



Finance Office
Derek Pinto, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent, Finance
155 Merrimack Street
Lowell, Massachusetts 01852

dpinto@lowell.k12.ma.us
www.lowell.k12.ma.us
978-674-4325

To: Liam Skinner, Superintendent of Schools
From: Derek Pinto, Assistant Superintendent of Finance
Date: October 1, 2025
Subject: Quarterly Grants Update, 4th Quarter. July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Purpose:

The purpose of presenting this grant update to the School Committee is to provide an overview of the use and impact of current grants in advancing educational initiatives and enhancing school resources. This presentation ensures transparency, fosters trust and demonstrates accountability. It supports our commitment to optimizing grant funding for student success and sustained improvement across the district. This report covers Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025 (Q4). The numbers are cumulative.

Background:

In our district, we rely on three primary types of grants to support and enhance educational programs: federal, state, and private grants. Each of these funding sources serves different purposes and comes with its own set of rules for spending and reporting.

Federal grants often provide substantial support for broad educational needs, such as improving literacy or special education services, and come with stringent compliance guidelines. **State** grants typically address specific regional priorities, while **Private** grants, often sourced from foundations or corporate donors, may focus on innovative programs or targeted school initiatives.

The parameters for each type of grant can vary widely, requiring meticulous attention to detail and adherence to reporting requirements to ensure that we utilize these funds effectively and in alignment with their intended purposes.

To manage these complexities and maximize the impact of the new resources available to us, our district office has a fully staffed, dedicated grants team. This team is responsible for identifying grant opportunities, supporting potential applicants through the application process, and guiding grant awardees to make the most of their funding.

Our team also monitors both **entitlement** grants (i.e. Title I), funds automatically provided based on criteria like student demographics, and **competitive** grants, which require a successful application to secure funding. This comprehensive support system is essential for leveraging grants effectively, ensuring they benefit our students by enhancing educational programs and addressing specific needs within our schools.

