

Appendix D – PSDORT Grant Evaluation Priority Considerations

Priority Elements

In assessing applications and making grant decisions, we will consider the following:
• Geographic areas or districts most affected by the opioid crisis.
• Low per pupil spending or underfunding in school districts.
• Grant proposals focused on especially vulnerable students or categories of students where the potential gains are likely to be highest.
• Evidence of a clear logic of action in the proposal linking the problem or opportunity described to its root causes and the strategies proposed to address it.
• A commitment to sustain programs funded by the grant beyond the time of the grant.
• The expansion of model programs and direct services backed by evidence that can be replicated and scaled elsewhere.
• The development and testing of innovative practices that can be piloted for later replication and scale.
• Engagement and coordination with families, communities, and other civic actors such as government agencies that also have responsibility for students harmed by the opioid crisis in support of the actions proposed.
• Evidence that the funds received will be used to leverage other funds in support of students harmed by the opioid epidemic, thus increasing the impact of the grant and the resources available to these students.
Trust funds must be used for direct services or innovative projects that benefit students. They are not available to support research activities.