## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## After-School Community Learning Grant Announcement-2024-2027

The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) is pleased to announce that the application for the After-School Community Learning grant (ACLG) application is available. The purpose of the funding is to connect schools and communities so that they can offer culturally affirming and enriching after-school and summer learning programs that meet the needs of young people and their families.

## **After-School Community Learning Objectives:**

- 1. Increase access to comprehensive and culturally affirming after-school and summer learning and enrichment opportunities that meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of historically underserved students.
- 2. Promote engagement in learning and connections to school and community.
- 3. Encourage school attendance and improve academic performance.

Community or nonprofit organizations, culturally specific organizations, American Indian organizations, Tribal Nations, political subdivisions, public libraries, or school-based programs that serve young people after school, during the summer, or during non-school hours are invited to apply. Because an objective of the grant program is to increase access to high-quality programming, current 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21CCLC) grantees may apply to establish additional centers under this competitive application; however, they may not apply for any center location already served by a 21CCLC grant. See the grant opportunity instructions document for specific eligibility criteria.

MDE estimates that \$26,850,000 is available to fund After-School Community Learning grants for three years, with approximately \$8,950,000 available each year. It is anticipated that grant awards for the three-year period will range from \$50,000 - \$500,000 each year, though applicants are not restricted to this range of grant funds in their application request. The state reserves the right to offer grant awards in amounts that might differ from the applicant's request.

The term of the initial grant period is anticipated to be from May 1, 2024, until June 30, 2027. Grantees will be awarded funding for three years.

## How to Apply

Applications are due by **February 22, 2024, no later than 5 p.m.** The application materials for this grant opportunity are available on the <u>competitive grant opportunities</u> page of the MDE website.

MDE is also recruiting reviewers for the After-School Community Learning grant. If interested please submit a <u>After-School Community Learning Grant Reviewer Interest form</u> by **Friday February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024**.