

HB21-1006 Fifth-day School Enrichment Programs Funding

Rep. Esgar & Will / Sen. Garcia & Hisey

HB21-1006 will create the fifth-day supplemental enrichment and support grant program to award grants on a 3-year cycle to eligible community-based nonprofits that provide supplemental out of school time (OST) programs on the fifth day for children in schools that have a 4-day school week. Of the 178 school districts in Colorado, 111 (62%) currently utilize the four-day school week. This accounts for more than 80,000 Colorado students.

Who is eligible for the grant?

To be eligible for this grant program, organizations must have experience providing before- and after-school programs, serve a majority of children from low-income families, and have a relationship with a local school district that serves children in the program.

Grant funds will be used to support students' academic development on the fifth day of a 4-day school week, to provide meals for students attending the program, and to acquire educational materials and necessary technology to provide supplemental enrichment programming.

Impact of OST Programs:

Community-based organizations are responsive to community needs; programming varies from location to location. For example, Boys & Girls Clubs programming includes homework help, academic enrichment, career readiness, physical education, nutrition and healthy lifestyles, arts, providing meals, and evidence-based prevention programs. Fifth-day programs are community-based solutions that offer working parents a safe place for their kids to go during the traditional workday. According to *The Four-Day School Week Information Manual* released in 2020 by the Colorado Department of Education, "The issue is the full day of childcare needed on the fifth day." Four-day school weeks are widespread and popular in Colorado. HB21-1006 would ensure that community providers can continue to fill the need for full day support for students on the fifth day, while providing additional supplemental enrichment opportunities, through grants to support their invaluable work in communities across Colorado.



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