

SREB Ready Model District Grants Request for Proposals

SREB Ready Model District Grants

The Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) invites school districts interested in implementing the SREB Readiness Courses to apply for an SREB Ready Model District grant. This competition is open to medium and large districts with multiple schools that have not implemented the SREB Readiness Courses or those in the initial stages of implementation. SREB is looking for districts interested in forming a strategic partnership to address student readiness for high school and postsecondary studies. Two-year grants of \$10,000 will be awarded to up to six districts, with \$5,000 of funding awarded in 2018 and in 2019.

Application Deadline: April 13, 2018

Applications must be received no later than Friday, April 13, 2018. Applications will be reviewed by the Southern Regional Education Board, and selected districts will be notified by Friday, April 20, 2018, to complete a grant MOU. Completed applications should be emailed to Ready@SREB.org.

Commitment to Excellence

Districts that apply for an SREB Ready Model District Grant are committing to the following: Implement the SREB Readiness Courses with fidelity; work closely with SREB to document impact and best practices; and share both successes and lessons learned as examples to other school districts around the nation.

Teacher Training

Selected districts commit to sending teams of teachers to the Readiness Courses Institute in 2018 and 2019 to be trained in the SREB Readiness Courses. SREB will waive the registration fee for teachers to attend training. Teachers may also attend the annual High Schools That Work Staff Development Conference upon the completion of training. Participating school districts are responsible for the travel and lodging costs for sending teachers to the training. Districts will submit a list of teachers to <u>Jennifer Jordan</u>, SREB Ready program coordinator, by Friday, May 4. She will register them for the summer training.

Teacher Support

SREB Ready trainers will provide teachers with online, email, and phone support as they implement the Readiness Courses. Webinars will be offered each semester, and implementation surveys will be given to students, teachers and counselors regarding the implementation of the courses.

Evidence of Effectiveness

Schools will work with John Squires, director of high school to college readiness, to submit evidence of effectiveness. This may include samples of student work, testimonies, teacher vignettes, pre- and post-test data, performance on state proficiency exams, retention and graduation rates.

Recognition and Dissemination

SREB Ready Model Districts will be featured on the SREB website, with a description of the district's efforts to increase student readiness and a summary of the results. Leaders from selected districts will be invited to share their stories at the 2019 and 2020 SREB High Schools That Work Staff Development Conference. Schools from districts that provide documented effectiveness will also be recognized as an SREB Ready Certified School. SREB Ready Model Districts agree to share their successes and lessons learned to impact other school districts around the nation.