



## PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

**DATE:** August 19, 2022

**TO:** Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.  
Commissioner of Education

**FROM:** Zainab Rida, Ph.D.

**PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:** Authorize the Commissioner to accept the Afghan Refugee School Impact Supplements Federal Grant Award and enter into Cooperative Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

**RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The Nebraska Department of Education received a two-year Afghan Refugee School Impact Supplements Federal Grant Award which requires the state education agency to:

- Building state capacity, including support for communities of practice among LEAs/schools (e.g., activities that focus on Afghan parent engagement or information exchange between ELL teachers instructing eligible clients)
- Producing and securing educational resources ensuring full accessibility, including classroom materials, parent engagement resources, computers, digital services, and internet connections
- Addressing transportation needs not met by other local, state, or federal resources
- Developing and implementing data collection tools to track outputs and outcomes from this initiative
- Administering after-school and/or summer learning programs, including summer academic acceleration
- Funding teachers and school-based counselors, including English Language Learner supports
- Developing and implementing parent engagement and orientation activities
- Renting or enhancing temporary school facilities, including portable classrooms and converting (but not constructing) space.

**PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR):** September 2022

**ESTIMATED COST:**

Total Amount of Federal Award: \$1,352,085

**FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:**

- Indicate the Funding Source: Department of Health and Human Services/Office of Refugee Resettlement.
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval: Not applicable

