



COLORADO
Department of Education

Colorado Multi-Tiered System of Supports (CO-MTSS) Implementation Grant

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FUNDED BY THE OSEP STATE PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT GRANT (SPDG)

Wednesday, August 31, 2016

Purpose of the SPDG

State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG)s are funded to increase innovation at state agencies and improve outcomes for students with disabilities. Grants may be used to improve systems of Professional Development, Technical Assistance, and/or dissemination of knowledge about best practices.



CDE's SPDG

CDE's SPDG was designed to support professional learning activities that target development, implementation, and sustainability of a Colorado Multi-Tiered System of Supports (CO-MTSS) through the integration of academic supports, behavioral supports, and implementation science.

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What is a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)



- **Not another name for RtI**
 - RtI: Described in IDEA as a SPED eligibility determination approach
- **Not just smushing together academic and behavior supports**
- **Multi-Tiered System of Supports involves the application of implementation science and the integration of student support frameworks into one coherent system**

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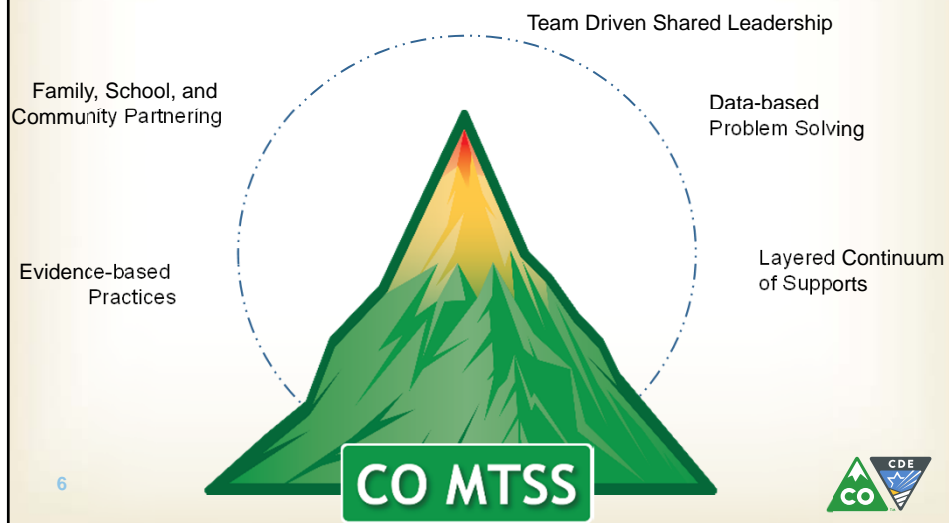


Prevention-based Framework

- Academic, Behavioral, Mental Health, Staff Supports, Leadership Supports, Family Supports, etc.
- General Education + Special Education + Gifted and Talented Education, etc.
- Building a Foundation of School-wide Systems, Targeted Systems, and Individual Systems
- Braided and Blended of Funding Streams
- Aligned Policy, Funding, and Publicity



5 Essential Components of CO-MTSS



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CO-MTSS State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG)

Goal 1

Increase state leadership capacity for CO-MTSS by improving the professional learning, technical assistance, data-based problem solving, initiative alignment, capacity building, funding, visibility, political support, and policy of CDE.

Goal 2

Increase regional and district capacity for CO-MTSS through effective leadership, planning, and the provision of professional development and technical assistance.

Goal 3

Increase preschool-12, school-level capacity for CO-MTSS through team-driven shared leadership, data-based problem solving, family school, and community partnering, and a layered continuum of evidence-based practices.

Goal 4

Support teacher effectiveness through district and regional systems of professional development and technical assistance.

Goal 5

Increase family, school, and community partnering around CO-MTSS through specific activities and engagement.

Project Details

- **Through participation in CO-MTSS, participants will establish or refine MTSS Leadership Teams (MLTs), and receive technical assistance from CDE Implementation Consultants (ICs).**
 - Technical Assistance will include:
 - Monthly on-site meetings to support action planning and implementation of CO-MTSS;
 - Development of action plans that align with other initiatives and result in high quality, sustained implementation; and
 - Creation of evidence-based professional learning and technical assistance activities for local schools.
 - IC support is offered at no cost to the MLT; ICs are employed by the CDE, are members of the CO-MTSS team, and will work with CDE partners to provide effective and timely technical assistance.



Eligible Applicants

- This grant is intended for school districts, Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), the Charter School Institute (CSI), and charter schools (authorized either by a school district or the Charter School Institute) that have a clear commitment to building sustainable systems to support MTSS implementation in Colorado.
- Eligible applicants are those who commit to partnering with CDE to focus on systemic change through professional learning and capacity-building related to CO-MTSS.

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Requirements and Commitments

- Project applicants will designate an MTSS Leadership Team (MLT), to work with and coordinate with CDE Implementation Consultants (ICs) regarding technical assistance for implementation efforts.
 - The MLT will:
 - Include at least one designated district leader, who will attend at least 75% of monthly meetings;
 - Attend a full-day, yearly CO-MTSS kickoff in Denver scheduled for January 31, 2017;
 - Attend regional, monthly (3hr) meetings with the CO-MTSS ICs and other CO-MTSS staff to complete various activities, including infrastructure evaluation, implementation plan development, initiative inventory completion, and professional development planning;
 - Conduct action planning-related professional development and technical assistance with participating Building Leadership Teams (with the support of CO-MTSS staff);
 - Ensure that funds are being leveraged with other local, state, and federal funds (e.g., Titles I, II, III, V and IDEA) and that accountability for cost-effective management is provided; and
 - Provide student, school, and MLT-related data to CDE for the CO-MTSS funding opportunity within the time frames specified.

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Levels of Implementation

- All MLTs will be accepted into the project at Level 1, which will involve monthly meetings with CO-MTSS staff, online academy participation, and the completion of infrastructure, professional development, and action planning tools
 - Nominal financial reimbursement will also be available at level 1.
- At Level 2, MLTs will become eligible for additional support and financial reimbursement depending on:
 - The number of MLTs demonstrating readiness;
 - The number of students served within the district, CSI or BOCES;
 - Use of previous funds; and
 - The MLT's performance on the infrastructure, professional development, and action planning measures.
- To promote regional capacity, small districts may consider applying in partnership with other districts, or through a BOCES.

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Allowable Use of Funds

- Funding reimbursement in CO-MTSS may be used for activities related to professional development, including training fees, curricula, implementation tools, outcome measurement, time for collaboration, staff stipends, substitute pay to create time for job embedded learning opportunities, or other planned activities. Funding from this opportunity may not be used to purchase food or pay salary.
- Funds from this opportunity must be used to supplement and not supplant any federal, state and local moneys currently in place. There will be no carryover of funds. Unobligated funds at the end of the fiscal year will be returned to the Colorado Department of Education.

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Application Timeline

August 31, 2016	CO-MTSS overview and Application Training Webinar
September 7, 2016	Letter of Intent due
October 19, 2016	Applications due to CDE
Oct. 19, 2016 – Nov. 11, 2016	Review of Applications
November 14, 2016	Notification of initial approval will be provided no later than November 14, 2016 .
Nov. 14, 2016 – Jan. 13, 2016	Meet with grantees to discuss application and next steps
January 16, 2017	MLTs awarded with the grant will be notified of the award by January 16, 2017
January 31, 2017	CO-MTSS Kickoff event

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Application Elements

- **The format outlined below must be followed in order to assure consistent application of the evaluation criteria.**
 - Part I: Application Introduction (not scored, does not count toward page limit)
 - IA: Cover Page
 - IB: Assurances Form
 - IC: Team Membership Signature Form
 - ID: District Coaching and Training Form
 - Part II: Narrative (cannot exceed 5 pages)
 - Section A: Goals
 - Section B: Team Driven Shared Leadership
 - Section C: Commitment

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Section A: Strategic Goals

Section A: Strategic Goals	Inadequate (information not provided)	Minimal (requires additional clarification)	Adequate (clear and complete)	Excellent (concise and thoroughly developed)
Identify the goals the district/BOCES/CSI hopes to accomplish through involvement in the CO-MTSS project.	0	1	2	3
Reviewer Comments:				
TOTAL POINTS				/3

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Section B: Team-Driven Shared Leadership

Section B: Team-Driven Shared Leadership	Inadequate (information not provided)	Minimal (requires additional clarification)	Adequate (clear and complete)	Excellent (concise and thoroughly developed)
Address whether the district/BOCES/CSI currently has a team that focuses improving infrastructure, aligning initiatives, and providing high quality professional development and technical assistance to local schools	0	1	2	3
If no , address whether the district/BOCES/CSI has the capacity to establish an MTSS Leadership Team (MLT) focused on aligning initiatives and providing high quality professional development and technical assistance to local schools				
If yes , describe the team's current efforts to align initiatives and provide high quality professional development and technical assistance to local schools				
Reviewer Comments:				
TOTAL POINTS				/3

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Section C: Commitment

Section C: Commitment	Inadequate (information not provided)	Minimal (requires additional clarification)	Adequate (clear and complete)	Excellent (concise and thoroughly developed)
Describe the current priorities of the district/BOCES/CSI, and how CO-MTSS will fit within those priorities. Be sure to include the other state level initiatives (e.g., School Turnaround Network, Connect for Success Grant Program, Early Literacy Grant Program) your district or BOCES is currently involved in, the number of schools involved, and the timeline of their participation.	0	1	2	3
Reviewer Comments:				
TOTAL POINTS				/3

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Review Process

- Applications will be reviewed by CDE staff to ensure they contain all required components. This funding opportunity is a competitive process – applicants must score at least 6 points out of the 9 points possible to be considered for funding. Applications that score below 6 points *may* be asked to submit revisions that would bring the application up to a fundable level. Applicants will be notified of the initial status of their application by November 14, 2016.
- Applicants will also be asked to meet with CDE staff, between Nov. 14 and Jan. 13, 2016, to discuss application feedback and any required changes before final approval is given. If district/BOCES/school staff are not able to verify the information provided in the application, or fail to demonstrate an understanding of the program the recommendation to fund will be withdrawn. Applicants will be notified of their acceptance into the program by January 16, 2016.

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Submission Process

- **One electronic copy of the application must be submitted to:**
CompetitiveGrants@cde.state.co.us by Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 11:59 p.m.
 - The electronic version should include all required elements of the application as one document.
 - Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.
 - If you do not receive an email confirmation of receipt of your application within 24 hours of the deadline, please email CompetitiveGrants@cde.state.co.us.
- **Application materials are available for download on the CDE website at:**
<https://www.cde.state.co.us/mtss>.

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Questions?

- **For program questions, contact:**
 - Scott Ross
Ross_S@cde.state.co.us | 303-866-6853
- **For application-specific questions, contact:**
 - Kim Burnham
Burnham_K@cde.state.co.us | 303-866-6916

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