

Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund

2021 Grant Application

Application Deadline: March 15, 2022

Rev. 12/17/2021

PROGRAM CRITERIA

Date: _____

BACKGROUND

The Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund was established to assist counties with their critical public school building capital needs. Grants from the NBPSCF are funded with revenue from the NC Education Lottery. Grant funds are available to eligible counties for construction of new school buildings and additions, repairs, and renovations of existing school facilities.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

- Guidance Issued December 17, 2021
- Application Deadline March 15, 2022
- Award Announcements April 12, 2022 (anticipated)

ELIGIBILITY

Counties with an adjusted market value of taxable real property of less than \$40 billion are eligible to apply for a grant under the NBPSCF program. The list of eligible counties is published by DPI annually prior to the NBPSCF application period. The list of eligible counties for FY2021-22 is available here:

<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/district-operations/school-planning/capital-funding>

Grant funds must be used only for construction of new school buildings and additions, repairs, and renovations. Grant funds cannot be used for real property acquisition or for capital improvements to administrative buildings.

PROGRAM FUNDING

Funding available for the NBPSCF grant awards totals \$395 million for FY2021-22.

MATCHING FUNDS

Counties receiving a grant are required to provide local matching funds from county funds, other non-state funds, or a combination of these sources, in accordance with G.S. 115C-546.11. Local matching fund requirements range from 0% to 35% of the grant amount, and are published by DPI annually prior to the NBPSCF application period. The local match requirement applicable to the project is the published local match requirement in effect at the time of the grant award. Local matching requirements for FY2021-22 grant applicants are available here: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/district-operations/school-planning/capital-funding>

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MAXIMUM AWARD

Grant award maximums are as follows:

- Up to \$30 million for an Elementary School
- Up to \$40 million for a Middle School
- Up to \$50 million for a High School

Applications will be reviewed in the context of projected enrollment to evaluate the reasonableness of project size and scope.

REPORTING

Grant recipients are required to submit a report by April 1 of each year, with each grant funds distribution request, and upon completion of the project, detailing: the use of grant funds, progress on the project, and impact of the project on the county's school capital plan.

Grant funds will be disbursed in a series of payments based on the progress of the project. To receive a distribution, the grant recipient must submit a request for distribution, along with documentation of the expenditures for which the distribution is requested, and evidence that the matching requirement has been met. DPI will provide grant recipients with Reporting and Distribution Request forms following announcement of awards.

AGREEMENT

A county receiving Needs-Based grant funds is required to enter into an agreement with the Department of Public Instruction detailing the use of grant funds, in accordance with G.S. 115C-546.12. DPI will provide grant recipients with Agreement Forms following announcement of awards. Signed Agreements are due within 60 days of award announcement.

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EVALUATION

Applications are evaluated on critical needs, budget detail, and the following criteria per G.S. 115C-546.10:

Prioritization	Definition/Calculation/Data Source
Prior Recipient	Counties previously awarded grant funds from the NBPCF that have not yet started construction of the project may apply to increase the grant award. [SL 2021-180, 4.4.(b)]
Tier Designation	Counties designated as development tier one areas.
Ability to Generate Tax Revenue	Total revenue generated by a one-cent per \$100 valuation increase in the county property tax rate. (NC State Treasurer, Analysis of Debt of North Carolina Counties 6-30-2020)
Ratio of Debt to Tax Revenue	<u>Debt</u> : Sum of County Debt from [General Obligation Bonds, Installment Purchase Debt, Special Obligation Bonds, QZABs and QSCBs, Certificates of Participation] (NC State Treasurer, Analysis of Debt of North Carolina Counties 6-30-2020) <u>Revenue</u> : Sum of County Revenues from Property Taxes, Other Taxes, and Sales Tax, FY 2019-20 (NC Department of Revenue, Statistical Abstract of North Carolina Taxes 2020)
Critical Deficiency	The extent to which a project will address critical deficiencies in adequately serving the current and future student population.
Facility Construction	Projects with new construction or complete renovation of existing facilities.
Facility Replacement	Projects that will consolidate two or more schools into one new facility.
Applicant Status	Counties that have not received a grant in the previous three years.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Date: _____

SUBMIT ONE APPLICATION PER SCHOOL CAMPUS – A PROJECT MAY INCLUDE MULTIPLE BUILDINGS

County: _____

Primary Contact: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

email: _____

School Unit: _____

Primary Contact: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

email: _____

APPLICATION SUBMITTAL

Submit completed applications and supporting materials by Tuesday, March 15, 2022 via email to:

Nathan Maune | School Planning Section Chief | 984-236-2919 | nathan.maune@dpi.nc.gov

SUBMITTAL CHECKLIST – SUBMIT ALL FILES IN PDF FORMAT

- Contact Information
- Application Form
- Project Narrative
- Budget Estimate
- Additional Documentation (as appropriate)
- Signed Assurance Page

PROJECT INFORMATION

Date: _____

Has this project received a previous NBPSCF grant? YES NO

If YES, provide date and dollar amount of previous award(s): _____

Was this project identified in the 5-year plan in the 2020-21 Facility Needs Survey? YES NO

If not, provide explanation and attach equivalent information:

Will this project replace any existing facilities? YES NO

If YES, which school(s): _____

How many students will be served by this project? _____

Has Advanced Planning been done for this project? YES NO

Have Construction Documents been completed for this project? YES NO

Anticipated or Actual Bid Date: _____

Estimated Start Date of Construction: _____

Estimated Completion Date of Construction: _____

PROJECT BUDGET

Date: _____

Estimated Project Costs	Local (non-State)	NBPSCF Grant Funds	Total
Planning	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Construction	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other Costs*	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

*Project costs normally categorized as ‘owner’s direct costs’ on a construction project – may include items such as site surveys, materials testing, site utilities, geotechnical reports, etc. Land acquisition costs are not eligible.

Source(s) of required Local Matching Funds:

Have any of the Local Matching Funds been expended at the time of application? ___ YES ___ NO

If YES, provide amount expended: _____

If YES, provide description of work: _____

Estimated Project Expenditures by Fiscal Year (show estimated period over which funds will be spent by Fiscal Year)

Total Expenditures	2021-22 or earlier	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25 or later	Total
Local Match (Non-State Funds)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Requested NBPSCF Grant Funds*	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

*Total requested grant funding cannot exceed maximum allowed under G.S. 115C-546.11(c) .

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

Date: _____

Any project funded with a grant from the Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund must follow the same review process as any other LEA capital project.

- A registered Architect and/or registered Engineer shall prepare the drawings and specifications in accordance with G.S. 133-1 through 133-4.1, as applicable.
- School Planning design review is required. Design documents must be submitted at appropriate intervals during design – SD, DD, and CD. Neither the LEA nor the County shall invest any funds in construction of the project until the review process is completed.
- Transmittal of drawings and specifications to School Planning must include the form at: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/media/581/download>
- Design of the project should be in compliance with DPI School Planning Guidelines: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/district-operations/school-planning>
- DPI Facility Design Guidelines can be found at: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/media/569/download>
- DPI School Science Facility Requirements can be found at: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/media/570/download>
<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/media/571/download>
- For projects involving the closing of an existing school, the LEA must follow these procedures: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/media/13311/download>
- For projects involving the demolition of an existing school building, the LEA must follow the closing procedure noted above and must submit a Feasibility and Cost Analysis: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/media/544/download>

ASSURANCE PAGE

Date: _____

By signing below, we assure the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction that we are officials of our respective organizations and we are authorized to submit this application on behalf of these organizations.

We certify the following:

- The information provided in this proposal is correct and complete.
- The project described in the application is within the parameters of the Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund as required in Article 38B of G.S. 115C-546, and that all of the required local funding is available and designated as a match for this project.
- All Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund grant proceeds and the required Local Matching funds will be used for the construction project described in the application.
- We will work cooperatively with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in monitoring and evaluating the progress of the project to meet statutory reporting requirements. We will report on project status and State and local funds expended by April 1 of each year, at the time of each distribution request, and within 90 days of project completion.
- Upon receiving a Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund grant award, we will enter into an agreement with the Department of Public Instruction detailing the use of grant funds, in accordance with G.S. 115C-546.12.
- All applicable federal and state laws will be adhered to, including promotion of equal opportunity without regard to race, color, religion, gender, age, disability, political affiliation, or national origin.
- Generally accepted fiscal control and accounting procedures will be followed to ensure proper disbursement and accounting of funds from the Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund grant proceeds and required Local Matching funds.

(Signature – Chair, County Commissioners)

(Date)

(Signature – Chair, Board of Education)

(Date)