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MEMORANDUM NO. 2016-044

TO: School District Superintendents

Bridges Program Coordinators

FROM: Brent Young, Chief Policy Officer

DATE: March 21, 2016

SUBJECT: Wyoming Bridges Grant Applications

WYOMING BRIDGES GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 15

Information for this year's Wyoming Bridges grant to fund intervention and remediation supports to academically at-risk students is enclosed (Attachment A). The WDE539 application is available for download and completion under the data collection list on the Department's website. Sample Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) are also available for download. These are samples only, and may not include all subjects a district plans to offer. The ILPs and WDE539 form can be found at edu.wyoming.gov/data/dcs/.

This year, applications are to be uploaded to the Department by April 15, 2016. The last page of the application (with assurances and original signatures) must be postmarked by April 15, 2016, and mailed to:

Wyoming Department of Education Dianne Frazer 2300 Capitol Avenue Hathaway Building, 2nd Floor Cheyenne, WY 82002

We request that someone be available for two weeks after the application submission deadline to answer questions which may arise concerning the application. The Department will notify districts by May 1, 2016 of grant eligibility and preliminary grant awards.

The Bridges grant award is based on the percentage of a district's at-risk proxy count using each district's average teacher pay. These estimates are based on data submitted by districts during spring data collection through the WDE684. The WDE will send final Bridges grant calculations by June 1, 2016, after the funding model is updated with adjustments made by districts. Missing or inaccurate data may result in the district's grant award being reduced.

This year's application addresses the flexibility provided in legislation passed in 2015. Bridges funds can now be used for summer school, extended day, or both. This means that if a district prefers to use all Bridges funds to offer only extended day services, this is allowable. When completing the application, complete only the subsections for programs the district plans to offer. The summer school subsection is items 2-11 with green headers, and the summer school budget is section 17. The extended day subsection is items 12-15 highlighted in orange, with the budget in section 18.

All other sections of the application need to be completed. Bridges programs are encouraged to consider collaborating with other programs and funding sources (such as Title I and 21 CCLC) to provide services.

In order to participate in the grant program, all students in grades 2 through the fall of grade 9 must be assessed in the fall and spring using the Northwest Education Association (NWEA) Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) Survey with Goals. Some requirements for MAP have been removed from statute, but the Bridges requirements have not been changed.

For more information, please contact Dianne Frazer, Bridges Grant Manager, at 307-777-8676 or <u>dianne.frazer@wyo.gov</u>.

Attachments:

Attachment A - Bridges Grant Changes
Attachment B - FAQs for Wyoming Bridges Grant Program

Sample ILP Secondary

BY:df