



**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

**To: All New York State Charter School Leaders**

**From: Barbara Acenowr, Managing Director for Operations and Finance, SUNY Charter Schools Institute**

**Subject: SUNY Issues 2018-19 RFP for NYS Charter School Stimulus Fund Grants  
-- Open to ALL Qualified NYS Charter Schools regardless of Authorizer**

The SUNY Charter Schools Institute (Institute), acting on behalf of the State University of New York Board of Trustees (SUNY Trustees), is pleased to announce that it will accept applications for New York State Charter Schools Stimulus Fund (SSF) grants in support of charter school facility projects with bonus points available for performing arts programs/projects. Given the diminished access to facilities support for schools outside of New York City, the grant prioritizes schools located outside of the New York City School District. In addition, preference points are available for schools with strong academic performance as well as those applicants proposing a project that focuses on the visual or performing arts.

Schools authorized by the SUNY Trustees, Chancellor of the New York City School District, New York State Board of Regents/State Education Department (NYSED) and the Buffalo Board of Education are all potentially qualified schools under this Request for Proposals (RFP).

SUNY has approximately \$2 million in SSF funding available, which includes carryover from the previous year, to award to eligible charter school applicants regardless of authorizer.

The RFP for SSF grants can be found on the Institute's website at:  
[www.newyorkcharters.org/new-york-state-stimulus-fund-grants/](http://www.newyorkcharters.org/new-york-state-stimulus-fund-grants/).

**PERMISSIBLE USE**

The Institute acknowledges that facility financing options for charter schools are limited. Therefore, this RFP calls only for proposals that focus on facility construction, renovation, financing, leasehold improvements, and other facility related expenses. Only schools that own their facilities; are seeking to purchase facilities or have a three (3) year lease as described in the RFP are eligible to apply.

## ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Charter schools authorized by the SUNY Trustees, Chancellor of the New York City School District, the Board of Regents/NYSED and the Buffalo Board of Education are eligible to apply. Given the amount of funding distributed over the history of this grant, **schools that have been awarded more than \$350,000 of SSF funds at any time prior to June 30, 2018 are NOT eligible to apply.** In general, schools in co-located school district space or receiving rental assistance funding are ineligible. Applicants must hold a charter by the final date for submission.

At the time that the RFP is due, when the contract is executed, or prior to the grant distribution, an eligible school cannot be:

- on probation or subject to charter revocation or charter non-renewal;
- in violation of a corrective plan;
- on a corrective plan related to student performance; or
- planning to or required to cease operations at the end of the 2018-19 school year or during the Program Period.

## SCORING

Proposals will be scored for overall project need, design, activities and budget.

Schools located in a district that does not offer district-provided facilities nor rental assistance for private facilities are eligible to receive five (5) points in recognition of the widely accepted public mandate for improved/strong school safety.

Schools with proposals for security-related facilities projects equal to or greater than 50% of the total budget of the overall proposal will receive five (5) points.

Schools may be eligible for five (5) points for academic high performance and five (5) points for performing or visual arts related projects. See the RFP for details.

**Proposal Due Date:** Friday, April 26, 2019 by 3:00 PM

**Contract Term:** 7/1/2018 – 7/31/2019

**Location:** Albany, NY

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