



FACT SHEET

SAFE AND DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES - GOVERNOR'S PROGRAM

Overview

The Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities (SDFSC) State Grant Program was a formula grant administered by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. Funds were provided to state and local educational agencies, as well as to Governors, for a wide range of school- and community-based education and prevention activities to create a safe and drug-free learning environment and support student academic achievement. These funds were eliminated with the 2010 Federal Appropriations.

Annually, 80% of California's allocation was distributed to the California Department of Education (CDE). The California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) was designated by the Governor to administer the remaining 20% of California's allocation known as the Governor's Program. For the final award in Federal Fiscal Year 2009, California's total SDFSC allocation was \$35,161,795. CDE received \$28,129,436 and ADP received \$7,032,359. The Governor's Program projects continued through June 30, 2011.

Governor's Program

The Governor's Program was designed to complement CDE SDFSC funding by serving:

- Children and youth who are not normally served by state or local educational agencies

- Populations that need special services or additional resources such as youth in juvenile detention facilities, runaway or homeless children and youth, pregnant and parenting teenagers, and school dropouts.

SDFSC Programs were based on:

- Objective data to identify needs
- An established set of performance measures
- Scientifically based research
- An analysis of risk and protective factors
- Meaningful and ongoing participation of parents.

County Grants

ADP provided a competitive grant program to fund alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, and violence prevention programs that met the requirements of the law and demonstrated measurable results. There were three cohorts of SDFSC county grants. In the final round of funding, 18 counties were competitively awarded and received a maximum award of \$220,000 per year.

County grants focused on three priority populations: foster youth, children of substance-abusing parents/caregivers in treatment, and youth with a history of a high rate of alcohol and other drug use/binge drinking. Services were provided to persons at [selective and indicated](#) risk levels.

Statewide Evaluation Project (SEP)

Over the course of two years, Cohort 3 grantees led the planning and implementation of voluntary cross-site evaluation of their SDFSC programs and the impact on participants. ADP contracted with the Center for Applied Research Solutions (CARS) to serve as a no-cost technical assistance and training provider for SDFSC grantees. CARS provided facilitation and support for the SEP. The cross-site evaluation included a quantitative and qualitative assessment of key prevention outcomes. Approximately half of the 18 grantees contributed data. Findings are based on a sample of SDFSC participants engaged in prevention services between August of 2009 and July 2011.

Grantees defined a core set of prevention outcomes based on common impacts across sites.

- Age of first use
- 30-day use
- Attitudes toward use
- Harm perception
- Positive connections with adults, school, and community

Quantitative analyses of the most robust data were conducted for a matched sample of 842 youth. Available qualitative data were analyzed to add context and dimension to prevention outcome findings. The study provides expanded evidence of the type and extent of impact achieved through this statewide initiative.

Quantitative results concluded that services reached the targeted vulnerable populations of youth including: youth in foster care; children of known substance users and high rate users; youth considered selective and indicated populations based on the Institute of Medicine-defined levels of risk; and youth in alternative education settings (e.g.

continuation and community day schools). The study also showed significant reductions in youth current substance use including: alcohol and binge drinking; tobacco; marijuana; methamphetamine; prescription drug misuse; and “other” drugs.

More information on the Governor’s SDFSC Program is available on the ADP [website](#) or www.ca-sdfsc.org.

More information on CDE’s SDFSC programs is available at [Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act - Alcohol, Tobacco & Other Drug Prevention \(CA Dept of Education\)](#).

For additional information, contact the Program Services Division, Prevention Services Branch, at (916) 324-4398.