

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY



PREPARATION FOR ACADEMIC TRANSITION TO HIGHER EDUCATION (PATH)

Submission Deadline

October 25, 2024

Fiscal Award Period

January 1, 2025 - June 30, 2027



CONNECTICUT
Higher Education



Connecticut Office of Higher Education Announces

Notice of Funding Availability Minority Advancement Program (MAP)

The Office of Higher Education (OHE) is pleased to announce the availability of state funds to support new Preparation for Academic Transition to Higher Education (PATH) programs to start in the 2024-2027 grant cycle.

What is MAP?

In 1983, Volume 3, Title 10a, Chapter 185, Section 10a-11 of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut established the Minority Advancement Program (MAP), administered by the Office of Higher Education (OHE). MAP and its grant programs (ConnCAP and PASS) have provided academic support services to thousands of Connecticut's disadvantaged minority middle, high school, and undergraduate college students since its inception. HB5239 introduces a new grant program to OHE effective July 1, 2024, called Preparation for Academic Transition to Higher Education (PATH). Disadvantaged minority students often have limited resources and are underserved, limiting their academic achievement. MAP supports educational equity by providing much-needed resources and improving academic achievement among Connecticut's minority students. The program's efforts help increase educational equity and the diversity of students attending and graduating from Connecticut's colleges and universities.

PATH funding is open to all eligible Connecticut nonprofit organizations on a competitive basis. Upon issuing a request for proposals, an OHE panel will assess the proposals based on program rationale, design, and outcomes, focusing on the proposed impact on retention and graduation rates and demonstrated institutional capacity and support. Once applicants are selected, OHE staff provides oversight and program monitoring for compliance. In addition, OHE continuously evaluates grantee activities to assess program efficacy and supports grantees by providing feedback and best practices for improving program design and delivery.

Who is Eligible to Apply?

PATH

PATH is a competitive grant program that partners with Connecticut's Nonprofit Organizations (NPOs) to develop linkages between Connecticut's public high schools and NPOs to offer college preparation services to disadvantaged junior and senior students.

The PATH program aims to assist academically high-achieving disadvantaged students in the college application process and help them find and apply for scholarships and grants. The PATH grant has two primary goals: 1) to help students apply to a postsecondary degree program and 2) to help students apply for the FAFSA and finance a postsecondary degree program through sourcing scholarships and grants. These goals provide participating students with various student-supportive services that enhance their likelihood of enrolling in a postsecondary degree program at a Connecticut college or university.

Eligible applicants will:

- An individual NPO in Connecticut can apply for a grant to carry out a PATH initiative.
- Eligible NPOs will have a demonstrated history of excellence in providing college awareness and preparation services to high school students, covering college applications, financial aid (FAFSA), and sourcing scholarships and grants.
- Demonstrate existing linkages with one or more public school system(s), evidenced in the request for proposal application submission.
- Require all dedicated PATH program staff to attend program meetings, training, or site visits by OHE (the grantee will receive advance notice of all meetings, training, or visits).
- Prepare and submit all required reports and deliverables using supplied forms following OHE's format, descriptions, and dates, comprehensively addressing all qualitative and quantitative inquiries.

Important Dates

Request for Proposal Announced	Sept 27, 2024
Application Submission Deadline	Oct 25, 2024
Grant Award Notification	Nov 8, 2024
Fiscal Award Period	1/1/25—6/30/27
Performance Period	1/1/25—6/30/27
Year 1 Performance Period	1/1/25—6/30/25

Questions?

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