

New York State Stronger Connections Grant

The Stronger Connections Grant Program is a competitive grant program, authorized under the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act of 2022.

SCG Purpose

The grant program is intended to support high-need Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) in establishing safe, healthy, and supportive learning opportunities and environments, and to prevent and respond to acts of bullying, violence, and hate that impact our school communities at individual and systemic levels.

High Need LEA Requirements

- A minimum of 40% of students in the LEA are eligible for free meals.
- A minimum of 10% of the student population is chronically absent.

SCG Uses of Funds

- School-based mental health services providers and programs
- Mentoring or other relationship-building activities
- Programs or activities that help prevent bullying and harassment
- Physical security including security equipment, locks, technology, and devices (e.g., metal detectors)
- School safety personnel including school safety/resource officers or law enforcement (contracted or non-contracted)
- Implementation of school-wide multi-tiered systems of supports, positive behavioral interventions, and other efforts to improve positive school climates and reduce exclusionary discipline
- Programs or activities that address community violence intervention and prevention
- After-school programs for students (academic, enrichment, etc.)
- School dropout prevention, school reentry programs, and other efforts to keep students on track for academic outcomes
- Professional development for educators and school staff, aligned with purposes of the Stronger Connections Grant Program (e.g., creating safe and welcoming school environments, promoting culturally and linguistically responsive practices, etc.)
- Other (e.g., threat assessments, sexual abuse awareness prevention programs, anti-drug programs, healthy lifestyle, etc.)

SCG Awardee Profile

44 New York State LEAs awarded \$69.3 million over 3 years.

LEA type:

- 3 – Large City
- 4 – Small City
- 8 – Large CSD
- 9 – Medium CSD
- 9 – Small CSD
- 11 – Charter School

SCG Awardees by County

- 2 Bronx
- 2 Brooklyn
- 2 Broome
- 1 Cayuga
- 1 Chautauqua
- 1 Chemung
- 1 Columbia
- 1 Delaware
- 1 Dutchess
- 7 Erie
- 1 Greene
- 1 Livingston
- 1 Manhattan
- 2 Monroe
- 2 Nassau
- 1 Niagara
- 2 Onondaga
- 1 Rensselaer
- 1 Rockland
- 1 Saratoga
- 1 St. Lawrence
- 2 Steuben
- 2 Suffolk
- 1 Sullivan
- 1 Tioga
- 1 Tompkins
- 3 Wayne
- 1 Westchester

Stronger Connections Grant – Student Impact *

\$450.63 – Average per Pupil Allocation over 3 years

2023-2024

153,817 - 2023-2024 K-12 Student Enrollment in SCG Awarded LEAs

113,531 – Low-Income Students

21,966 – English I Learners

28,654 – Students with Disabilities

93 – Migrant

4,641 – Homeless

460 – Foster Care

101 – Parents in Armed Forces

Demographic Data

724 - American Indian or Alaska Native

35304 - Black or African American

53766 - Hispanic

8884 - Asian/Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

47439 - White

7700 - Multiracial

*All student data is pulled from 2023 BEDS Day Data.