



One App - A Unified K-12 Education Grant Application System Act

Model Policy | 2025

Section 1. Definitions

- (a) “Department” means the state education agency responsible for overseeing public K-12 education.
- (b) “Local Education Agency (LEA)” means any local public school district or public charter school eligible for state and federal education funding.
- (c) “Unified Application System” means a system that aligns policy priorities, state and LEA planning, and budgeting for LEAs in a single application and streamlines applications and reporting for all state and federal education grant programs and all other state plans required by the Department regardless of whether they are tied to a specific grant.

Section 2. Development of Unified Application System

- (a) The Department, with the support of an external partner with relevant expertise, shall develop a Unified Application System that aligns policy priorities, planning, and budgeting for LEAs in a single application process. The System shall streamline the application and reporting process for all state and federal funding programs and required plans, eliminating the need for multiple plans, applications, budgets, and reports by LEAs.
- (b) The Unified Application System shall be operational for the [insert applicable school year or budget cycle].

Section 3. Department Responsibilities

In implementing the Unified Application System, the Department shall:

1. Set state priorities for education funding focused on improving student outcomes;
2. Align grants to address these priorities and maximize resource allocation to align with state priorities;
3. Design the application process to meet state and federal compliance requirements, while ensuring proposed spending and LEA planning aligns with state priorities;
4. Support LEAs in building strong plans for student learning and federal grant usage, including setting clear achievement and growth goals;

5. Review LEA applications based on established criteria for planning and discretionary grant awards; and
6. Approve and allocate funding based on clear, achievable plans to support student achievement.

Section 4. Regulatory Review and Reporting

- (a) As part of the development of the Unified Application System, the Department, with the support of an external partner, shall conduct an audit to identify outdated, unnecessary, or burdensome laws, regulations, reporting requirements, and processes affecting public schools.
- (b) This audit shall include input from school and district leaders, educators, advocates, and families.
- (c) The Department shall provide a report of its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislative, executive, or regulatory actions to reduce bureaucracy and improve student achievement, to the Governor and the Legislature by [insert report deadline].

Section 5. Effective Date

This Act shall take effect upon its passage and approval.

