



# Wyoming Department of Education

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## MEMORANDUM TO SUPERINTENDENTS NO. 2013-005

**TO:** School District Superintendents

**FROM:** Dianne Frazer, Education Consultant  
Standards and Learning Division

**DATE:** January 28, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Wyoming Bridges Grant Applications

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### TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

Enclosed is information for this year's Wyoming Bridges grant to fund intervention and remediation supports to academically at-risk students. The electronic WDE539 application is available for download and completion under the data collection list on the Department's website. Also available to download are sample Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) for your use. Please know these are samples only, may not include all subjects you plan to offer, and are to be used simply as guidelines for your convenience. Find the ILPs and WDE539 form at: <http://edu.wyoming.gov/DataInformationandReporting/DataCollectionSuite.aspx>. This year, applications are to be uploaded to the Department no later than **April 12, 2013. The last page of the application with assurances and original signatures must be mailed to Dianne Frazer at 2300 Capitol Ave., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Cheyenne, WY 82002, postmarked no later than April 12, 2013.**

We request that you have someone available during the two weeks after the application submission deadline who can answer questions which may arise concerning your application. The Department will notify you by May 1, 2013 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. After the funding model is formally updated with adjustments made by districts through the WDE684, we will send you final Bridges grant calculations by June 1, 2013. If WDE684 data is missing or deemed to be inaccurate, the district's grant award will be calculated to be \$0.00.

District Superintendents  
District Summer School Coordinators  
Memorandum No.  
February 4, 2013  
Page 2

Please note this year's application again includes a description of extended day programs if your district plans to use Bridges funds for this purpose. These sections are highlighted in orange on the application. Other program changes as of the adoption of Chapter 33 rules in August of 2010 include preparation of student Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) by the *referring* teacher, and the need for direct instruction for all students in grades K-8. Computer-based learning programs can be used to *supplement* instruction, but should not be used as a substitute for direct instruction for K-8 students in summer school.

We remind you that the Wyoming Bridges grant encourages you to make available learning that is *different* from your traditional school year. We ask you to embed enriched learning opportunities for the students who will be attending your summer school or extended day programs. This too is in keeping with research findings that rigorous and relevant instruction results in bigger learning gains for all students.

Please take this opportunity to think beyond a traditional learning environment and to embrace new and exciting opportunities for students. There are abundant resources available to districts to accomplish things not before considered, and I encourage you to embrace this occasion. Please take time to review Attachment B – Ideas for Summer Programs. This year we have added a section titled “Best Practice Ideas from the Field” that includes ideas shared by districts. If you have any questions concerning the enclosed materials please feel free to call Dianne Frazer at 777-8676.

cc: Summer school grant coordinators

Attachments:

Attachment A – FAQs for Wyoming Bridges Grant Program

Attachment B – Ideas for Summer Programs