



**SCHOLASTIC  
OFFICE OF  
EDUCATIONAL  
ASSISTANCE**

# K-12 Competitive Grant Programs

## SMALLER LEARNING COMMUNITIES (SLC)

### OVERVIEW

Supports the development, implementation, or expansion of small, safe, and successful learning environments in large public high schools.

The USDOE expects these strategies to:

- ◆ Improve student achievement
- ◆ Increase the number of students mastering State content and performance standards
- ◆ Improve student attendance rates, graduation rates, and college enrollment rates
- ◆ Reduce the frequency of disciplinary actions
- ◆ Create a safe, drug-free learning environment

### USE OF FUNDS

1. Implementing and expanding strategies for creating the smaller learning community
2. Implementing and expanding effective and innovative changes in curriculum and instruction, geared to high State content standards and academic achievement standards
3. Providing professional development for school staff as it relates to the goals of the SLC
4. Involving parents, business representatives, local institutions of higher education, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, and other community members to provide links to students and their community
5. Obtaining the services of outside experts in the implementation of the SLC. Assistance may include curriculum development, leadership strategies, community consensus building, data collection, or evaluation designs
6. Providing stipends and release time for teachers, administrators, and community members involved in the implementation of the SLC

### KEY POINTS

- **The Absolute Priority requires that all SLC learning strategies and interventions be grounded in rigorous, scientifically based research, include age-appropriate materials, provide additional instructional and academic support, and provide sustained professional development**
- **SLC is a federally administered grant program; applicants make applications directly to the USDOE.**

### FEATURED SCHOLASTIC MATERIALS FOR SLC

- ▶ READ 180 Enterprise Edition
- ▶ READ 180 Fact & Fiction Collections
- ▶ READ 180 Seminar Series
- ▶ READ XL
- ▶ Scholastic Action Book Collections
- ▶ Lexile Paperback Libraries
- ▶ Scholastic Reading Inventory
- ▶ Scholastic Red

More materials aligned to SLC can be found at *The Scholastic Funding Connection*:

[www.scholastic.com/grants](http://www.scholastic.com/grants)