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# CAS Competitive Grant Application

## SPECIAL EDUCATION COACHING SUPPORT FOR ADMINISTRATORS

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**Electronic Copy Due Date:** CAS does not have a fixed application deadline.



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## BACKGROUND FOR DEVELOPMENT OF GRANT

### **The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), Bureau of Special Education and the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) partnership**

Responding to requests from the field, the CSDE developed a special education executive coaching model to support special education and other administrators. Districts can apply for this program to receive a no-cost executive coach. The coaching focuses on enhancing the leadership skills of motivated professionals, with differentiated support provided based on individual, school, or district needs. Potential outcomes include creating support systems for new IEP implementation, increasing job effectiveness, staff satisfaction, and retention, ensuring timely resolution of compliance issues, and improving staff and family communication and parent satisfaction. Coaches will assist administrators and staff in managing special education requirements to support effective programming and services for students with disabilities.

Through this grant, the CSDE and CAS will work collaboratively with partner districts to:

- Support an administrator and staff overseeing special education matters;
- Support administrator's work in new initiatives and trending problems of practice;
- Support administrator through challenges;
- Build capacity for supporting accelerated and equitable learning experiences for all students, particularly, students with disabilities; and
- Enhance district capacity for implementing and sustaining successful practices that are developed throughout the year by providing training, technical assistance, and resources to identified administrators.

## GRANT INFORMATION

Services will be provided at no cost to the districts that are awarded the grant.

### SCOPE OF SERVICES

#### 1. CAS Executive Coach

- A coach with special education expertise will be assigned to the administrator who is applying for this grant. The coach will meet with the administrator during the grant period.
- The coach will become familiar with the district's special education and general education staff and together with the administrator will develop an action plan as agreed upon by accepting this assignment.
- Coaches will provide support and strategies throughout the school year to help implement the plan and achieve its goals.

#### 2. Project updates and end-of-the-year summary

- The coach will submit logs providing an overview of activities of each session to include its outcomes and next steps.
- The coach and client will create an end-of-year summary documenting activities, goals, and next steps from their individualized support plan.

### GRANT PERIOD

The grant period will end June 20, 2026.

### GRANT AWARD

The CSDE and CAS reserve the right to award this grant in a manner deemed to be in the best interest of the district and its students.

### GRANT APPLICATION SCHEDULE

Release of Grant Application:	August 2025
Electronic Grant Application Due Date:	Rolling acceptance

### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

The CSDE and CAS will review all grant applications. Applications, in addition to the requirements, terms, and conditions identified throughout this document, will be considered as part of the selection process.

### GRANT APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Electronic copy submitted to [tcaouette@casciac.org](mailto:tcaouette@casciac.org).

## GRANT APPLICANT INSTRUCTIONS

The administrator applying for executive coaching must address the following:

***Organizational information – Please complete all information in the table below.***

Name of Administrator who is applying	
Title	
District/School	
Name of Special Education Director (if different from applicant)	
Applicant Office Address	
Applicant Office Phone Number	
Applicant Cell Phone Number	
Applicant Email Address	
Years in Position	
Number of special education administrators in the district	
Number of schools/programs applicant is responsible for	

**For new applicants who have not worked with a CAS coach previously:**

- List 3 goals that you plan to achieve in the 2025-2026 school year as a result of working with a coach. These goals can be related to impact on students, impact on your own leadership capacity, and/or impact on staff. Please include data points that support these goals if data is available.
- Are there any specific skills, competencies, or areas for professional development you believe are essential for your role as a school administrator, but you currently feel less proficient in? Please describe how addressing these areas would positively impact your professional performance.

**For those who are currently working with a CAS coach and are applying to continue for a second year, please answer the following questions:**

- How did you and other stakeholders benefit from coaching services in year 1? How did the coaching services impact services to children or student learning? Use specific examples and include data if available.
- What are your desired outcomes for year 2? What changes or improvements do you expect to see in services for children, your leadership style, or school administration as a result of a second year of coaching?

## Statement of Assurances

PROJECT: The Connecticut Association of Schools Special Education Executive Coaching Grant:  
THE APPLICANT, \_\_\_\_\_, HEREBY ASSURES THAT:

1. The applicant has the necessary legal authority to submit a grant application or has been duly authorized to file this application for and on behalf of said applicant.
2. The activities and services for which assistance will be provided under this grant will be under the control of the applicant.
3. The project will be operated in compliance with all applicable state and federal laws and in compliance with the regulations and other policies and administrative directives of the CAS and the CSDE.
4. CAS reserves the exclusive right to use and grants the right to use and/or publish any part or parts of any summary, reports, and materials resulting from this project.
5. The applicant will protect and save harmless the CAS from financial loss and expense, including fees and legal fees and costs, if any, arising out of any breach of the duties, in whole or in part, described in the application and in the contract, if awarded.
6. The district superintendent is aware of the coaching services requested and supports the time needed to invest in this work by the applicant.

**I, the undersigned, hereby certify that these assurances shall be fully implemented.**

ApplicantSignature \_\_\_\_\_  
(By signing this electronically you confirm that this is your signature.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date Completed \_\_\_\_\_

Name of District \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (work): \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent Name \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Checking this box confirms that the applicant will ensure the superintendent supports this grant application.