



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION**

**TONY THURMOND**  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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January 30, 2024

Dear County and District Superintendents:

## **Request for Applications: California Serves Grant Program**

The California Department of Education (CDE), Professional Learning Support Division (PLSD) is pleased to announce that the Request for Applications (RFA) California Serves Grant Program is now available.

The Budget Act of 2022 appropriated \$5 million to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) to award grants to local educational agencies (LEAs) for the purpose of promoting access to effective service learning for students in grade twelve, with the goal of expanding access for high school graduates in obtaining a State Seal of Civic Engagement. Each award amount for the California Serves Grant shall be no more than \$500,000. The SSPI is seeking grant applications in order to select LEAs for this grant program.

Eligible grant activities include:

- Paid planning time for teachers to increase the use of service learning in instruction.
- Professional development on service learning for administrators and teachers.
- Purchase of instructional materials to help integrate service learning in instruction.
- Participation costs, including materials or travel expenses related to service learning activities.
- Personnel costs for coordinating service learning at the LEA or a school site.
- Participation costs associated with grant program evaluation.

All applicants must submit a complete application, including all required components, to the PLSD by **4 p.m. on March 11, 2024**. Incomplete, late, or incorrectly formatted applications **will not** be scored or considered for approval.

A technical assistance webinar to review all parts of the RFA will take place on

January 22, 2024

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**February 8, 2024, from 9:30 to 11 a.m.** Register in advance for this webinar at [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_iDuS\\_GQnSquaTPu8QuCBQg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_iDuS_GQnSquaTPu8QuCBQg).

For additional information and a link to the application, please visit the CDE California Serves web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ca/hs/californiaserves.asp>.

If you have questions regarding this RFA, please contact the California Serves Grant Team by email at [SSCE@cde.ca.gov](mailto:SSCE@cde.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Cheryl Cotton, Deputy Superintendent  
Instruction, Measurement, and Administration Branch

CC:ss