



STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.  
State Superintendent of Education

October 20, 2021

Alabama  
State Board  
of Education

**MEMORANDUM**

Governor Kay Ivey  
President

**TO:** City and County Superintendents of Education

Jackie Zeigler  
District I

**FROM:** Eric G. Mackey *EGM*  
State Superintendent of Education

Tracie West  
District II

**RE:** Alabama Arts Education Initiative (AAEI) Grants

Stephanie Bell  
District III

Research clearly proves that providing students with sequential arts programs improves student achievement. The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) is committed to the development of comprehensive, interdisciplinary arts education programs for students to support a well-rounded education.

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.  
District IV  
Vice President

The ALSDE is accepting grant proposals for schools to provide new opportunities or expand their existing arts programs. Grants will provide an opportunity to strengthen the development and implementation of comprehensive arts education programs. Grants may provide additional support to schools with existing plans designed to provide quality arts instruction or support multi-sensory arts experiences through cross-curricula instruction. Schools must have support of staff, including teachers, administrators, specialists, and assistants and be willing to participate in arts education professional development designed as part of the grant. Programs must show a concerted effort to identify data-driven decisions in meeting the needs through the grant. Selected schools may receive up to \$25,000. Consideration will be given to programs that leverage other resources and have a plan for sustainability.

Tonya S. Chestnut, Ed.D.  
District V

Cynthia McCarty, Ph.D.  
District VI

Belinda McRae  
District VII

Technical guidance for the AAEI grants will be offered for teachers and administrators virtually on October 28, 2021. Interested grant applicants may register here: the ALSDE [Bite-Sized Professional Learning Series](#) under the Whole Child & Wellbeing Development Track.

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.  
District VIII  
President Pro Tem

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.  
Secretary and  
Executive Officer

Follow instructions on the [Alabama State Department of Education Arts Education Grant Online Portal](#) to create an account and apply; to preview the grant process and application questions, you may access the [AAEI Grant Process and Questions](#) document.

Listed below are important AAEI Grant deadline dates:

<b>AAEI Grant Important Dates</b>	
<b>Letter of Intent (LOI)</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
The LOI must be completed on or before the deadline and submitted as the first step to the AAEI grant application process.	<b>November 15, 2021, by 11:59 p.m.</b>
<b>Application</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Once the LOI is reviewed and approved, the user will be given access to the full grant application.	<b>November 22, 2021, by 11:59 p.m.</b>

Questions regarding the application may be directed to Mr. Andy Meadows, Arts Education Specialist, at [ameadows@alsde.edu](mailto:ameadows@alsde.edu) or telephone number (334) 694-4768.

EGM:AM:PAB

**FY22-2009**