**Support and Innovation Unit**

**FY 2017-2018 CSI Planning Grant Application**

**Webinar FAQs**

1. **Will a copy of this webinar be available?**

*Yes, the webinar will be available by Dec. 14, 2017 at the following weblink:* [*http://www.azed.gov/improvement/webinar-resources/*](http://www.azed.gov/improvement/webinar-resources/)

1. **Where does the contact information get uploaded?**

*The contact information for the grant is in the Program Details in GME.*

*The CSI Contact forms for Schools and LEAs are on the SI webpage* <http://www.azed.gov/improvement/school-contact-form/>

<http://www.azed.gov/improvement/lea-contact/>

1. **What is required for the letter of intent?**

*The letter of intent is a simple 2-sentence statement that indicates your intent to apply for the grant. It requires the signature of the Superintendent, Principal, and Business Manager (if applicable). The template for the letter is found at:* [*http://www.azed.gov/improvement/webinar-resources/*](http://www.azed.gov/improvement/webinar-resources/)

*Please email the scanned, signed letter to your Education Program Specialist. It should be addressed to Devon Isherwood, the Deputy Associate Superintendent of the Support and Innovation Unit.*

1. **Where is the grant application located and when can I access it?**

*The Comprehensive Support and Improvement grant application is located in GME, and you may access it now. However, please remember that the Comprehensive Needs Assessment, Root Cause Analyses, and Integrated Action Plan need to be completed and uploaded into ALEAT before you can submit the application. The grant application template (Word version), grant rubric, and the CSI guidance documents are also available at the following weblink:*

[*http://www.azed.gov/improvement/comprehensive-and-targeted-support-schools//*](http://www.azed.gov/improvement/comprehensive-and-targeted-support-schools//)

*We recommend that you complete the application using the Word document (retrieved from the weblink above) to help you with the application process. You may find it easier to copy and paste the information from the Word document into the required sections in GME, since some of the windows have rolling fields. The Planning Strategy Action Plan is a separate document located in the GME Related Documents tab.*

1. **If a school does not apply for the planning grant (FY18), are they allowed to apply for the implementation grants (FY19 and subsequent years)?**

 *No. If a school does not apply for the planning grant, they may not apply for the implementation grant. Additionally, if a school is not awarded the planning grant after applying, they may not apply for the implementation grant. The planning grant application must reflect sufficient evidence of strategic planning and research to receive an initial award. Successful completion of the planning grant strategies and action steps as well as the revised CNA and IAP are required for consideration for an Implementation Grant, along with the Implementation Grant application.*

1. **If we are awarded the planning grant, will we automatically be awarded the implementation grant if we submit the new application?**

*No. The implementation grant and subsequent CSI grants will be awarded based on the evidence of progress provided in the new application. The application must demonstrate that the planning efforts show results. Successful completion of the planning grant strategies and action steps as well as a revised CNA and IAP are required for consideration for Implementation Grant as well as the Implementation Grant application are all required to be eligible for future/continued funding.*

1. **How much growth will I need to demonstrate to get out of improvement status?**

*The percent of improvement required to exit improvement depends on the current percent proficient. Please remember CSI schools are in the lowest 5% proficiency rates in the state. This year, the cut score was 13% proficient on the AZMerit state assessment. The integrated action plan and smart goals should reflect high achievement expectations and strategic planning efforts for improvement. The intent and hope is that through the use of data and thoughtful planning, incremental and sustained growth each year will result in high levels of proficiency for all students.*

*\*Schools may exit after two years and are required to exit in four years. Please see exit criteria in the CSI Guidance Document for details.* <https://cms.azed.gov/home/GetDocumentFile?id=5a04a3fe3217e104b0543f6e> *\**

1. **How much money can we apply for with the CSI planning grant? Is there a set amount schools will receive?**

*There is not a set allocation amount that will be awarded to schools. The CSI planning grant is a competitive grant. Allocations will be awarded based on the greatest need and commitment to dramatic improvement[[1]](#endnote-1), the quality of the planning grant application with high quality planning action plan and Integrated Action Plan. Plans determine funding.*

*The* ***required*** *CSI face to face regional trainings were designed to provide every school with the tools needed to complete a high-quality CNA, root cause analyses and IAP leading to improved outcomes for all students. This is the foundation for a viable CSI planning grant application intended to support the desired outcomes in the IAP. If you did not attend the regional training and wish to apply, you must contact Devon Isherwood, Deputy Associate Superintendent, Support and Innovation at 602-364-0379 or* devon.isherwood@azed.gov*. If you attended the training and need further assistance, please contact your Education Program Specialist.*

1. ***ESSA***

	1. PRIORITY. —The State educational agency, in allocating funds to local educational agencies under this section, shall give priority to local educational agencies that—
		1. serve high numbers, or a high percentage of, elementary schools and secondary schools implementing plans under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 1111(d);
		2. demonstrate the greatest need for such funds, as determined by the State; and
		3. demonstrate the strongest commitment to using funds under this section to enable the lowest-performing schools to improve student achievement and student outcomes. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)