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## Grants Consortium

GRREC's Grant Consortium began in 2001 upon the recommendation of Superintendents. The concept was to establish a way for providing funds (\$1,000/district) for the Grant Writer position at GRREC that would be separate from district membership dues.

Being part of the Consortium provides districts with an invitation to participate in Cooperative grants written on behalf of participating districts. When invited, districts are always able to participate or decline based on the nature and/or timing of the project, district or school resources to support implementation of the project, or other reasons. As is the case with grants, not all districts will receive an invitation to participate in every grant. The specificity of grant requirements and conditions, and the amount of funding can limit significantly the number of districts/schools able to participate. GRREC uses a variety of data points to determine which districts most closely match the grant requirements and therefore qualify for the project or services.

GRREC takes advantage of as many grant opportunities as possible. These opportunities provide grant funding to projects and initiatives that match current needs and areas of focus for GRREC districts. In 2019, GRREC received \$8 million in Federal grant funding for use over the next five years for programs in STEM/computer science and mental health. Since 2001, GRREC has received well over \$100 million on behalf of our districts and schools for various services. GRREC considers receiving and administering grants as a major component of our overall service and support to our member districts.

Participating in the Grant Consortium also provides grant-writing support to districts writing grants. GRREC will review and provide feedback on proposals/applications that are being written by districts (or schools within those districts) who participate in the Grants Consortium. In addition, if many Consortium districts are applying for the same grant, GRREC will provide an informational session and workday to provide direct assistance to those districts at GRREC.

Members of the Grant Consortium also receive monthly grant opportunity emails from GRREC's Grant Writer. These emails contain numerous potential grant opportunities for districts, schools, individual classrooms or teachers.

This year all GRREC districts will be automatically opted in to the Grant Consortium. Should a district wish not to participate in the Consortium, they will need to send a letter to our Director of Finance, Dan Jones, signed by the Superintendent (or an email directly from the Superintendent) stating they do not wish to participate in the Consortium.

If you have any questions about the Grants Consortium, please don't hesitate to contact GRREC's Grant Writer, Tara Thomas at [Tara.Thomas@grrec.org](mailto:Tara.Thomas@grrec.org), or Melissa Biggerstaff at [Melissa.Biggerstaff@grrec.org](mailto:Melissa.Biggerstaff@grrec.org).