



10 Things You Need to Know about the SSAE Competitive Grant Program

1. What is SSAE? On August 22, 2018 the California Department of Education announced a \$44 million competitive grant program called Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant (SSAE), which will provide funding for arts education and student health and safety. SSAE is a result of the passage of SB 933, authored by Senator Ben Allen, sponsored by the California Alliance for Arts Education and supported by advocates all over the state.

2. What is the deadline to apply for a grant? The deadline for submitting a formal application is October 17, 2018 at 5 pm. Grant awards will be announced on November 13, 2018 and funding must be spent between January 1, 2019 and September 30, 2019.

In order to apply for a grant, you first need to submit a very simple application of “intent” by **September 12 at 5 p.m.** Submitting your ‘intent’ does not represent any obligation to apply for a grant. Here’s how to get started:

- Visit www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/r12/ssaecgp18rfa.asp
- Click on Form A-Intent to Submit an Application
- Choose first box “Category A: Well Rounded Educational Opportunities”
- Submit form with required signature(s)

The California Department of Education will be conducting a technical assistance webinar on Tuesday, August 28, from 3:30–4:30 p.m. For more information, including login information, please visit the [SSAE Competitive Grant web page](#).

If you have questions, you may reach out to the California Department of Education. Contact Julia Agostinelli, e-mail: jagostinelli@cde.ca.gov, tel. 916-322-9503

3. Who is eligible to apply? Applicants must be a Local Education Agency (LEA) – that is, a school district or county office, or a consortium of LEAs, or Direct Funded Charter School(s) that received a grant under Title I, Part A of ESEA in the 2017–18 fiscal year. Community based arts organizations must partner with an LEA or Consortium.

4. How much money are the grants for? The size of the grants will range from \$500,000 up to \$4 million per region.

5. How will the funding be distributed? The grants will be evenly distributed based on dollar amounts among the eleven geographic regions of the state.

6. Who decides who gets the grants? The grant program will be administered by the California Department of Education.

7. Why does this grant program combine arts education with student health? The funding for the grants comes from the federal Title IV program, which addresses the need to provide students with access to well-rounded educational opportunities. The arts are considered part of a “well-rounded educational opportunity.”

8. How can I get support in the application process? The California Alliance for Arts Education is offering technical assistance to those LEA’s or Consortiums who intend to apply for funds with a focus on the Visual and Performing Arts. We won’t write your grants for you, but we have a staff of experts ready to support your efforts to submit innovative arts education proposals intended to address the needs of underserved students and districts. (Just a reminder - the Alliance has no control over who receives the grants)

9. What else can I do to get started? The California Alliance for Arts Education wants to ensure the success of this program and make sure that these resources reach their intended target. Once you have submitted your notice of “intent,” please send an email to SSAEgrants@artsed411.org, letting us know who you are and what LEA or consortium you represent. We will provide regular updates, announcements of a webinar to support the grant writing process, plus any additional information we receive.

10. Have we forgotten anyone? We wouldn’t even be having this conversation if it weren’t for Senator Ben Allen, author of SB 933, the Arts for Every Student Act, which led the way to this grant program. Thank you, Senator Allen, for your leadership and commitment to arts education!

The California Alliance for Arts Education advocates for high quality arts education for all students by providing policy expertise and by mobilizing a statewide network of advocates and allied partners. Learn more at artsed411.org.