

FISCAL YEAR 2018 GROW YOUR OWN GRANT DISTRIBUTION

Submitted for: Information.

Summary: This informational item will update the Board on the allocation of the Fiscal Year 2018 Grow Your Own Grant.

Action Requested: None.

FISCAL YEAR 2018 GROW YOUR OWN GRANT DISTRIBUTION

At the December 12, 2017, Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) Board meeting, the Executive Director was authorized to allocate the Fiscal Year 2018 appropriation for the Grow Your Own Grant (GYO) and was authorized to:

- 1) *continue to monitor and determine eligibility of institutions pursuant to the statute (110 ILCS 48/1) and the rules implementing that statute (23 Ill. Adm. Code 1085);*
- 2) *withhold grant awards until provided with signed grant agreements and other appropriate grant information and materials required by the Act and the rules;*
- 3) *determine the distribution of funds for administration, evaluation, contractual agreements and support of the GYO program;*
- 4) *equitably distribute grant awards to eligible GYO consortia:*
 - a. *with the primary focus on direct benefit to candidates; and*
 - b. *as determined based on Fiscal Year 2018 planning grant scoring criteria.*
- 5) *re-allocate funds between consortia, fund other consortia as necessary, and allocate any remaining funds at the end of the fiscal year.*

The IBHE staff determined \$73,300 or five percent of the grant would be set-aside to hire an external evaluator according to the GYO rules. This allowed for a final allocation amount of \$1,393,000.

The IBHE received three applications for Fiscal Year 2018 GYO grant funding. The following table displays the consortium fiscal agents who submitted applications, their requested grant amounts, and the final grant allocation amount.

Fiscal Agent	Requested Amount	Final Grant Allocation
Southern Illinois University Carbondale	\$ 232,490	\$ 219,028
Eastern Illinois University	\$ 123,040	\$ 115,915
Northeastern Illinois University	\$1,123,089	\$1,058,057
TOTAL	\$1,478,619	\$1,393,000

The IBHE staff completed grant agreements for each of the fiscal agents. The grant term in effect for each agreement is January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. At this time, initial payments have been completed to each fiscal agent. The following table reflects the reporting periods for each grant agreement.

Deliverable	Due by	Period Reporting
1	4/15/18	1/1/18 through 3/31/18
2	6/15/18	4/1/18 through 5/31/18
3	9/15/18	6/1/18 through 8/31/18
4	1/15/19	9/1/18 through 12/31/18

Each deliverable report at a minimum will contain the following:

- Grant expenditures for the reporting period utilizing the Uniform Budget Template format submitted in the original grant application. Along with actual dollar amounts, the report will include narrative detail of the expenditures; and
- Report will describe activities to meet the following:
 - Secure the participation and commitment of the required members and the optional members of a consortium to develop a plan for collective decision making that involves all partners and provides a mechanism for candidate input;
 - Attract or identify viable potential candidates for teacher preparation who are paraeducators, parent and community leaders, or other individuals interested in changing careers to become educators as contemplated by the Act, including assistance that will permit potential candidates to complete developmental coursework during their first four semesters of participation that will verify their academic readiness for enrolling in teacher preparation; and
 - Identify barriers to educator licensure for potential members of a given cohort, and the strategies and resources for mitigating those barriers and successfully ameliorating them within the programmatic, time and funding constraints of the program.

An Audit Report of the grant is due by June 29, 2019. The following rule explains the requirements.

23 Illinois Administrative Code 1085.100 a)9):

“Provide that the institution shall contract with an external auditor who is a certified public accountant licensed by DFPR to conduct an audit of the expenditure of grant funds provided under this program at the end of the grant period to verify that grant funds were expended pursuant to the grant agreement and not for unauthorized purposes; and”

The audit guidelines as indicated in 23 Illinois Administrative Code 1085.110, are as follows:

- a) To fulfill the audit requirements of this Part, the grantees shall contract with an external auditor who is a certified public accountant licensed by DFPR to perform an audit as specified in subsection (b).
- b) The external auditor shall:
 - 1) Receive copies of the institution's application, a certified grant agreement and a copy of this Part;
 - 2) Verify the expenditure of funds as provided for in this Part, and ensure that funds were expended on authorized expenditures listed in the grant agreement; and
 - 3) Provide an audit report to the Board including a description of the tests performed and the audit findings.
- c) In the event that an audit or other evidence establishes that an overpayment was made in a grant to an institution, a reimbursement to the Board shall be required. A reimbursement is required in the following situations:
 - 1) Grant funds were not expended within the grant period; or
 - 2) Grant funds were expended for purposes not authorized under the grant agreement.
- d) In the event that no audits are submitted, an institution shall reimburse the State for the total amount of the grant.