



Office of Government Relations

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DATE: May 24, 2022

TO: Chancellors, Provosts, CBOs, SSAOs, Legislative Liaisons, Institution Foster Youth Liaisons

FROM: Kathy Divine, UW System Director of State Relations

RE: Fostering Success Program Funding Application

Overview

The Wisconsin State 2021-2023 budget provided funding to UW System (UWS) for foster youth programming. The state budget provided \$250,000 General Purpose Revenue (GPR) in 2021-22 and \$500,000 GPR in 2022-2023 for this programming. The second-year funding of \$500,000 is included in UWS's base budget. A portion of the 2021-22 one-time funding will be used to hire a technical consultant to assist and support campuses in implementing the institution's foster youth program. Details on this position are included below. UWS will issue the remaining \$730,000 in funding to institutions through an application process as outlined in this memo.

Objective

The objective of this funding is to invest resources and/or programming that can lead to successful outcomes for former foster youth at our universities. These outcomes can include recruitment and enrollment on campus, retention, and graduation.

Several UWS universities have already established "Fostering Success" programs. The foster youth program funding is aimed at investing in existing programs at a university OR to start a new program at a university. A "Fostering Success" program does not need to fit a specific model. The application process provides a template to design a program, with the flexibility for each campus to meet their specific needs. Applications will require a university-specific budgetary request of UWS.

Program Staff – Campus Technical Consultant

A portion of the 2021-22 funding will be used to support the efforts of a campus technical consultant. The position will be assigned to support campuses with the development of new or expanding programs. Gail Mentzel, the Fostering Success Adviser at UW-Stout, will serve in this capacity. Gail will continue in her role at UW-Stout but will add this additional responsibility to lend her expertise to assist other campuses. Gail will be available to campuses to provide technical advice on executing the campuses' fostering success program as described in the application. She can also be utilized to support campuses that choose not to apply for the Fostering Success funds but are in initial stages of program development and would like guidance. The campus technical consultant will be a one-year position that will begin once the awarding process is complete.

(Cont.)

Institution Grant Funding

For this initial grant cycle, there are two funding sources available, with maximum requests for each.

2021-22 Funding: \$230,000

\$20,000 request maximum (One-time Grant Funding)

The initial funding in 2021-22 is not a continuing appropriation. Therefore, \$230,000 will be provided to campuses as a one-time funding stream. Campuses can apply for up to \$20,000 in funding from this source. Funds can be used for a specific one-time expense, or part of a year-one budget, knowing this amount would not be an ongoing appropriation.

2022-23 Funding: \$500,000

\$50,000 request maximum

The \$500,000 provided in the second year of the biennium is an ongoing appropriation. Campuses can apply for up to \$50,000, which can become a continuing appropriation to campuses if program goals and objectives are met.

Eligibility Criteria

For interested universities, main campus online applications must be submitted by **5 p.m. Monday, June 20, 2022**. No extensions will be granted.

Each application must include:

- A completed Fostering Success Application form that includes:
 - Proposal Cover Sheet
 - Funding Request Amount
 - Proposal Description (narrative form)
 - Proposal/Program Budget
 - Institution Endorsement Page
- Applications should explain how the program will positively impact the specified student population of former foster youth.

Evaluation & Timelines

Applications will be reviewed by a team of UWSA staff.

Included with the application is an application questionnaire. The included application questionnaire can be used as a guide for developing your application materials. However, knowing that each campus may develop custom programming, it is understood that not each item in the questionnaire will be relevant to each application. The questionnaire will be a guide for evaluators, but completion of the full questionnaire is not required for a positive evaluation.

Applications must be submitted through the [online portal](#) no later than 5 p.m. on June 20, 2022. No extensions will be made to the submission deadline. Application decision letters are expected to go out the week of June 27, 2022.

As this is the first iteration of the foster youth program applications, it is expected the application questions will evolve in future years or the application process may be discontinued with ongoing budget funding.

If you have additional questions, please contact Kathy Divine at kdivine@uwsa.edu or 608-263-1945.