November 13, 2019

Dear District Superintendent:

The Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) is committed to preventing substance and tobacco use among youth, including the recent nationwide vaping epidemic. In light of recent news coverage, many students, parents, and educators are justifiably concerned about the popularity and the harm associated with the use of e-cigarettes and vaping products. The purpose of LACOE's Tobacco-Use Prevention Education (TUPE) unit is to provide extensive technical assistance to prevent and/or reduce student tobacco use and nicotine addiction.

Vaping Epidemic:
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), has reported 1,299 cases of people experiencing Vaping-Associated Pulmonary Injury (VAPI), now found across 49 states and 1 U.S. Territory. In Los Angeles County, there have been 16 VAPI reported cases and 1 death. According to the 2017-18 California Student Tobacco Survey, in more than 30% of Los Angeles County high school students surveyed have used e-cigarettes with at least one in ten stating they are current users. Until the age of 25, nicotine has shown to negatively impact brain cell activity such as attention span, learning, and memory.

Purpose:
LACOE is pleased to announce a new funding opportunity for school districts to receive $5,000.00 to address the current epidemic of youth vaping and to support efforts to prevent youth tobacco use. Appropriate district staff will receive professional training on current e-cigarettes and vaping tobacco-related issues with the goal of conducting a series of presentations and sharing resources with various stakeholders in their respective school communities.

Funding:
Upon successful participation in a mandatory LACOE informational meeting and completion of the commitment form, eligible districts will receive a contract for $5,000.00. An initial payment of $2,500 will be issued immediately upon the completion of the mandatory LACOE training and the remaining $2,500 will be provided upon completion of all deliverables within the terms of the contract.

The Mandatory LACOE informational meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, December 3, 2019 from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM at the Los Angeles County Office of Education, Education Center West Building, Room 610, located at 12830 Columbia Way, Downey, CA 90242. At this meeting, we will review requirements for participation and provide an opportunity for participants to ask questions. Please register using the link provide: [http://lacoe.k12oms.org/1541-179119](http://lacoe.k12oms.org/1541-179119). If you have any questions, contact Mark Hernandez at Hernandez_Mark@lacoe.edu or (562) 922-8963.

Sincerely,

Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D.
Superintendent

DD/MH:lc
Attachment (Commitment Form)
Los Angeles County Office of Education:
Tobacco-Use Prevention Education-Vaping Awareness Mini Grant
Commitment Form

Information within document must be placed (typed or photocopied) onto your district's official letterhead with an original signature of an authorized representative. The commitment form must be received by LACOE on or before Friday, January 10, 2020. Remove this box when completing the form.

We agree to implement each of the points listed below for the period of February 1, 2020 through December 30, 2020:

- Attend a one-day training scheduled for Monday, February 24, 2020
  - Suggested representative: Nurse, Teacher On Special Assignment, Counselor, Wellness Coordinator, and Parent Liaison

- Conduct a minimum of 4 presentations during the term of the contract
  - 1 presentation to students
  - 1 presentation targeting district administrators
  - 1 presentation targeting teachers and appropriate school staff
  - 1 presentation targeting the Wellness Committee and parents

- Provide the following documents for each presentation conducted to receive full reimbursement:
  - Agenda
  - Copy of sign-in sheets

- Please return completed form via email to: Mark Hernandez at Hernandez_Mark@lacoed.edu or mail to LACOE 9300 Imperial Hwy, Downey, CA 90604 Attn: Mark Hernandez, TUPE Coordinator

On behalf of __________________________, we agree to meet the criteria outlined in this Commitment Form.

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title (Superintendent or Designee)</th>
<th>Date</th>
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