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STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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

May 19, 2023

<u>M E M O R A N D U M</u>

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey 24M State Superintendent of Education

RE: Alabama Stronger Connections Grant Program

On June 25, 2022, President Joe Biden signed the *Bipartisan Safer Communities Act* (BSCA), which provides \$1 billion in funding to state education agencies (SEA) to be distributed under Title IV, Part A, of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA). The BSCA provides federal funding to support SEAs, local education agencies (LEAs), and schools in establishing safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments. The Alabama Stronger Connections Grant Program provides LEAs with the opportunity to bolster their multi-tier system of supports through activities that prioritize improving foundational wellness and behavior outcomes for students, parents, families, and community members.

The Alabama Stronger Connections Grant Program awards competitive grants to high-needs LEAs to establish safer and healthier learning environments while recognizing the importance of meaningful collaboration and engagement with parents, families, and community partners. Grant proposals must include goals and priorities that include an emphasis on Tier I, or schoolwide services to address the needs of the entire campus population, in addition to potential Tier II and Tier III services to support individual student needs.

The LEAs interested in applying for funding through the Alabama Stronger Connections Grant Program must complete the <u>online application</u>, which closes at 4 p.m. CST on June 2, 2023. Notification of funding will be communicated to local superintendents and other school leaders no later than June 30, 2023.

Additional information regarding the Alabama Stronger Connections Grant Program can be found by <u>clicking here</u>. If you need any further assistance, please contact Mrs. Kristie Shankles, Instructional Services, or Ms. Ayanna Long, Support Services, by email at <u>scgrant@alsde.edu</u>.

EGM/KS/BC

cc: Chief School Financial Officers Curriculum Coordinators Federal Programs Directors Counseling Coordinators Mental Health Service Coordinators School Safety Directors Attendance Officers Student Services Coordinators Mrs. Angela Martin Dr. Brandon T. Payne FY23-2041 Dr. Melissa Shields Dr. Autumn Jeter Mr. Chuck Marcum Mr. Sean J. Stevens Mrs. Cristin Dillard Dr. Kay Atchison Warfield Ms. Ayanna Long Mrs. Kristie Shankles Mrs. Shaundalyn Elliot

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