

May 31, 2024

Mr. Devon Horton, Superintendent  
DeKalb County Schools  
1701 Mountain Industrial Boulevard  
Decatur, GA 30083

Dear Superintendent Horton:

A grant in the total amount of \$493097 has been awarded to DeKalb County Schools to provide the education program for eligible students unable to leave UHS of Laurel Heights as required by O.C.G.A. § 20-2-133(b). The awarded grant is to be used for approved direct and indirect educational costs as defined by State Board Rule 160-5-2-.06, *Residential Facility Grant*.

Budgeted funds must be obligated within the award period for this grant. The grant award period is July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. The funds will be distributed in twelve equal periodic payments. A project completion report is due 30 days after the end of the grant period. There is no carryover provision for these grant funds. All grant funds must be used in accordance with assurances and the budget as approved by the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE).

The local educational agency (LEA) must make application for these awarded funds by submitting a budget through the GaDOE Consolidated Application for approval by the GaDOE. The deadline for the submission of this budget is September 27, 2024. Failure to submit this application\budget by the deadline may result in a loss of the allocated funding.

The LEA also has the fiscal responsibility for all state and federal educational funding provided to these approved residential facilities. Since an LEA's financial records for a residential facility served under O.C.G.A. § 20-2-133(b) are subject to audits, it is important that the LEA has appropriate internal controls in place to account for funds earmarked for a residential facility.

To ensure that the LEA has oversight of all grant budgets, amendments, and reimbursement requests for the FY25 Residential Facility State Grant, the following procedures have been put into place:

- The LEA and the approved residential facility must collaborate to develop an appropriate budget in accordance with the Local Unit of Administration (LUA) Chart of Accounts for submission to the GaDOE.
- The LEA is responsible for the submission of the budget for approval by GaDOE through the GaDOE's Consolidated Application. Budgets submitted directly to the GaDOE by residential facilities will not be accepted.

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Richard Woods, Georgia's School Superintendent

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- The LEA superintendent must sign off on assurances through the Consolidated Application ensuring that they have collaborated with the residential facility in developing the FY25 Residential Facility State Grant budget.
- The LEA is responsible for the fiscal management of all FY25 grants funds.

If you have further questions or concerns, contact the Georgia Department of Education at 404-657-2965.

Sincerely,



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