

July 8, 2019

New Opportunity for Non-Public Schools re: NYSTL and the Core Curriculum Program

Dear Principal/Administrator,

As a participant in the NYSTL textbook loan program, the New York City Department of Education (DOE) would like to offer you an opportunity to participate in the Core Curriculum program that is available to NYCDOE public schools.

When a public school opts-in to the Core Curriculum program, the school commits all of its NYSTL funding (except the library allocation) to this purpose and the DOE then provides the school with a specific selection of curricula/programs that have been vetted and approved to be in the Core Curriculum program. This can be advantageous to schools financially – the DOE can leverage its substantial buying power on behalf of these schools and schools may, in certain cases and with demonstrated need, spend in excess of their NYSTL allocations. Before doing so, a review process occurs to ensure that the school is ordering proportional to its enrollment and needs the requested instructional program. Should any NYSTL funding remain at the conclusion of the school's ordering, it will be returned to the school during the designated NYSTL return windows. Note that NYSTL library book funding cannot be used for textbooks and is not used in the Core Curriculum program.

Non-public schools will now also have the same option to opt-in to the DOE's Core Curriculum program, subject to the same general guidelines followed by public schools as described above. A non-public school seeking to opt-in will similarly need to commit all of its non-library NYSTL funding to the purchase of the Core Curriculum instructional programs it is ordering. The DOE will conduct a review process similar to that for public schools, including verifying the non-public school's inventory and textbook and curriculum needs, before any spend takes place. As with public schools, orders in excess of a school's NYSTL allocation will be permitted only after the completion of this process. Non-public schools will be limited to newly added curricula if they wish to opt-in. As with public schools, should any NYSTL funding be left unused, it would be returned to the non-public school.

If your school is interested in pursuing this option for the upcoming School Year 2019-2020 and would like to opt-in to the DOE's Core Curriculum program, please contact us by emailing nps@schools.nyc.gov no later than July 19, 2019. Schools that have already begun to spend their NYSTL allocation will not be eligible for this program in School Year 2019-2020.

Opting-in means that a school's NYSTL funds be held until the Fall for Core Curriculum ordering and that the school would like to purchase some or all of the designated K-5 math program, Pearson enVisionmath 2.0 NYC, and/or some or all of the designated K-8 science program, Amplify Science, through this year's Core Curriculum program. Schools can choose to purchase one or both of these curricula and can also choose for which grades to purchase within the designated instructional program. We will reach out to interested schools with additional information as soon as it is available.

Schools wishing not to participate in Core Curriculum will receive their NYSTL allocations and may continue to purchase materials as usual. Schools that do not opt-in to Core Curriculum by July 19, or begin spending funds prior to July 19, will not have another opportunity to participate in the program again until the next school year.

More information about the programs, ordering guidance, program policies, and timeline will be forthcoming to those schools opting-in for School Year 2019-2020.

Thank you.