Date: December 2, 2020

To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads

Route To: School District Grant Specialists, School District Curriculum and Instruction Supervisors

From: Lisa J. Gleason, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner

Division of Academics and Performance

Deadline: January 19, 2021

Early College Model Program Notice of Grant Opportunity (NGO)

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is pleased to announce the release of the Early College Model Program NGO. This limited competitive grant initiative provides up to \$200,000 for a local education agency (LEA) to support an existing early college partnership between the LEA and at least one accredited four-year institution of higher education (IHE).

This partnership will provide a diverse group of underserved high school students, specifically those at risk of not completing postsecondary education, with access to an intellectually engaging educational experience. These students will be empowered to reach their full potential by earning a high school diploma and associate degree, along with supportive career and college counseling, during their high school years. The program will allow participants to simultaneously complete requirements towards earning a high school diploma and a postsecondary degree or credential at no cost to the participant or their family. To demonstrate early college model mastery, the partnership between the applicant LEA and the IHE must have been in existence for at least five years.

The Early College Model Program NGO is now available on the Office of Grants Management <u>webpage</u>. Grant applications will be completed by using the Electronic Web Enabled Grants (EWEG) System accessed through the NJDOE's <u>Homeroom</u> web portal. The grant application must be submitted by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, January 19, 2021. A technical assistance workshop will be held via webinar on December 15, 2020 at 2 p.m. <u>Preregistration</u> is required by December 11, 2020.

For more information regarding the Early College Model Program NGO, please direct questions to the Office of Career Readiness. For technical assistance regarding access to EWEG, please direct questions to the EWEG help email account.

Members, State Board of Education
 Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner of Education
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