



FRIYAY!

DECEMBER

2025 COAAP
TRENDS

WHAT'S IN FASHION:

**LEARN MORE
ABOUT THE
EXPELLED & AT-
RISK STUDENT
SERVICE GRANT**

**CU SCIENCE
DISCOVERY
LIGHTS UP
CLUB
INNOVATION**

CHECK OUT THIS
AMAZING
STEM ENRICHMENT
DAY

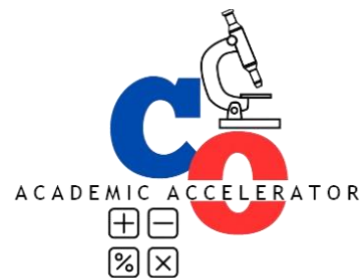
REMINDERS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FRIYAY! NEWS

Colorado Academic Accelerator

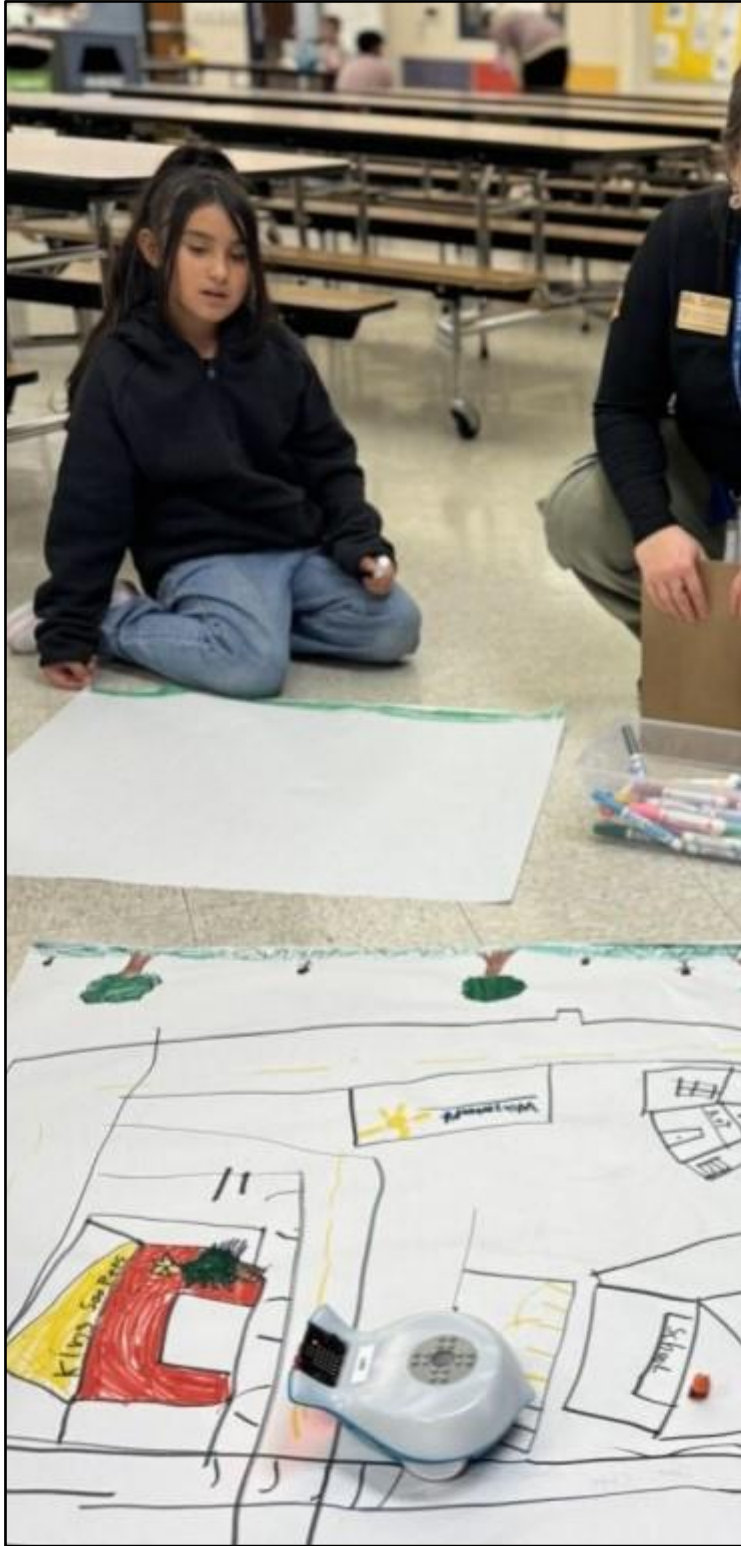


COLORADO
Department of Education



ISSUE #
27
DEC 5, 2025

CU'S COAAP 'SCIENCE DISCOVERY' HOLDS CLUB INNOVATION



Students and mentors enjoyed breakfast together while playing collaborative math games and puzzles. Then, students put their math skills to the test while practicing measurement and mapping by creating scaled drawings of playground equipment.

The CO-AAP collaboration between CU Science Discovery and Adams-12 Five Star Schools, had a wonderful time with their “Club Innovation” where many fun and engaging STEM activities were experienced by program attendees this past November, 2025. **“Coding, Creativity, and Cartography”** were the topics during their recent STEM Enrichment Day. November 3rd was a teacher PD day so most students were not in school, but COAAP program attendees attended STEM Launch K-8 alongside 14 high school/ college aged volunteer mentors from Northglenn High School and CU Boulder.

This collaboration combined technology, imagination, and geography to create new worlds for COAAP STEM Launch attendees to discover throughout the day!



Northglenn High School students as well as CU's STEM Launch Program attendees were equally as enthusiastic to work together. Not only were the activities fun, but they also focused on things close to home, such as the playground area. By using real life, hands-on basics, both the High School mentors and the K-8 mentees enjoyed the experience of using Science, Technology, Engineering and Math to affect their own environments. The day was not only focused on academics, but held significant



Later in the day, students used their map-making skills to design imaginary towns to explore with their Finch robots.



Students applied basic coding skills to navigate their maps and bring their creations to life.

social emotional learning and nutritional needs as well.



Students concluded the day using Pixton comic book software to design a comic that told the story of their Finch robots day exploring the town. This provided a safe, fun, and enriching space for both our elementary students and high school volunteers during their day away from the classroom!

CU was excited to share this day with other COAAP grantees, providing yet another way to engage students and solve a problem, since students would otherwise have been at home during the Teacher PD day.

Participant families expressed so much gratitude for offering the day-long program during school hours so they did not need to arrange other childcare for the day. The day was a total win for the whole community!



ALL ABOUT THE **EARSS GRANT** FROM CDE DROP OUT PREVENTION & STUDENT RE-ENGAGEMENT

The Expelled and At-Risk Student Services (EARSS) grant program provides funding to assist in providing educational and supportive services to students who have been expelled, are at-risk of expulsion, are truant, are at-risk of becoming habitually truant, and/or are considered chronically absent. It is authorized by Colorado Revised Statute (C.R.S.) 22-33-205. For an expanded explanation please go to the [CDE EARSS webpage](#).

Overview

CDE is releasing a new four-year funding opportunity for applicants who are providing educational services, support, behavioral interventions, and systemic changes to increase attendance and decrease exclusionary discipline.

Grant Details

The current funding opportunity, EARSS Cohort 5, will include a one-year planning period followed by a three-year implementation period focused on comprehensive approaches that include targeted intervention and educational services for EARSS-eligible students and systemic changes that help limit absences and behavior challenges. Applicants should be focused on building effective attendance and discipline systems and providing targeted and impactful support.

Key Dates:

December 1, 2025 - RFA OPENS

January 9, 2026- Application DEADLINE

March 2026- Notification of Grant Awards

For more information please contact:

Amy Werpy 720- 7558 werpy_a@cde.state.co.us

CDE's Office of Dropout Prevention and Student Re-engagement administers the Expelled and At-Risk Student Services Grant. The office provides coordination, research and leadership to assist local education providers in implementing efforts to improve student engagement with the goal to improve the dropout, graduation and completion rates every year while decreasing exclusionary disciplinary rates.

- **Available funding for the planning year is \$50,000. Implementation years are eligible for \$125,000 a year per school site with a maximum of \$425,000 per district.**

- **District level programs are eligible for up to \$425,000 if more than three school sites are receiving services.**

Eligible Applicants

Local education providers are eligible to apply for this opportunity including school districts, Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), district charter school(s), a Charter School, and facility schools. Recently funded EARSS grantees, including those in Cohort 1, are eligible to apply. If funded, continuation grantees will be exempt from the one year planning period. Funding will be distributed first to education providers with school(s) demonstrating high need based on chronically absent rates, habitually truant rates, unduplicated discipline counts, exclusionary discipline rates, alternative education campuses, facility schools, and/or LEA's who have never or have not been funded in the last five years.

Goals and Performance Measures

Each applicant will select one overarching goal - Discipline or Attendance and will report data on intermediate data towards each goal.

Discipline Focused-

Discipline focused programs are designed to decrease rates of discipline while developing systems level work to prevent future disciplinary infractions:

- **Decrease Exclusionary Discipline:** The goal of this focus is to decrease exclusionary discipline rates, as measured by the in-school or out-of-school suspension rates; or
- **Decrease Disciplinary Actions:** The goal of this focus is to decrease disciplinary action rates, as measured by the total number of disciplinary actions each year that may include other actions beyond in and out of school suspension.

Success will be measured through self-reported progress and state reported discipline counts including total number of in-school suspensions, out of school suspensions, and expulsions.

Attendance Focused-

Attendance focused programs are designed to improve current practices regarding attendance:

- **Improve Attendance:** The goal is to improve the Attendance each year as measured by the attendance rate reported each year to the state; or
- **Decrease Chronic Absenteeism:** The goal is to decrease chronic absenteeism as measured by the chronic absenteeism rate reported each year to the state.

Success will be measured through self-reported progress and state reported attendance rates including chronically absent and habitually truant rates.

COAAP REMINDERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS TO STAY IN THE KNOW:

Colorado Afterschool Partnership (CAP) and Elevate Colorado Virtual PD:

Making time to attend these sessions help to result in greater positive youth outcomes. Each session will focus on one or more of the Colorado Afterschool Partnership's Quality Guidelines, offering practical tools, strategic insights, and real-world applications to address critical areas of program quality and leadership excellence. Sessions will be offered through January 2026. To learn more and register, go to <https://www.coloradoafterschoolpartnership.org/elevatecolorado>

December 2nd- Staff Qualifications & Training
January 13th- Youth Development & Engagement
January 27th- Health & Safety

All sessions run from 930-1030am Mountain Standard Time. Click the link for more information and to register.



Multilingual Learners Virtual Learning Series:



Note: If you are unable to access any portion of this resource, **please reach out to the course contact, if one is listed**. If no course contact is listed, email [Web Management](#) or call CDE at 303-866-6600.

Multilingual Learners with Educational Disabilities Webinar Series: Voices from the Intersection of Language, Literacy, Culture & Opportunity

Audience: Educators, Other District/School Staff | **Topic:** Collaboration, Communication, Literacy, Multilingual Learners, Special Education | **Hosted by:** Office of Special Education

Dec 11- Option MLL w Ed Dis Webinar- To register follow this link

<https://www.cde.state.co.us/professionaldevelopment/detail/multilingual-learner-ed-disabilities-web-series>

EZReports Attendance:

Please be sure to stay up to date on entering your attendance for programs and events in EZReports. If you anticipate being tardy with this monthly function, please reach out to your lead consultant via email, to let them know. Please double check all months from the beginning of the school year to the end of semester one prior to heading for Winter Break.



Save the Date! IMPORTANT!

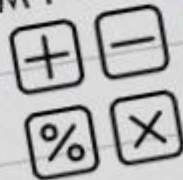
The CDE Out-of-School-Time Spring 2026 Webinar will be virtual this coming spring, and it is highly encouraged for you all to attend. We ask that you Save-the-Date on your calendars now, and registration is now OPEN for those who want to get in early.

Ready to join the fun? Register [HERE](#)

Feb 19, 2026



CADEMIC ACCELERATOR



FEBRUARY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3
					10

LINK TO THE 2025-26 **IMPORTANT DATES DOC**: EASY ACCESS

*Please check the 2025-26 Important Dates document and bookmark it, as this will be the first place that information will drop. [**BOOKMARK ME!**](#)*

We would LOVE to feature what is happening at your COAAP Center! If you are interested in being featured in upcoming issues of FRIYAY! Magazine, please fill out this form: [FRIYAY FEATURE FORM](#)

Don't forget to let martinez_jozette@cde.state.co.us know that you filled out the form so it can be checked. Thank you!