

ABSTRACT

SPECIAL FUND PROPOSAL

Section I. BASIC INFORMATION

Proposed Project Title: FAFSA Challenge

Grant Source and Agency: Connecticut State Department of Education

Total Amount Requested: \$21,605.00 **Due Date of Application:** 12/11/2023

System Contact: Dina Natalino, Supervisor of College & Career Pathways

Telephone #: 475-220-1785

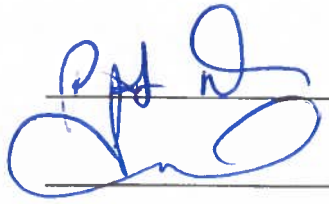
Description of Project: The CSDE is working with selected schools across the district to improve FAFSA completion rates. Professional development for school counselors, partnerships with local colleges & universities, along with New Haven Promise, and incentives for students will support this effort. Additionally, the state will recognize schools with the most growth with monetary awards at the completion of the FAFSA Challenge (summer 2024).

TARGET: Schools/Unit: James Hillhouse, Wilbur Cross, New Haven Academy, Metropolitan Business Academy, COOP High School
No. of Students: Approx. 700 **Grade Level(s):** Seniors
Eligibility Criteria: All students eligible to complete FAFSA to support post-secondary

GRANT PERIOD:	
From: 12/11/2023	
To: 06/30/2024	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New	
<input type="checkbox"/> Continuation	
Previous Bd. of Ed. Approval:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Planning	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operational	
Bd. of Ed. Information	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action	
<input type="checkbox"/> Information	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support	
<input type="checkbox"/> Competitive	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entitlement	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant	

PROPOSAL DEVELOPERS:
 Dina Natalino, *Supervisor of College & Career Pathways*

CENTRAL OFFICE USE ONLY – MUST REMAIN ON PAGE 1

ABSTRACT TIMETABLE	REVIEW
Return to: _____	
Received: _____	Grants Manager _____
Board of Education FINANCE & OPERATIONS Meeting Date <u>11/2/24</u>	Finance Manager 
Board of Education Meeting Date: <u>11/8/24</u>	Human Resource Manager _____
Due Date to Grantor: _____	

Proposed Project Title: CT FAFSA Challenge

Total Amount Requested: \$21,605.00

Proposed Grant Receiving Agency: NHPS – Breakdown of Grant: Wilbur Cross (\$5,990.00), James Hillhouse (\$7,115.00), New Haven Academy (\$1,000.00), COOP High School (\$6,500) and Metropolitan Business Academy (\$1,000.00)

SECTION II: FISCAL INFORMATION

PERSONNEL

# FT	#PT		COST
		Administrators	\$
	6	Teachers*	\$10,368
		Management	\$
		Paraprofessionals	\$
		Clerks	\$
		Others	\$
		Stipend	\$
		Longevity	
		SUBTOTAL	\$10,368

*School Counselors

NON-PERSONNEL

	COST
Supplies & Materials	\$600
Student Transportation	\$
Staff Travel	\$
Internal Evaluation	\$
External Evaluation	\$
Independent Contractors	\$
Equipment	\$
Other Purchased Services*	\$10,415
Indirect Costs, if allowed	\$
TOTAL NON-PERSONNEL	\$11,015

*Incentives for students & staff

FIXED COSTS:

Health Benefits	\$0
Pension (Paras & Mgmt.)	\$0
FICA/Medicare	\$151.50
Workmen's Compensation	\$70.50
SUBTOTAL	\$222.00
TOTAL PERSONNEL & FIXED COSTS	\$10,590

Notes:

- 1) **Total Personnel and Non-Personnel columns must equal grant total.**
- 2) **The Abstract budget must be aligned with the Grant Application budget/ED114.**
- 3) **All applications should budget for staff development (stipends) and evaluation wherever appropriate.**

SECTION IIA: BUDGET EXPLANATION

The following categories must be explained:

All Personnel: explain positions; **Salary:** if the grant pays a percent of salary and fixed costs, please describe below, breaking down **percentages and amounts to be paid by grant and by NHPS**. **Other;** and **All Non- Personnel items**. If additional space is needed, continue to next page.

*School counselors will be responsible for the following outside of normal school hours:

- Parent/Student outreach: Informing about the importance of FAFSA Completion
- Data collection: checking EdSight to track FAFSA completion status
- FAFSA Completion Support: Providing families with support by providing FAFSA Workshop information, connections with community partners, and/or in-house supports
- Student incentives for FAFSA Completion.

Personnel Costs

Disbursement based on funds allocated to each school.

James Hillhouse -

Personnel:

- 2 FAFSA Task Members/Counselors
- Salary: \$32 per hour - 6 hours per week/3 hours per counselor for 18 weeks (108 hours)

Total Personnel Costs: \$32.00 per hour for 108 hours = \$3,456

Fixed Costs:

- Medicare: @ 1.45 % x \$3,456 = \$50.50 (2 Counselors)
- Workman's Comp: 0068% x \$3,456 = \$23.50 (2 Counselors)

Total Fixed Costs: \$74.00 (2 school counselors)

Total Personnel & Fixed Cost for James Hillhouse = \$3,530

Wilbur Cross -

Personnel:

- 2 FAFSA Task Members/Counselors
- Salary: \$32 per hour - 6 hours per week/3 hours per counselor for 18 weeks (108 hours)

Total Personnel Costs: \$32.00 per hour for 108 hours = \$3,456

Fixed Costs:

- Medicare: @ 1.45 % x \$3,456 = \$50.50 (2 Counselors)
- Workman's Comp: 0068% x \$3,456 = \$23.50 (2 Counselors)

Total Fixed Costs: \$74.00 (2 school counselors)

Non-Personnel:

Total Personnel & Fixed Cost for Wilbur Cross = \$3,530

COOP High School -

Personnel:

- 2 FAFSA Task Members/Counselors
- Salary: \$32 per hour - 6 hours per week/3 hours per counselor for 18 weeks (108 hours)

Total Personnel Costs: \$32.00 per hour for 108 hours = \$3,456

Fixed Costs:

- Medicare: @ 1.45 % x \$3,456 = \$50.50 (2 Counselors)
- Workman's Comp: 0068% x \$3,456 = \$23.50 (2 Counselors)

Total Fixed Costs: \$74.00 (2 school counselors)

Total Personnel & Fixed Cost COOP HS = \$3,530

Non-Personnel Costs:

James Hillhouse -

- Other Purchased Services - (Incentives Budget): \$3,585

Wilbur Cross -

- Other Purchased Services - (Incentives Budget): \$2,460

Coop High School -

- Other Purchased Services (Incentives Budget): \$2,970

Metropolitan Business Academy –

- Other Purchased Services - \$1,000

New Haven Academy –

- Materials & Supplies: \$600
- Other Purchased Services - \$400

Incentives for FAFSA Completion & Supplies for FAFSA Events

Incentives for students that complete their FAFSA (each student will receive incentive upon FAFSA completion, and monthly raffles will be drawn for students that have completed their FAFSA); Supplies budget is to support school-wide FAFSA events.

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Proposed Grant Receiving Agency: NHPS – Breakdown of Grant:

- COOP (\$6,500)
- Wilbur Cross (\$5,990)
- James Hillhouse (\$7,115)
- New Haven Academy (\$1,000.00)
- Metropolitan Business Academy (\$1,000.00)

SECTION III: SYSTEM OBLIGATIONS

Project support from other programs: None Yes **Explain: New Haven Promise, Southern Connecticut State University, The College Place and the CSDE will provide supports for the FAFSA Challenge**

Linkage with other programs: None Yes **Explain: New Haven Promise – FAFSA Completion is necessary to access New Haven Promise scholarships; Pledge to Advance CT (PACT) Grant – FAFSA necessary to access free community college**

Local Fiscal costs, (include renovation): None Yes **Explain:**

Future local personnel obligations: None Yes **Explain:**

PROJECT OR GRANT REQUIREMENTS

- Local Maintenance Replication Parent Involvement
- In-Service Training Programs Advisory Committee Linkage w/other
- Non-Public School Involved Dissemination

Diana Natalino

ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS OR CONCERNS

SUBMITTING ADMINISTRATOR:

November 20, 2023

Signature

Date

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SECTION IV: PROPOSED PERSONNEL

List, **individually**, each position proposed by this grant application. **If no personnel**, please indicate N/A in the chart below

F/T	P/T	Classification	Position Description	Duration of Proposed Service	Proposed Employee	Current NHPS Employee Yes/No	If Yes Current Employee Number
	X	Personnel	School Counselor	18 weeks	Marchitto, Brianna	Yes	33658
	X	Personnel	School Counselor	18 weeks	Brigid Holms	Yes	13067
	X	Personnel	School Counselor	18 weeks	Anderlove Fequiere-Smith	Yes	35309
	X	Personnel	School Counselor	18 weeks	Cubeta-Yonamine, Haruki	Yes	42279
	X	Personnel	School Counselor	18 weeks	Elaina South	Yes	44943
	X	Personnel	Teacher	18 weeks	Robert Voelker	Yes	25902

V. PROPOSED CONTRACTS

List **individually**, each contract that will be prepared by this proposed project. If contractors will not be utilized, please indicate N/A in the chart below.

Proposed Independent Contractor	Brief Description of Service	Proposed Pay Rate	Proposed Total
N/A			

VI. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
Please Answer All Questions -- Use Additional Pages if Necessary

1. Please state specific goals for this grant or the grant period.

What?

The CT FAFSA Challenge is designed to spark and **support local innovations** to:

- Increase FAFSA completion rates
- Improve postsecondary access
- Close opportunity gaps

How will the state measure success for the 2023-2024 FAFSA Challenge?

- A statewide completion goal of 60% or an increase of approximately 5 percentage points per school from 2022-23
- **90% of FAFSA Challenge Schools will increase their FAFSA completion rate by 5 percentage points or more**
- 100% of high school schools in the FAFSA Challenge will strengthen their partnerships with institutions of higher education and/or community-based organizations

2. If this is a continuation grant, please detail past year goal performance and accomplishments. Use additional space if needed:

SY2023-2024 Baseline Data & Goals:

<u>School</u>	<u># of Seniors</u>	<u>2023 Completion</u>	<u>2024 Goal</u>	<u># Students Needed to reach goal</u>
Hillhouse	299	41.6%	47%	140
Cross	367	45.3%	53.6%	178
Co-Op	195120	66.0%	71%	85

****Both MBA and NHA reached their FAFSA Challenge goal last year and have earned a \$1000 award (which is included in this budget). They are no longer a part of the challenge this year.**

3. How does this grant address School Reform goals?

According to the National College Attainment Network, FAFSA completion **increases the likelihood of postsecondary enrollment by 84%**.

4. Please explain why this proposal is significant and important in relation to improving student and/or staff performance, as well as any additional pertinent information that is specific and relevant: (Include resume of person(s) providing service for contracts \$10,000 and over)

Participation in the FAFSA Challenge provides financial resources and professional learning that will have a positive impact on FAFSA completion. FAFSA Challenge schools have opportunities for collaboration on effective strategies across schools (in and out of district) for replication. As

participants in this grant, we will also have a laser-like focus on the data at a district, school, and student level to ensure progress toward the goal, and benchmarks that need to be met. This grant funding will also allow school staff time outside of the school day to address FAFSA completion, to outreach and inform families, and to have the support of community partners. Professional development opportunities to increase school counselor knowledge of FAFSA, and to learn from school counselors across the state through participation in monthly community of practice sessions, are an additional benefit of this grant. Student incentives will assist with FAFSA completion rates as well.

REQUIRED:

A COPY OF THE GRANT APPLICATION MUST BE ATTACHED TO THE ABSTRACT.