeline determined by the Superintendent.

(3) A grant awardee may only be reimbursed for expenditures outlined within the grant awardee's budget submitted as part of the application described in Subsection R277-618-3(2).

(4) A grant awardee may seek a budget variance from the Superintendent if the variance is sought before the expenditure of funds for the variance.

(5) The Superintendent shall review and approve or deny a variance request within 30 days of receiving the request.

(6) A grant awardee shall collect the following data to measure success of the homeless teen center:

(a) the projected number of students experiencing homelessness that are served by the homeless teen center annually;

(b) evidence of a match of a 0.5 full time equivalent funding for a teen center coordinator within the LEA or school campus hosting the homeless teen center;

(c) participation of community partners, including:

(i) local food bank;

(ii) local health authority; and

(iii) other community-based organizations including religious faith-based services and non-sectarian social services; and

(d) annual attendance data of the students served by the homeless teen center.

(7) A grant awardee shall provide the data described in Subsection (5) to the Superintendent upon request.

**KEY: homeless teens, teen center, grant**

**Date of Last Change: October 11, 2022**

**Authorizing, and Implemented, or Interpreted Law: Art X Sec 3; 53E-3-401(4)**