Colorado Department of Education
Building Excellent Schools Today

Building Excellent Schools Today – BEST

• Capital Construction Assistance Board
  • Nine-member appointed board

• Available to all public school districts, charter schools, institute charter schools, boards of cooperative educational services and the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind

• Per statute, priorities are:
  • Health, Safety, Security and Technology
  • Overcrowding
  • All other projects

• All applicants are required to provide matching money.
Bragging

BEST has awarded 354 grants in 141 school districts.

Bragging

BEST has generated $2.1 billion in capital projects and helped create nearly 30,000 jobs.
Bragging

BEST has improved health, safety and security in 524 schools and for nearly 225,000 students.

Capital Construction Assistance Fund Revenue Sources

$886 Million in Total Revenue
- 71.5% State Land Proceeds
- 21% Marijuana Excise Tax
- 4.5% Colorado Lottery
- 3% Interest

These revenues, plus matching grants, plus financing through Certificates of Participation has generated $2.1 billion in projects.
Revenue from the Land Board peaked at $92M in FY15. $63M average since FY14 Marijuana Excise Tax has accounted for 31% of revenues. $23M to Charter School Capital Construction Program. HB18-1070 increased amount of excise tax credited to the Assistance Fund from $40M cap to 90% of all tax collected. $55M estimated.

Facility Insight Assessments:

- In 2009, over 8,000 facilities assessed revealing $13.9 billion in capital construction needs.
- Began revisions in 2016. Complete 2021, and reassess every five years.
- 258 schools assessed (~19 million sq. ft. (16% of total schools sq. ft. in Colorado),
  - Approximately 46% increase in needs for schools assessed thus far
  - So far $2.3 Billion in capital needs has been identified
- This does not account for schools maintained, rehabilitated or reconstructed outside of the BEST grant.
- Grant applicants are prioritized for assessment.
- CDE assessments are not Master Plans!
- CDE assessments are not code inspections!
FY18-19 Grant Round Requested

- 52 applications from 44 unique districts or charter schools
- $882M total project cost
- $529M in State funds
- Last year 50 applications for $630M in total project cost
- Average $120M in projects against $270M in requests

FY18-19 Grant Round

- **Cash Grants:**
  - $84,947,023 (BEST) + $74,084,064 (match) = $159,031,087
- **Lease/Purchase Grants:**
  - $170,211,705 (BEST) + $104,448,008 (match) = $274,659,713
- **Total projects = $433,690,800!**
The Future?

- **FY19-20**
  - $100-120M cash projects
  - Approximate capacity for $70M in COP projects
    - Assumes 35% match
- **Beyond FY19-20**
  - **CASH**
    - $85M per year from BEST = $100-120M in cash projects
  - **COPs**
    - Average $120M in revenues
    - Less $85M in cash grants
    - Less $50M debt service on prior COPs capped by statute

Office of Capital Construction Funded Programs

**Charter School Capital Construction Program** funds are distributed to qualified charter schools based on pupil count. 12.5% of marijuana excise tax deposited into the Assistance Fund annually plus $20 million annually from the State Education Fund

**Emergency Grants** are available for unanticipated events that threaten health or safety or render all or a significant portion of a public school facility unusable for educational purposes

**Building Excellent Schools Today Grants**

- **Cash funds** are typically used to fund smaller projects, such as roofs, boiler replacements and fire alarms
- **Lease-Purchase funds** are typically used to fund larger projects, such as new schools, major renovations and additions. These grants are financed through Certificates of Participation and repaid with Assistance Fund revenues.
Match Requirements

• The board shall seek to be as equitable as practicable by considering the total financial capacity of each applicant.

• A school district shall not be required to provide any amount of matching moneys in excess of the difference between the school district’s limit of bonded indebtedness and the total amount of outstanding bonded indebtedness already incurred by the school district.

• The board may grant a waiver or reduction if:
  • The waiver or reduction would significantly enhance educational opportunity and quality;
  • The cost of complying with the matching moneys requirement would significantly limit educational opportunities; or
  • Extenuating circumstances deemed significant by the board make a waiver appropriate.

Types of Projects

[Diagram showing percentages of BEST projects funded by project type through FY2018-19]
Facility Insight Assessments

https://api.vfafacility.com/CDOEDashboard/stateLevel/state.jsp

Current Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Application Name</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>State Building Cost</th>
<th>State Building Grant</th>
<th>State Building Recommended</th>
<th>State Building Total Recommended</th>
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<td>Yuma</td>
<td>YUMA 1 MS HVAC and Boiler Replacement</td>
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<td>ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS DW School Safety &amp; Security</td>
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<td>CSI Global Village Academy</td>
<td>CSI GLOBAL VILLAGE ACADEMY - NORTHGLENN K-8 School Replacement</td>
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<td>La Plata</td>
<td>LA PLATA DURANGO 9-R HS Partial Roof Replacement</td>
<td>$200,828.77</td>
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<td>Las Animas</td>
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<td>Summit</td>
<td>SUMMIT SUMMIT RE-1 ES, MS, HS Safety and Security Upgrades</td>
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<td>YUMA WRAY RD-2 PK-12 Addition/Renovation</td>
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<td>SUMMIT SUMMIT RE-1 ES, MS, HS Roofing and HVAC Repairs</td>
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<td>Prowers</td>
<td>PROWERS LAMAR RE-2 HS &amp; HOPE Center Mechanical &amp; Security Upgrades</td>
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<td>THE VANGUARD SCHOOL ES &amp; HS Roof Replacement</td>
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<td>ALAMOSA RE-11J AHS Security Upgrade</td>
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<td>70 SWALLOWS CHARTER ACADEMY Modular Replacement</td>
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<td>ADAMS ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS International School at Thornton Middle Roof Replacement</td>
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<td>KIT CARSON R-1 New PK-12 School</td>
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<td>MONTROSE COUNTY RE-1J Multiple School Hazmat Abatement</td>
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<td>CANON CITY RE-1 CCMS Major Renovation &amp; Addition</td>
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<td>ST VRAIN VALLEY RE 1J Main Street School Renovation</td>
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<td>Mesa</td>
<td>MESA COUNTY VALLEY 51 Orchard Mesa MS Replacement</td>
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<td>POUDRE R-1 MS HS Dust Collection Systems</td>
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<td>STEAMBOAT SPRINGS RE-2 ES, MS, HS Roofing Replacement</td>
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<td>Chaffee</td>
<td>BUENA VISTA R-31 BVHS/MS Renovation &amp; Replacement</td>
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<td>La Plata</td>
<td>DURANGO 9-R District-wide Entry Lock Replacement</td>
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<td>Logan</td>
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<td>Kit Carson</td>
<td>BURLINGTON RE-6J District-Wide HVAC &amp; Electrical Renovation</td>
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<td>WALSH RE-1 ES and HS Safety and Security</td>
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<td>PEYTON 23 JT CTEF Roof Replacement</td>
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Total Recommended for Cash and Lease/Purchase: $255,158,727.69
Total Recommended for Lease/Purchase Grants: $170,211,704.99
Total Recommended for Cash Grants: $84,947,022.70

1/20/2019
1/20/2019

**BEST Grant Cycle Timeline**

- **January-February**
  - Application for financial assistance is open to applicants
  - Year Round
  - Work with applicants to evaluate their facility needs.

- **March-April**
  - Division Staff reviews applications & summarizes them in a Summary Book for the CCAB
  - April-May
  - CCAB reviews Summary Book

- **June**
  - State Board meeting to approve CCAB recommendations

**BEST Financial Assistance Cycle Timeline FY2019-20**

- **September-December 2018**
  - BEST Director sends out notifications for upcoming grant cycle
  - BEST Director receives applications for financial assistance & conducts site visits

- **January-February 2019**
  - BEST Director/CCAB reviews applications
  - BEST Director issues assessment reports & forwards assessment report comments to the State Board

- **April-May 2019**
  - State Board issues recommendations
  - BEST Director issues assessment reports & forwards assessment report comments to the State Board

- **June-August 2019**
  - BEST Director issues assessment reports & forwards assessment report comments to the State Board

- **No later than July 15, 2019**
  - BEST Board
  - Capital Development
  - BEST Director
  - Administration
  - BEST Board
  - Capital Development
  - BEST Director
  - Administration
#BESTschoolsCO

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Questions?