2026 Community Collaboration Challenge Application

Supported by the Leon Lowenstein Foundation

Apply by Friday, January 16th, 2025, 5:00 pm ET/2:00 pm PT

The Partnership for Student Success based at the Johns Hopkins Everyone Graduates Center is launching a 2026 Community Collaboration Challenge - with support from the Leon Lowenstein Foundation - to help connect schools and districts with local organizations that provide high-quality tutors, mentors, student success coaches, wraparound/integrated student support coordinators, and postsecondary transition coaches in their communities.

The Challenge supports opportunities to scale, expand, or pilot evidence-based people powered student supports, and it is designed to bring together communities to plan and prepare for the sustainability of effective efforts.

* Indicates required question

1. Name (Application Point of Contact) *

_____

2. Point of Contact Email Address *

_____

3. Point of Contact Phone Number *

_____

4. Organization/District/Agency Name *

_____

5. Organization Street Address (Restricted to United States) *

_____

6. Organization City *

_____

7. Organization State *

_____

8. Organization Zip Code *

_____

9. Organization Region *

Mark only one oval.

◯ Great Planes: KS, ND, NE, OK, SD

◯ Mid-Atlantic: DC, DE, MD, NJ, NY, PA

◯ Midwest: IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, MO, OH, WI

◯ Mountain West: CO, ID, MT, WY

◯ New England: CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT

◯ Southeast: AL, AR, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV

◯ Southwest: AZ, NM, NV, TX

◯ West Coast: AK, CA, HI, OR, WA

◯ US Territiories: Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands

◯ Other: _____

10. Organization Website *

_____

11. Organization Category *

Mark only one oval.

◯ School/District

◯ SEA/Other government agency

◯ 501c3 (including institutions of higher education)

◯ 501c3 status application submitted but not yet approved

12. Organization Size (annual budget in the current fiscal year) *

Mark only one oval.

◯ less than $250,000

◯ $250,000-$499,999

◯ $500,000-$999,999

◯ $1,000,000-$2,999,999

◯ $3,000,000-$4,999,999

◯ $5,000,000-$9,999,999

◯ $10,000,000 or more

13. Does your organization currently utilize AmeriCorps members or AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers? *

Mark only one oval.

◯ Yes

◯ No

◯ Unsure

14. Does your organization currently engage college students through   *
    Federal Work-Study?

    Mark only one oval.

    ◯ Yes

    ◯ No

    ◯ Unsure

15. Has your organization previously received a Community Collaboration   *
    Challenge Award?

    Mark only one oval.

    ◯ Yes

    ◯ No

    ◯ Unsure

16. What does your organization do for K-12 students? (Two sentences max) *

    _____

    _____

    _____

    _____

    _____

Problem Statement and Community to be Served

17. Community Information: List the community, area, or other relevant background information for where this project will take place. (100 words max) *

_____

_____

_____

_____

18. Community Type *

Mark only one oval.

⬭ Urban

⬭ Suburban

⬭ Rural

⬭ Tribal

⬭ Other: _____

19. Problem Statement: Describe the problem, challenge, or need that you seek to help address with this funding. (150 words max) *

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

20. Describe your organization's experience to date working with the   *
community outlined in this proposal. (250 words max)

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Applicants that prioritize one of the PSS priorities listed below will be awarded up to two extra points on the CCC scoring rubric.

Career-connected learning: Expand efforts that provide evidence-based supports to K-12 students while also providing intentional, career-connected (or work-based) learning opportunities to the people serving in evidence-based student support roles. For example, intentionally integrating durable skills (human-centered abilities like critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and adaptability, etc.) development into the role, or connecting a program with workforce development efforts.

OR

Near-peer supports: Expand efforts that engage high school students in evidence-based roles supporting other K-12 students through the engagement of high school students in supporting their peers or younger students through one or more of the PSS-aligned supports.

21. What is your proposed project type? *

Mark only one oval.

◯ Connector event

◯ Program pilot

◯ Program expansion

◯ Other: _____

22. Provide a concise description of what your organization or district will do *
with this award.

We are requesting X dollars to help fund NAME program to support
EXPLAIN HOW IT SUPPORTS STUDENTS:
or
We are requesting X dollars to convene Y stakeholders to support
EXPLAIN HOW IT SUPPORTS STUDENTS:

Include 2-3 goals for the work.

(150 words max)

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

23. CCC awards can be used for projects that occur March 2026 through   *
October 2026 deliverables are due by Friday, October 23rd, 2026.

Provide a brief timeline for how you will complete all proposed activities
and deliverables by Friday, October 23rd, 2026.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

24. Which one of the PSS-aligned supports are you primarily seeking to explore with this opportunity?   *

    If unsure, please review our focus areas here.

    Mark only one oval.

    ◯ Tutors

    ◯ Mentors

    ◯ Student Success Coaches

    ◯ Wraparound/Integrated Student Support Coordinators

    ◯ Postsecondary Transition Coaches

    ◯ Unsure

25. Are there additional PSS-aligned support roles that will also be explored with this opportunity?

    If yes, please select from the list below (leave blank otherwise). If unsure, please review our focus areas here.

    Check all that apply.

    ☐ Tutors
    ☐ Mentors
    ☐ Student Success Coaches
    ☐ Wraparound/Integrated Student Support Coordinators
    ☐ Postsecondary Transition Coaches
    ☐ Unsure

26. One requirement of this award is to create a publicly available resource *
upon the completion of the work. This could be a toolkit, a brief, a
webinar, a series of blogs, an internal process or structure "how to", etc.
The goal is to share your learnings and/or process with other
communities working on solutions to support their community. Please
outline what you plan to create in the space below (150 words max).

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Financial Information

Applicants that have matching or additional support for their connector events,
expansion efforts, or pilot programs will be awarded up to two extra points on the
CCC scoring rubric.

27. What amount of funding are you requesting? *

_____

28. What is the total calendar year 2026 budget for this project? *

_____

29. While it is not possible in every situation, the availability of additional   *
    funds for this project would be viewed as a strength in your proposal.
    Indicate if there are any matching funds that you've secured or will
    dedicate to this project and/or funds that would be leveraged in support
    of these efforts if the project is approved. Indicate the source of any
    additional project support you list in support of the project. (max 150
    words)

    _____

30. If you have matching funds, please list the total dollar value here. In-kind
    contributions can be included.

    _____

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