1. Will this NGO apply to teachers and certified staff such as School Counselors and Child Study Team members?
* Participation of non-instructional staff members would be appropriate when tightly aligned with the purpose and intent of the NGO. As stated in the NGO, the Teacher Climate and Culture Innovation Grant intends to address one of the key recommendations from the Task Force on Public School Staff Shortages in New Jersey: "reclaiming teacher time" through the investigation and implementation of policies and procedures which reduce administrative paperwork and other tasks that pull teachers away from classroom instruction. Participation of non-instructional staff members would be appropriate when tightly aligned with the purpose and intent of the NGO, which is reclaiming teacher time.
1. What kinds of administrative tasks can a district remove from teachers' plates (i.e., SGOs, lesson plans, etc.)? The NGO does not define administrative tasks or paperwork.
* The NGO is aligned with the [Initial Recommendations from Members of the Task Force on Public School Staff Shortages in New Jersey.](https://nj.gov/education/docs/TaskForceReport.pdf) The report provides additional information on the Task Force’s recommendations including more information on the removal of administrative paperwork. Applicants are to develop policies, programming, guidance, and/or equivalencies (PPGEs) aimed at reclaiming teacher time. Applicants shall propose innovative, replicable, and sustainable projects that meet the NGO's parameters and can be shared statewide.
1. Can you pay teachers for lesson planning, SGOs, and PDPs in the summer?
* Teacher stipends for project planning and implementation conducted beyond the workday and/or school year are allowable but should be tightly aligned with the purpose and intent of the NGO.
1. Are school board resolutions necessary for the submission of the application?
* A board resolution is a required component of the application. In the EWEG application, applicants must enter the date the Board approved the submission of this application. If the approval date by the Board of Education, Board of Directors, or other similar governing body is subsequent to the application submission date, the applicant is responsible for obtaining institutional approval and maintaining a record of it as part of the audit file. The New Jersey Department of Education reserves the right to request proof of approval, such as a copy of the Board Resolution or a Certified Copy of the Board minutes showing the Approval Action.