

**SCHOOL BOARD
CONTRACT SUMMARY FORM
2020-2021**

Contract Name: Accelerate Higher Education Engagement (RIC and CCRI)

Action Sought by School Board: Approval of a Contract Approval of an RFP to Solicit Services

Amount: \$400,000

Source of Funds: Elementary and Secondary schools Emergency Relief (ESSER) Set-Aside (Contingent Upon Funding) District-Based School-Based

Length of Contract (list start date and end date): August 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

PPSD Contact: Kevin Gallick

Contract Type: New Renewal Extension Amendment

Board of Contract & Supply and City Council (if applicable) Approval Date(s): N/A

Staff Recommendation & Analysis

Provide 1-2 sentences for staff recommendation.

Provide 3-5 bullet points for staff analysis that supports the recommendation.

Staff Recommendation:

PPSD recommends approval of payments to the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) and Rhode Island College (RIC) in support of the Accelerate program for Providence seniors in a total amount not to exceed \$400,000. CCRI and RIC are providing an immersive senior year high school experience for academically eligible students which provides students the opportunity to attend college full-time. Students are provided access to an early college high school experience and are provided textbooks, instructional materials, and other supports.

Staff Analysis:

The funding provided by ESSER supported Providence Public School District (PPSD) in making early college programming available to academically eligible high school seniors throughout the district through the Accelerate program. Eligible students will have:

- Received a 410 on the PSAT in ELA and Math, and have earned a GPA of 2.8 or higher, and have a 90% attendance or higher, or
- Successfully completed of PrepareRI Readiness Project course offered through SAIL, or
- Successful completion of PrepareRI summer internship program

The rationale for this program was the need for students to have access to the same slate of advanced courses that they had prior to the pandemic through virtual enrollment. In order to appropriately challenge students, PPSD partnered with the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) and Rhode Island College (RIC) to offer enrollment that both fulfills graduation requirements and provides college credit. Through CCRI, students have the opportunity to enroll in four different programs including Business, Economics, Data Analytics, Education, Government, Human Services, Health Administration and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. Through RIC, students have the opportunity to enroll in two different programs including Pathway to Honors and Excellence in College for English Learners.

Additionally, PPSD partnered with College Crusade for this program. This organization is one of the most respected voices in Rhode Island in regards to supporting the successful transition to college for low-income and first generation students. College Crusade also has a strong presence in many of PPSD's high schools through the work of College Crusade Counselors. This collaboration helped to ensure that the program was appropriately developed and implemented to meet the needs of all of our students.

Alternatives

Provide a numbered list for what the alternatives are to this recommendation.

There are no alternatives to this recommendation at this time.

In one numbered list, describe the deliverables of the contract and the projected impact upon or relationship to student achievement.

Provide a numbered list of every deliverable identified in the contract and summarize the contract's overall relationship to student achievement.

- 1) College Crusade will use reasonable good faith efforts to plan and support participation goals for the Accelerate Program.
- 2) College Crusade will use reasonable good faith efforts to make public announcements with respect to the Accelerate program to acknowledge and give credit to the respective schools and PPSD; to share public announcements with respect to the Accelerate program with PPSD prior to publication to the extent practicable, and to obtain permission from PPSD (Office of Communication) before using PPSD's logos in any public announcement.
- 3) College Crusade will use reasonable good faith efforts to provide regular data and outcome reports to help improve the operations and focus of the Programs and provide accountability for an agreed set of shared youth and Program outcomes.
- 4) College Crusade will use reasonable good faith efforts to meet with relevant PPSD officials on a monthly basis to review program progress and adhere to accountability requirements that include, providing the District with a full listing of participation targets activities, goals and outcomes listed in Appendix B.

- 5) College Crusade will use reasonable good faith efforts to collaborate with the Supervisor of Scheduling, Guidance, and College & Career Readiness school level guidance counselors on strategies for ensuring student success.
- 6) College Crusade will use reasonable good faith efforts to actively recruit youth for the Accelerate Program and coordinate the recruitment plans with the school leadership and faculty.
- 7) College Crusade will use reasonable good faith efforts to facilitate acquisition of documentation regarding intended student participation in the Accelerate program to PPSD leadership.
- 8) College Crusade will use reasonable good faith efforts to facilitate a process by which prior approval from each school's guidance department for Accelerate students enrolling in any college course is secured. Ensure that College Crusade Director of Postsecondary Success and Accelerate Coach meet regularly with lead guidance counselors, CCRI and RIC Accelerate staff to align strategies and coordinate services.
- 9) College Crusade will use reasonable good faith efforts to ensure that Accelerate students are offered ample opportunity to receive services related to common application, FAFSA, college essay writing, and CSS profile completion opportunities.
- 10) College Crusade will use reasonable good faith efforts to provide informational sessions on the college search process and URI Talent Development Program admission.
- 11) College Crusade will use reasonable good faith efforts to conduct periodic surveys to continually assess student program satisfaction and level of engagement. Survey results will be shared with PPSD and used to further enhance program effectiveness.
- 12) College Crusade will use reasonable good faith efforts to ensure that College Crusade Accelerate Coach provides:
 - a) direct, career and academic advising to Accelerate students as they pursue their postsecondary education,
 - b) assists students with course registration (predominantly for the spring semester) and understanding general education requirements, and academic policies and procedures.
 - c) collaborates with the High School and Postsecondary teams to provide educational workshops on college transition, enrollment, and success, and direct Accelerate students to these events as appropriate.
 - d) Communicates with families as needed to encourage student success.
 - e) Develop and deliver supplemental programming to address specific needs identified among Accelerate students.
 - f) Discuss and help to clarify each student's education objectives and assist with degree planning.
 - g) Collaborate with the High School and Postsecondary teams to provide educational workshops on college transition, enrollment, and success, and direct Accelerate students to these events as appropriate.
- 13) College Crusade will use reasonable good faith efforts to provide an end of year report to PPSD and participating schools on program goals and impact;
- 14) Each school will use reasonable good faith efforts to identify a point person to meet biweekly/monthly with and support the implementation of the Accelerate Program, and share phone numbers for emergency contacts.
- 15) Each school will use reasonable good faith efforts to communicate school improvement goals with College Crusade and work to coordinate and maximize efforts to achieve common goals with College Crusade and PPSD.
- 16) Each school will use reasonable good faith efforts to meet at least quarterly with College Crusade senior management to review outcome reports, assess progress and set implementation goals with respect to the Accelerate Program.

- 17) PPSD and each School will use reasonable good faith efforts to identify partner schools in which the College Crusade will recruit for the Program.
- 18) PPSD and each School will use reasonable good faith efforts to identify a school liaison within each partner school to serve as the primary contact person for the Program.
- 19) PPSD and each School will use reasonable good faith efforts to require all Accelerate students to complete the College Crusade of Rhode Island FERPA form prior to semester start.
- 20) PPSD and each School will use reasonable good faith efforts to provide the College Crusade Director of Postsecondary Success and Accelerate Success Coach with detailed list of events and deadlines required to achieve agreed upon goals;
- 21) PPSD and each School will use reasonable good faith efforts to coordinate student recruitment, college course enrolment and engagement plans so College Crusade staff can support and integrate communications with families and the schools with respect to the Accelerate Program.
- 22) PPSD and each School will use reasonable good faith efforts to ensure that all communications pertaining to Accelerate students' high school transcripts, graduation requirements, and college application and admissions deadlines are communicated in a timely manner to the Director of Postsecondary Success and Accelerate coach.

In no more than three paragraphs, describe the accountability measures that will ensure that the vendor meets all requirements set forth in the contract and that the district is able to maintain a record of the quality of the services. These need to be performance-based in nature.

Every contract should include explicit language requiring vendor accountability, i.e. required program evaluation or the submission of a final report summarizing progress against each itemized deliverable.

PPSD, in partnership with RIC, CCRI, and College Crusade, intend to study the longitudinal impact on the degree completion rates, and long-term economic impact of having students participate in Accelerate. The work undertaken within this program will be added to the project management plans set between the state and the district leaders to ensure there is an alignment of equity-based priorities as related to efforts to combat COVID-19 learning loss and implementing key components of the district's Turnaround Action Plan (TAP). As part of the TAP, PPSD has identified a number of key metrics that will be used to measure progress year to year and to ultimately see change and improvement over the next five years. Achieving these goals by 2024- 25 will require Providence to be on pace with the top quartile (25 percent) of schools in Rhode Island. As such, PPSD is already positioned to monitor the percentage of PPSD students who graduate with college credit, AP credit or a CTE credential with a goal of increasing from the AY18-19 baseline of 35% to 69% during AY24-25.

Specifically, this program will be used to pursue additional programmatic support to reclaim any lost postsecondary opportunities from COVID-19 for Providence seniors. These activities will further empower students to take control of their learning trajectories and secure rich engagement in early college experiences related to college-level courses and virtual enrollment. The success of these activities will rely on state partnership (i.e Accelerate) and community partnerships (i.e. College Crusade) to lean on accelerating student engagement with postsecondary opportunities. In addition, our Deputy Superintendent of Learning Khechara Bradford holds a seat on RIDE's Learning, Equity & Accelerated (LEAP) Task Force and she will be able to build awareness and update postsecondary partners on these projects and their emerging results.

In a short numbered list, describe spending breakdown by type of service.

If the contract includes multiple components, detail the total proposed contract amount by type of service, i.e. licensing fees, purchased services, professional development, technical assistance, supplies and materials, etc.

Tuition, and textbooks for students attending CCRI and RIC.

Proposed Budget	Dollar Amount
75 students attending Rhode Island College (\$190,000) and Community College of Rhode Island (\$210,000) Full-Time	\$400,000
Total	\$400,000