



#064-22

**Commonwealth of Virginia
Virginia Department of Education
Superintendent's Memo #064-22**

DATE: March 25, 2022
TO: Division Superintendents
FROM: Jillian Balow, Superintendent of Public Instruction
SUBJECT: **PreK-12 School Innovation Planning Grant Request for Proposals -
Fiscal Year 2023**

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) is pleased to announce the eighth year of the PreK-12 School Innovation Planning (PK12 SIP) Grant request for proposals (RFP), formerly the High School Program Innovation Grant. The 2022 Appropriation Act (pending final signature by the Governor) has provided funding for up to five (5) competitive planning grants to be awarded in fiscal year 2023, each not to exceed \$50,000. Individual school divisions or consortia of school divisions are eligible to submit proposals meeting the intent of the RFP document, available as **Attachment A** of this memorandum. Proposals may target one or more schools in each participating school division. It is anticipated that awards will be made on or about August 1, 2022.

For the purposes of this proposal, essential elements of school innovation include: a) student-centered learning, with progress based on student demonstrated proficiency; b) “real-world” connections that promote alignment with community workforce needs and emphasize transition to college and/or career; and c) varying models for educator supports and staffing. The availability of planning grant funding, along with the opportunity for flexibility or exemption from certain administrative regulations, is intended to encourage new models of school organization and instruction and to identify promising practices for scaling across Virginia in the future.

This is an exciting opportunity for school divisions to be creative in how their systems of instructional delivery and organization can be significantly improved, including new ways to look at personalized learning, progress based on demonstrated proficiency and competency-based learning, and embedded connections with postsecondary education and the business community. The PreK-12 SIP grant program also encourages alternative pathways to achieving a high school diploma, which address demonstrated competencies, giving due consideration to critical thinking, creative thinking, collaboration, communication, and citizenship. School divisions awarded planning grants must be prepared to implement their innovative reform models over two years beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.

Completed proposals must be received electronically by the VDOE no later than **4 p.m. on May 13, 2022**. A pre-proposal webinar will be held at **1 p.m. on March 30, 2022**. You must click the link to register for the webinar in order to attend.

For more information

For additional information, please contact Dr. Brendon Albon, Director of STEM and Innovation, Department of Learning and Innovation, by email at Brendon.Albon@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 786-2481.

JB/BA/mr

- A. Attachment: [PK-12 School Innovation Planning Grant Request for Proposals](#) (DOCX)