



Workforce Issuance

100 DCS 25.238

☐ Policy ☒ Information

To: Chief Elected Officials
MassHire Workforce Board Chairs
MassHire Workforce Board Directors
MassHire Career Center Directors
MassHire Fiscal Officers
MassHire DCS Operations Managers

cc: WIOA State Partners

From: Diane Hurley, Acting Director
MassHire Department of Career Services

Date: October 25, 2022

Subject: **Funding Opportunity - Provided Through the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act**

Purpose: To notify MassHire Workforce Boards, MassHire Career Center Operators, and other workforce partners of two funding opportunities provided through the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.

Background: The U.S. Department of Education (the Department) is releasing Notices Inviting Applications for two grant programs to increase access to mental health services for students and young people, totaling \$280 million, that were funded through the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) and the Fiscal Year 2022 Omnibus Appropriations. The BSCA provided historic funding to help meet President Biden's goal of doubling the number of school-based mental health professionals and tackling the nation's mental health crisis. This is the first of \$1 billion in Bipartisan Safer Communities Act funds over the next five years that the DOE will award for this purpose.

School-Based Mental Health Services Grant Program

The SBMH grant program provides competitive grants to State educational agencies (SEAs), Local educational agencies (LEAs), and consortia of LEAs to increase the number of credentialed school-based mental health service providers delivering school-based mental health services to students in LEAs with demonstrated need. The grant provides \$144 million each year for 5 years, with an average award size of \$1,750,000, ranging from \$500,000 to \$3,000,000 per year. The Department anticipates making up to 150 awards. Two technical assistance webinars for prospective applicants were provided and recorded: one on October 11th, 2022, and one on October 19th, 2022. Webinar information is available [here](#).

Mental Health Service Professional Demonstration Grant Program

The MHSP Demonstration grant program provides competitive grants to support and demonstrate innovative partnerships to train school-based mental health services providers for employment in schools and LEAs. The grant program aims to address a challenge facing districts and schools across the country: an insufficient supply of school-based mental health professionals to meet the needs of students. The partnerships must include (1) one or more high-need LEA or an SEA on behalf of one or more high-need LEA; and (2) one or more eligible institutions of higher education (IHE). These grants make available \$143 million a year for 5 years, with an average award size of \$800,000, ranging from \$400,000 to \$1,200,000 per year. The Department anticipates making up to 250 awards. Two technical assistance webinars for prospective applicants were provided and recorded: one on October 12th, 2022, and one on October 18th, 2022. Webinar information is available [here](#).

Action

Requested: Please share with managers, staff and partners as appropriate.

Effective: Immediately