



Report to the North Carolina General Assembly

Feminine Hygiene Products Grant Program

§ 115C-377. (a) Program; Purpose. – The Department of Public Instruction shall establish the Feminine Hygiene Products Grant Program (Program) to assist public school units participating in the Program in providing students with feminine hygiene products at no charge to the student.

(b) Grants. – To the extent funds are made available for the Program, the Department of Public Instruction shall award public school units grants of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) on a first-come, first-served basis, and the Department shall prioritize awarding grants to public school units that did not receive an award pursuant to the Program in the previous fiscal year. No public school unit shall receive more than one grant per fiscal year.

(c) Reporting. – No later than March 15, 2023, and every year thereafter that funds are made available for the Program, the Department shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the public school units receiving grants under the Program, the specific feminine hygiene products purchased with the grant funds, and the impact of the Program on student health and well-being. (2022-74, s. 7.10(a).)

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INTRODUCTION

The Department of Public Instruction's (DPI) NC Healthy Schools Section of the Office of Academic Standards provided an application to all public school units (PSUs) to apply on a first-come, first-served basis for the Feminine Hygiene Products Grant Program for funding of up to \$5,000 to purchase feminine hygiene products. A total of 149 applications were received, with requests for funding amounts ranging from \$300 to \$5,000. With a funding limit of \$250,000, DPI was able to award a total of 64 PSUs with a Feminine Hygiene Products Grant.

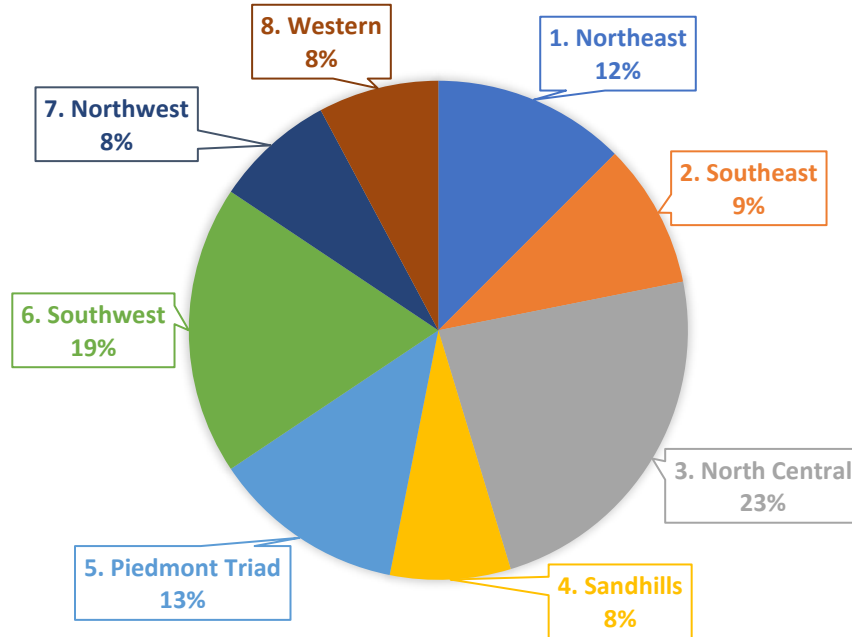
The grant awardees indicated that they would use the funding to purchase products ranging from tampons and pads to underwear and educational materials on puberty. The PSUs also noted that the grants would provide much needed support for students to stay in school during the time of their menstrual cycle; ensure students can maintain good hygiene and reduce unnecessary infections; make products more accessible to students with transportation constraints; provide feminine hygiene supplies for those who cannot afford the expensive products, especially those in rural and low-income areas; reduce embarrassment associated with menstruation and not having necessary supplies; and offset teacher and support staff expenses for such products. Many awardees indicated that some students rely on their school to provide the feminine hygiene products they need, as their families may not have the financial means to purchase the products. Awardees also noted the toll on student mental health that not having access to feminine hygiene products can have, and how that correlates to increased time out of school.

The following sections outline in greater detail the PSUs that received a grant and the amount they received; the types of products that PSUs indicated they would use the funding to purchase; and how the grant would impact student health and well-being. Appendices are also included to provide additional information on each awarded PSU's application responses and feedback on grant impact.

PSU GRANT RECIPIENTS

Within one week, DPI received 149 applications for the Feminine Hygiene Products Grant Program. Of the 149 applications received, DPI was able to award 64 grants to PSUs from each of the eight State Board of Education (SBE) Regions. Grant awards were distributed to 45 LEAs and 19 Charter schools. The following chart outlines the grant distribution by region (please refer to Appendix A for a detailed map of SBE regions):

Grant Distribution by SBE Region



The table below provides a detailed list of the awarded PSUs, their region, and the amount of funding they each received:

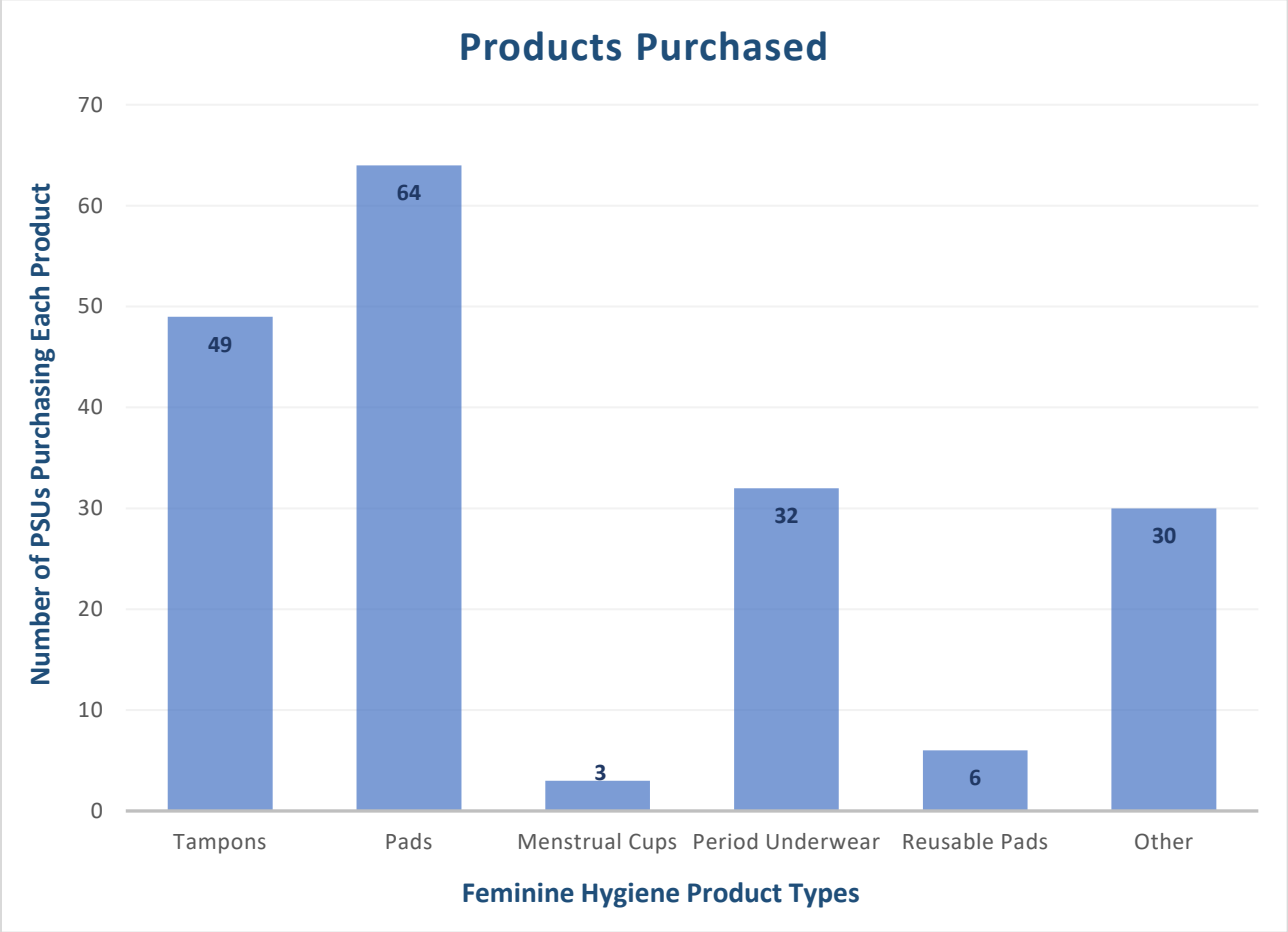
Feminine Hygiene Products Grant Program Awardees				
	Public School Unit (PSU)	PSU Type	BOE Region	Grant Amount
1	Achievement Charter Academy - 43D	Charter	North Central - 3	\$ 1,000
2	Alamance Community School - 01F	Charter	Piedmont Triad - 5	\$ 5,000
3	Alexander County Schools - 020	LEA	Northwest - 7	\$ 5,000
4	Alleghany County Schools - 030	LEA	Northwest - 7	\$ 1,000
5	American Renaissance School - 49B	Charter	Southwest - 6	\$ 3,700
6	Anson County Schools - 040	LEA	Southwest - 6	\$ 2,000
7	Asheboro City Schools - 761	LEA	Piedmont Triad - 5	\$ 5,000
8	Beaufort County Schools - 070	LEA	Northeast - 1	\$ 3,500
9	Brevard Academy - 88A	Charter	Western - 8	\$ 500
10	Brunswick County Schools - 100	LEA	Southeast - 2	\$ 5,000
11	Burke County Schools - 120	LEA	Northwest - 7	\$ 5,000
12	Cabarrus County Schools - 130	LEA	Southwest - 6	\$ 5,000
13	Carolina International School - 13A	Charter	Southwest - 6	\$ 5,000
14	Central Carolina Academy - 53D	Charter	North Central - 3	\$ 500
15	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools - 600	LEA	Southwest - 6	\$ 5,000
16	Chatham County Schools - 190	LEA	North Central - 3	\$ 3,500
17	Cherokee County Schools - 200	LEA	Western - 8	\$ 4,000
18	Clinton City Schools - 821	LEA	Sandhills - 4	\$ 2,500
19	Edenton-Chowan Schools - 210	LEA	Northeast - 1	\$ 1,200

20	Edgecombe County Public Schools - 330	LEA	North Central - 3	\$ 3,600
21	Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Public Schools - 700	LEA	Northeast - 1	\$ 5,000
22	Emereau: Bladen - 09B	Charter	Sandhills - 4	\$ 1,000
23	Franklin County Schools - 350	LEA	North Central - 3	\$ 5,000
24	Girls Leadership Academy of Wilmington - 65G	Charter	Southeast - 2	\$ 1,500
25	Granville County Schools - 390	LEA	North Central - 3	\$ 5,000
26	Greene County Schools - 400	LEA	Southeast - 2	\$ 5,000
27	Guilford County Schools - 410	LEA	Piedmont Triad - 5	\$ 5,000
28	Halifax County Schools - 420	LEA	Northeast - 1	\$ 5,000
29	Harnett County Schools - 430	LEA	North Central - 3	\$ 5,000
30	Hyde County Schools - 480	LEA	Northeast - 1	\$ 2,000
31	Iredell Charter Academy of Arts & Science - 49G	Charter	Southwest - 6	\$ 3,500
32	Jackson County Public Schools - 500	LEA	Western - 8	\$ 2,000
33	Johnston County Public Schools - 510	LEA	North Central - 3	\$ 5,000
34	Lakeside Charter Academy - 61J	Charter	Southwest - 6	\$ 500
35	Martin County Schools - 580	LEA	Northeast - 1	\$ 5,000
36	Nash County Public Schools - 640	LEA	North Central - 3	\$ 5,000
37	Newton Conover City Schools - 182	LEA	Northwest - 7	\$ 5,000
38	Oxford Preparatory School - 39B	Charter	North Central - 3	\$ 5,000
39	Pamlico County Schools - 690	LEA	Southeast - 2	\$ 5,000
40	Pender County Schools - 710	LEA	Southeast - 2	\$ 5,000
41	Person County Schools - 730	LEA	North Central - 3	\$ 4,000
42	Pinnacle Classical Academy - 23A	Charter	Southwest - 6	\$ 3,000
43	Public Schools of Robeson County - 780	LEA	Sandhills - 4	\$ 5,000
44	Quality Education Academy - 34B	Charter	Piedmont Triad - 5	\$ 3,500
45	Randolph County School System - 760	LEA	Piedmont Triad - 5	\$ 5,000
46	Roanoke Rapids City Schools - 421	LEA	Northeast - 1	\$ 3,000
47	Rockingham County Schools - 790	LEA	Piedmont Triad - 5	\$ 5,000
48	Rocky Mount Preparatory - 64A	Charter	North Central - 3	\$ 5,000
49	Rolesville Charter Academy - 93P	Charter	North Central - 3	\$ 5,000
50	Rowan-Salisbury Schools - 800	LEA	Southwest - 6	\$ 5,000
51	Sampson County Schools - 820	LEA	Sandhills - 4	\$ 5,000
52	Scotland County Schools - 830	LEA	Sandhills - 4	\$ 2,000
53	Stanly County Schools - 840	LEA	Southwest - 6	\$ 5,000
54	Surry County Schools - 860	LEA	Piedmont Triad - 5	\$ 5,000
55	Swain County Schools - 870	LEA	Western - 8	\$ 1,500
56	The College Preparatory and Leadership A - 41H	Charter	Piedmont Triad - 5	\$ 5,000
57	The Mountain Community Sch - 45A	Charter	Western - 8	\$ 500
58	Union County Public Schools - 900	LEA	Southwest - 6	\$ 5,000
59	Valor Preparatory Academy - 13B	Charter	Southwest - 6	\$ 5,000
60	Vance Charter School - 91A	Charter	North Central - 3	\$ 5,000

61	Vance County Schools - 910	LEA	North Central - 3	\$ 5,000
62	Wayne County Public Schools - 960	LEA	Southeast - 2	\$ 5,000
63	Weldon City Schools - 422	LEA	Northeast - 1	\$ 5,000
64	Wilkes County Schools - 970	LEA	Northwest - 7	\$ 5,000

PRODUCTS PURCHASED

The PSU grantees indicated that they would use the funding to purchase basic feminine hygiene products, including tampons, pads, menstrual cups, reusable pads, and period underwear. Many grantees indicated that in addition to purchasing these feminine hygiene products they would purchase other much needed hygiene products including panty liners, flushable and feminine hygiene wipes, hygiene kits containing products, extra underwear and clothes for accidents, deodorants and soaps, puberty and menstruation education materials, and heating patches for menstrual pain. The following chart outlines which products PSUs said that they would purchase:



IMPACT ON STUDENT HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Responses to the grant application demonstrated a great need for feminine hygiene products to be available in school, as school may be the only place some students have access to these products. Grant recipients noted that the funding would help to cover costs the district and/or staff and teachers incur to purchase feminine hygiene products; to alleviate reliance on community-based donations; to expand or implement PSU budget for supplies to better meet student needs; and to ensure that all students feel safe, comfortable, and able to learn at school. Many grantees noted that a lack of access to feminine hygiene products resulted in embarrassment, anxiety, and negative mental health outcomes for students. Nearly all grantees indicated that they either have Title I schools in their district, or that many of their students and families are living below the poverty line or in rural or low-income areas. For these students and families, feminine hygiene products are an expense they cannot afford or lack access to because of transportation constraints, and therefore must rely on their school to provide these products.

“Over 10% of the population at Weldon City Schools are identified as homeless and over 94.06% are experiencing poverty. The grant will remove the barrier for students attending school because they do not have access to period products. Prior to the pandemic, 4 out of 5 students reported either missing school or knowing a classmate who missed school due to not having period products.”
-Weldon City Schools

Several grantees also noted the stigma, shame, anxiety, and embarrassment students experience surrounding menstruation because they do not have access to supplies and therefore are absent

“Students who lack access to needed menstrual products and encounter school-related barriers to menstrual equity may experience: Shame, embarrassment, and stigma. They can experience challenges participating in physical school activities, partly due to fear of menstrual leaks. By being able to provide feminine products we are able to keep more students in school for learning and also to help with their self-confidence/esteem. It is vital for students to feel safe and comfortable at school to be able to learn. By allowing students the opportunity to have these products in school we eliminate a barrier to regular attendance and promote healthy habits.”
-Pinnacle Classical Academy

from school during their cycles. Most grantees also noted that the reliability of access to hygiene products in school would help students stay in school when they are menstruating and would alleviate negative mental health outcomes. Other grantees highlighted that there has been an increase in the number of younger elementary school age students beginning their period and needing supplies and menstrual health education at school. In addition, grantees commented on the impact the grant would have on students to maintain good hygiene and reduce the number of unnecessary infections from lack of access to feminine hygiene products. The following summary

points outline in greater specificity awardee comments on how the grant would impact student health and well-being:

- Alleviate financial hardship for both schools, educators, and students.
- Give districts, schools, and teachers the ability to genuinely meet the needs of students when it comes to availability of hygiene products in school.
- Provide much needed support for families and communities that already rely on schools to provide feminine hygiene products to students.
- Support the most vulnerable students, including those experiencing homelessness and poverty and those living in low-resource areas.
- Alleviate access barriers, such as transportation to stores to purchase products.
- Decrease instances of multiple absences and continue to support students and families who continue to be impacted by the pandemic.
- Increase educational opportunities and academic growth because students can stay in school when they are menstruating.
- Remove stigma, anxiety, and embarrassment related to menstruation and period poverty.
- Improve student mental health, including reducing anxiety and panic attacks when students do not have needed supplies.
- Reduce instance of poor feminine hygiene and health risks, such as bacterial and urinary tract infections.
- Increase awareness and education on the importance of maintaining good feminine hygiene practices.
- Address needs of younger elementary students who are starting their periods and may not yet understand the changes occurring in their bodies or have hygiene products with them at school.

“As a school nurse I will say we are seeing students enter puberty at a much younger age than in years past. Therefore, the needs for menstrual education and feminine hygiene products reaches a much larger group of students within all of our elementary, middle, and high schools. The availability of such products is not always guaranteed to our students at home due to cost or ability to obtain the products, but being able to meet their health and well-being needs here at school allows them to feel comfortable, confident and also reduces absences related to soiled clothing or not attending due to lack of access to proper hygiene products.”

- Vance County Schools

A complete list of grantee application responses on the impacts of student health and well-being by PSU, as well as additional information on their funding resources for hygiene products prior to receipt of the grant can be found in Appendix B.

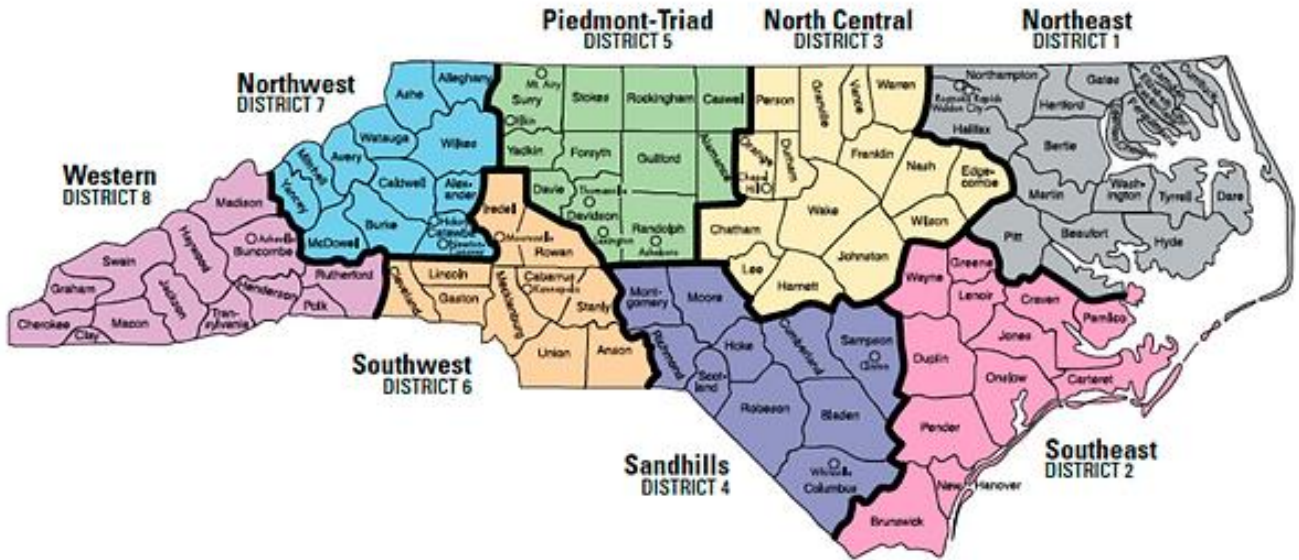
CONCLUSION AND RECCOMENDATIONS

Based on the application responses and needs of the districts, the Feminine Hygiene Products Grant Program provided much needed support for PSUs, staff and teachers, students, families, and communities. As many grantees indicated, there is a direct link between student academic success and the provision of hygiene products in school. When students know that they can access hygiene products at school and do not experience anxiety and fear of not knowing when or where they will have the products they need, they are able to learn better and are more likely to stay at and come to school during their periods. The grant program has not only helped students stay in school during their menstrual cycles but also has helped provide educational opportunities for maintaining good hygiene to reduce instances of infections. The grant program has helped to support PSUs and students by removing financial and transportation barriers to products; decreasing stigma, anxiety, and embarrassment due to lack of access to products, and ensuring health and well-being is maintained so that students can continue their academic growth.

The DPI receives inquiries about the Feminine Hygiene Products Grant Program throughout the year, including inquiries on applying for funding and when or if funding might be available at multiple points during the school year. Since the program's inception, applicants and awardees continue to note the great need for the availability of feminine hygiene supplies in schools. Currently, DPI is only able to cover about thirty percent of the funding requests with the current funding level. Expansion of the program would allow DPI to provide more PSUs across the state with grants for feminine hygiene products. An increase in grants could have the potential to make an even greater impact on chronic absenteeism, academic success and outcomes, and the overall mental and physical health of students across North Carolina.

APPENDIX A

North Carolina State Board of Education Districts



Appendix B

Educational Region	PSU Name	PSU Type	Funding Amount	Products to be purchased with funding, including tampons, pads, menstrual cups, period underwear, and reusable pads	Other products to be purchased with funding	Brief description (1-3 sentences) of how this grant will impact the health and well-being of students in your district.	How much do you spend annually on feminine hygiene products for your school district?
North Central - 3	Achievement Charter Academy - 43D	Charter	\$1,000	Pads		We are a growing charter school with an enrollment of 202 students. Beginning this year, and for the next 2 years we will be adding one middle school grade per year. This will help our new older student population.	Up until this point, we have not had to spend anything.
Piedmont Triad - 5	Alamance Community School - 01F	Charter	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Other (Please describe.)	Panty liners	Our district has many schools/families in low socioeconomic areas. Also, we are seeing an increase in younger puberty onset. These supplies would help alleviate the financial barrier that many of family members face.	\$0
Northwest - 7	Alexander County Schools - 020	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear		It will enable us to provide hygiene products to students in need.	\$400
Northwest - 7	Alleghany County Schools - 030	LEA	\$1,000	Tampons,Pads,Other (Please describe.)	Panty Liners	Feminine products can be a financial burden in our rural, low income, and high migrant population. Our students in this population rely heavily on the schools to have products for them.	\$800
Southwest - 6	American Renaissance School - 49B	Charter	\$3,700	Tampons,Pads,Menstrual Cups,Period Underwear		Based on our enrollment, we will utilize all \$5000 (or the amount granted) to purchase feminine products for use at our school. Our school nurse meets with students in gender based groups to educate students beginning in 5th grade. Age appropriate conversations continue as we progress through the 8th grade.	\$5,000
Southwest - 6	Anson County Schools - 040	LEA	\$2,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear		Allow students to come to school who would have stayed out of school otherwise.	\$2,000
Piedmont Triad - 5	Asheboro City Schools - 761	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads		Our district is a rural district with many of our students qualifying for free/reduced lunch and have a large minority population. Many of our female students do not have the monetary means or transportation to obtain their needed feminine products, so they come to school without them. The district nurses have been supplying these things, for menstrual needs at school, mostly out of pocket. This grant would help us to supply the needed feminine hygiene supplies for our female students.	\$3,000
Northwest - 1	Beaufort County Schools - 070	LEA	\$3,500	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear		Many of our students come from one parent, low income families, who don't have access to unlimited supplies of hygiene products. We are constantly asking for community donations for hygiene products for all our schools. We have a significant need across the school system throughout the year.	\$3,000-\$4,000
Western - 8	Brevard Academy - 88A	Charter	\$500	Tampons,Pads		This will offer necessary feminine hygiene products to our female students in order for them to be confident in their hygiene while at school.	\$200
Southwest - 2	Brunswick County Schools - 100	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear,Other (Please describe.)	Black leggings to support those who need a change of clothing but are unable to reach a parent to bring what they need at the time.	Receiving this grant will allow Brunswick County Schools to purchase menstrual products for students that will aid in helping to alleviate embarrassment, anxiety and panic attacks in students of which some are already suffering from mental health issues. It will enable students to avoid the financial struggle of accessing menstrual products which sometimes causes them to miss school due to not having these necessities. Not having access to these products sometimes results in students not attending school and not keeping their bodies in good hygienic condition, resulting in rashes and infections, which directly affects their education.	\$5,000.00
Northwest - 7	Burke County Schools - 120	LEA	\$5,000	Pads,Other (Please describe.)	Deodorant	It will provide female students in our district with needed feminine hygiene products. Many students do not have the funds available to have extra supplies for use at school if needed. It saves students the embarrassment of not having access to needed feminine products.	Approx. \$2,000 plus all of the donated supplies we try to gather to help offset the cost each year
Southwest - 6	Cabarrus County Schools - 130	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads		Students will receive access to feminine health and hygiene products to help ensure access to these items independent of student and family financial status. Students with the need of such products will be able to focus on school and academic access rather than anxieties associates with restricted access to feminine hygiene products.	\$5,000
Southwest - 6	Carolina International School - 13A	Charter	\$5,000	Pads,Other (Please describe.)	Underwear	Many of our students have limited resources for feminine hygiene products and rely on the school to provide them for use during the school day. We are currently only able to afford pads, this grant would also help us afford underwear so girls don't have to miss out on educational time to wait for parents to bring them if they experience leaks.	\$500
North Central - 3	Central Carolina Academy - 53D	Charter	\$500	Tampons,Pads		This grant would help me provide hygiene products to the students/families that may not have the means/money. At this time the products are provided by myself and other caring parents.	\$550
Southwest - 6	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools - 600	LEA	\$5,000	Pads,Period Underwear		Many young women in our school district may not be prepared or may not be able to afford menstrual health products. Often, students come to our school without necessary products. By offering these supplies to the students we can ensure they are managing their health needs and able to remain in school.	\$40,000
North Central - 3	Chatham County Schools - 190	LEA	\$3,500	Tampons,Pads		When our budget for supplies runs out our students resort to calling parents and often leave school unnecessarily and this means less time in the classroom for instruction. Academic performance suffers. Students often fixate on the issue of not having what they need due to financial hardship and it affects performance in the classroom.	\$800
Western - 8	Cherokee County Schools - 200	LEA	\$4,000	Tampons,Pads		We live in a low socioeconomic area in which many of our students live at or below the poverty level. Providing feminine hygiene products at school will assist families in meeting this need and promote the health and well being of our female students. We have 4 high schools that this program would benefit.	\$1,000
Sandhills - 4	Clinton City Schools - 821	LEA	\$2,500	Tampons,Pads,Other (Please describe.)	Feminine hygiene wipes, panty liners for light days, variety sizes of cotton underwear	This grant would allow us to increase our current supplies of feminine hygiene products that are available to our students and meet the need beyond school hours. Our 6th-12th grade schools serves approximately 1,570 students which includes 761 female students. Increasing access to appropriate supplies will support mental health of students by decreasing anxiety and stress our students feel in not having access to supplies when needed. Students may not have these items due to lack of personal funding or situations in which they are living where these items are not provided. These students will be able to have access to sanitary items so they will be more comfortable at school and provide an environment for our young women so they need not be embarrassed.	\$1,500
Northwest - 1	Edenton-Chowan Schools - 210	LEA	\$1,200	Pads,Other (Please describe.)	Feminine wipes, underwear	Our school district is located in a low wealth area. Many students rely on the school to supply their monthly feminine hygiene needs. We can also use the funds to have extra underwear on hand for times of mishaps, which happen quite frequently. This causes the parents to leave work to furnish clothing so the young ladies can remain at school and have a productive educational day. Would we be allowed to purchase jogging shorts/pants for times when a parent doesn't have gas money to drive 15-25 miles to the school?	\$500
North Central - 3	Edgecombe County Public Schools - 330	LEA	\$3,600	Pads,Period Underwear		We serve a low socioeconomic population. Many students miss school due to lack of personal hygiene supplies.	We ask for donations as we do not have a budget to support this need in our district.
Northwest - 1	Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Public Schools - 700	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear		Our district is in a rural county in Northeastern North Carolina. We are a Title 1 district that serves students in three high schools, two middle schools, seven elementary schools, and one community school. This grant in the past has allowed us to meet the needs of our young women and help them to return to the classroom setting with little to no educational time missed. These hygiene products are items that our young women must have to meet their daily needs and knowing they can receive them at school when in need gives them peace of mind and helps to eliminate anxiety and embarrassment when they do not have the means to bring those items from home.	\$5,000.00
Sandhills - 4	Emereau-Bladen - 09B	Charter	\$1,000	Pads,Other (Please describe.)	Feminine wipes, feminine hygiene pouches	By receiving this grant, students at our school would be given increased access to feminine hygiene supplies. Our school is in a low income county in which free lunches are provided to the public school students. However, as a charter school, we do not have a cafeteria to be able to provide access to free lunch. Access to feminine hygiene products could help offset some cost to the population of our school who menstruate and may otherwise not have as many options.	\$800
North Central - 3	Franklin County Schools - 350	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Other (Please describe.)	ThermaCare menstrual patches (if allowed with funding)	Provision of feminine hygiene products helps to keep our students in school and able to learn. Some families cannot afford this type of product and due to lack of supplies at some schools, the resources may be limited and not readily available. Easy access to this type of product also helps eliminate embarrassment of having to ask for resources frequently. Providing thermacare heat patches has allowed us to provide a non-pharmaceutical option to managing discomfort and decreased the number of students going home due to menstrual cramps.	\$4,000
Southwest - 2	Girls Leadership Academy of Wilmington - 65G	Charter	\$1,500	Tampons,Pads,Menstrual Cups,Period Underwear,Reusable Pads		We are an all girls school that assists our students in avoiding "period poverty" while trying to best serve all of their health needs. This would be a leap in the success of this stance for all of our students.	\$1,000
North Central - 3	Granville County Schools - 390	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear,Other (Please describe.)	Wipes, clothing	Providing this support for our students will impact the financial burden many of our students have due to living in a small rural area with limited sources of income. Our students will have the opportunity to maintain student attendance often interrupted due to not having monthly feminine hygiene products and clothing options.	\$5,000

Southeast - 2	Greene County Schools - 400	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads		This grant would enable us to provide hygiene supplies to students that struggle to purchase these items. It would help remove any embarrassment and barriers to education that some of our students experience.	\$5,000
Piedmont Triad - 5	Gulford County Schools - 410	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Other (Please describe.)	Panty liners	Gulford County Schools is committed to providing equitable access to supports and resources necessary for students to achieve at their highest level. This grant will allow GCS to have products on hand to promote feminine hygiene. Having the ability to provide these basic necessities for students so they will be able to focus on their personal learning and growth without worrying from where throughout the school day, these products can be retrieved.	5,000
Northeast - 1	Halifax County Schools - 420	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear,Other (Please describe.)	Feminine wipes and disposable washcloths, to purchase items to place in a feminine bag.	Student will be able to attend school without the overall concern of not having adequate feminine hygiene products during the day which will decrease stress and provide social and emotional support. It will allow them to stay in better health due to promoting good hygiene and help reduce the risk of infections.	\$3000 to \$5000 is spent annually on feminine hygiene products.
North Central - 3	Harnett County Schools - 430	LEA	\$5,000	Pads,Other (Please describe.)	Flushable moist baby wipes	The district supports students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds creating significant disparities among those students with access to feminine hygiene supplies. Having the ability to address these disparities allows for opportunities for dignity and learning in our female populations.	\$6,500 in personal spending across 29 schools from Counselors/nurses and EC staff.
Northeast - 1	Hyde County Schools - 480	LEA	\$2,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear,Other (Please describe.)	pamphlets regarding feminine hygiene	Hyde County is an impoverished Tier 1 community that has insecurities that span from housing to food. We have noticed an increased need in feminine hygiene products from nursing requests. This grant will ensure that no one has feminine health insecurities. This grant will ensure the school system has products available to students who are in need of hygiene items. Transportation is limited in Hyde County and students are unable to easily access necessary items.	Annually teachers and nurse spend their own personal fund. The amount that the district has spent in recent years has been zero. Last year we spent approx. \$300 stocking a new nurses station with tampons and pads.
Southwest - 6	Iredell Charter Academy of Arts & Science - 49G	Charter	\$3,500	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear,Other (Please describe.)	Underwear	It will allow the students to have free and easy access to hygiene products and not have to worry about leaking, forgetting supplies or running out.	\$1,200
Western - 8	Jackson County Public Schools - 500	LEA	\$2,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear		JCPS girls can miss several days of school when they don't have adequate supplies for their menstrual cycle. We provide materials free of charge to any girl in need.	\$500
North Central - 3	Johnston County Public Schools - 510	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear		Johnston County Schools has a very low wealth population and is in need of hygiene supplies for their schools. We have students needing assistance with items while at school everyday.	Over \$1000.00 - May be larger number. A lot of our nurses purchase them with their own money so it is not tracked. We have 48 schools with over 37,000 students.
Southwest - 6	Lakeside Charter Academy - 61J	Charter	\$500	Tampons,Pads		Lakeside is a small charter school with limited funding. This grant will allow us to provide feminine hygiene products to our students at no cost.	\$500
Northeast - 1	Martin County Schools - 580	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear,Other (Please describe.)	Feminine Hygiene Wipes, Feminine Hygiene Deodorant Spray, Feminine Hygiene Wash	Martin County Schools has been unable to provide female students with the feminine hygiene products needed at school. Students have to call home to get necessary items, and sometimes, calling home does not fill the needs of some students. There is a need for feminine hygiene wash, deodorant, and wipes in the schools as well.	\$750
North Central - 3	Nash County Public Schools - 640	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear		Majority of students are low income and students frequently do not have supplies when they are on their period. Knowing that the school can provide them with this product will allow them to attend school consistently and remove a possible barrier to learning.	\$0 - We rely on donations from the community
Northwest - 7	Newton Conover City Schools - 182	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads		The Newton-Conover City Schools district has a population of 2,753 students, of which approximately 41% are white, 30% are Hispanic, 11% are African American, 10% are 2 or more races, and 8% are Asian, indicating we have a diverse population of students. Of the students in grades five through twelve, 47% are female. Most of our schools receive Title I funds indicating the majority of the families we serve come from low socio-economic levels who struggle to afford the necessities, including feminine hygiene products. We do not have a budget for feminine hygiene products and rely solely on donations from community partners. Most of our female students who are at the age of menstruation depend on the schools they attend to provide products for them to use at school and at home. Awarding of this grant would ensure that our students will have these basic need supplies they greatly depend on from the school.	\$0
North Central - 3	Oxford Preparatory School - 39B	Charter	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear,Reusable P		We see a clear need for Feminine Hygiene Products in our area and our students are so thankful for these resources. We see a clear uptake of products on Fridays and before holidays when our students will not typically have access to these items.	\$500
Southwest - 2	Pamlico County Schools - 690	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear,Reusable Pads		Pamlico County is a rural area that has a significant amount of individuals and thus students with low socioeconomic statuses. Our students, school, and community could benefit largely by a resource like this. This funding/grant would supply proper funds to purchase a variety of feminine hygiene products, which are otherwise extremely costly and not accessible to our student population.	\$0 - Personal Funds
Southeast - 2	Pender County Schools - 710	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear		This grant would impact the overall wellbeing of our students by helping to eliminate period product insecurity. It would also decrease the absentee rate of our female students as some students do not come to school during their menstrual cycle due to lack of supplies and therefore embarrassment. Students need to be at school to learn and if we can make sure they do not have any obstacles in their way this improves their health and well-being.	\$12,000
North Central - 3	Person County Schools - 730	LEA	\$4,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear,Reusable Pads		Person county is a low wealth county and these products will help our girls when their families may not have enough extra income to provide for them.	\$2,000
Southwest - 6	Pinnacle Classical Academy - 23A	Charter	\$3,000	Tampons,Pads		Students who lack access to needed menstrual products and encounter school-related barriers to menstrual equity may experience: Shame, embarrassment, and stigma. They can experience challenges participating in physical school activities, partly due to fear of menstrual leaks. By being able to provide feminine products we are able to keep more students in school for learning and also to help with their self confidence/esteem. It is vital for students to feel safe and comfortable at school to be able to learn. By allowing students the opportunity to have these products in school we eliminate a barrier to regular attendance and promote healthy habits.	\$2,000
Sandhills - 4	Public Schools of Robeson County - 780	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Menstrual Cups,Period Underwear,Other (Please describe.)	Soap, deodorant, feminine or flushable wipes	neighboring regions. Students daily come to staff with the needs and some have accumulated absences due to the need. This grant will support students financially, emotionally, and help us keep them at school. The attendance data in our school and county is atrocious in comparison to adjacent counties. We're implementing new strategies to support student attendance. This would be a great asset to rectifying this problem.	\$3,000-\$4,800
Piedmont Triad - 5	Quality Education Academy - 34B	Charter	\$3,500	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear		We have several under privileged students in our school that would benefit from this program	We have been buying these out of our own pockets
Piedmont Triad - 5	Randolph County School System - 760	LEA	\$5,000	Pads		Randolph County has a large population of low income students, and is an area in which all of the 17 elementary schools and 1 middle school qualify for Title I funding. This would make a huge impact on the health, financial, and emotional strain it can be for students who do not have the resources they need during the school day. This would also positively impact attendance for students who do not have the resources and feel it hard to proceed with daily activities during this transition.	approximately \$7,500
Northeast - 1	Roanoke Rapids City Schools - 421	LEA	\$3,000	Tampons,Pads		Many students in our district come from low income families that cannot afford basic needs such as feminine hygiene products. This would give the students the security of knowing they are available when they need them.	\$500
Piedmont Triad - 5	Rockingham County Schools - 790	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Other (Please describe.)	Flushable wipes, feminine deodorant, panties and/or leggings for replacing soiled items	Our schools are rural and serve large percentage of students from low-socioeconomic status households. Many come to school without needed academic supplies nor personal care supplies. This grant provides much needed assistance to our students, allowing them to have their needs met and return to class timely to minimize instructional disruption.	\$0-Our district doesn't have any budgetary funds for these products. We rely on donations or willingness of staff purchases.
North Central - 3	Rocky Mount Preparatory - 64A	Charter	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear,Other (Please describe.)	Feminine wipes	This grant will impact the health and well-being of our students by giving them access to feminine hygiene products not only at school but will allow feminine care packages for home use. Because we are a Title I school with a high percentage of low-income families, hygiene products are a constant need and not always accessible.	\$425

North Central - 3	Rolesville Charter Academy - 93P	Charter	\$5,000	Pads,Period Underwear,Other (Please describe.)	Panty liners	This will greatly help the students in using the products for health purposes, hygienic practices and have extra pads in case they don't bring anything in school.	\$5,000
Southwest - 6	Rowan-Salisbury Schools - 800	LEA	\$5,000	Pads,Period Underwear		We will use the funds to purchase period underwear and pads for our students without adequate sanitary products at school and home. When feminine hygiene products are easily available at school, girls are more likely to attend school, ensure proper hygiene and care during their cycle. This can result in enhancing students' overall health, confidence, attendance, and academic success.	\$3,000
Sandhills - 4	Sampson County Schools - 820	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear		We are a rural, Tier 1 county where many of our students are economically distressed and live in impoverished homes. Our female students often rely on the school nurse to provide period products they cannot afford to purchase on their own. Additionally, our school nurses buy these products out of their own pockets.	We spend ~\$6,500 annually on feminine hygiene products.
Sandhills - 4	Scotland County Schools - 830	LEA	\$2,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear,Reusable Pads		Scotland Co. is a low-wealth county. Many students that request hygiene products have parents with limited resources, income. In many cases, students are given enough pads/tampons to keep at home during their period.	\$1,500 plus we ask for donations from staff.
Southwest - 6	Stanly County Schools - 840	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Other (Please describe.)	Feminine Cleansing Wipes	Having a supply of feminine products will benefit our students that need them while at school, or for those that need access outside of school, but cannot get them. Students often have situations that occur unexpectedly, so having a supply on hand will help with that. It will also decrease lost instructional time for students that are having to search for feminine products during the school day. Covid has greatly changed the way we communicate. As we have advanced to the post-COVID crisis stage, the reduction of communication and interaction outside the people we reside with has made it difficult for many to express their needs adequately. More specifically, young females should be able to articulate their needs regarding their menstrual concerns. More and more girls are demonstrating a higher risk for bacterial or urinary tract infections due to a lack of access to sanitation products in the home and school. There has been an uptick in the demand for feminine products, even stemming from second grade throughout high school. To ensure our girls are comfortable and confident about themselves, sanitary-focused, and knowledgeable about how to prevent or reduce odor and the risks of vaginal and urinary infections, we must help them to manage their menstruations. Research supports that students who have their basic needs met are confident and are more engaged and active in their learning.	\$7,000
Piedmont Triad - 5	Surry County Schools - 860	LEA	\$5,000	Pads,Other (Please describe.)	Underwear	Surry County Schools is a rural, Tier-1 county. This grant will impact the dignity of our female students. These products help counselors and school nurses provide the necessary items needed for our students. It helps the health and well-being by taking a burden off of students to know these items are provided for them.	\$3,000
Western - 8	Swain County Schools - 870	LEA	\$1,500	Tampons,Pads		This allows for the bathrooms at Swain Middle and Swain High to be stocked with products so that the no girl has to 'ask' for a pad/tampon.	\$200 of personal funds for one middle school's hygiene products. Our district spends less than that.
Piedmont Triad - 5	The College Preparatory and Leadership A - 41H	Charter	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear,Other (Please describe.)	Feminine bags for hygiene products and any additional tools and supplies that will support educating our female scholars	At CPLA we find that our scholars are starting their menstrual cycles a lot earlier and at school. Often times they do not have the necessary supplies so staff have purchase pads, tampons and even underwear that can be accessed to support the needs of our scholars.	We spend roughly \$1,000 but we have been graciously blessed that numerous staff members reach into their own pockets and donate items to the school so that all students have what they need.
Western - 8	The Mountain Community Sch - 45A	Charter	\$500	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear		Our students frequently access the office requesting pads, tampons or clean underwear because they were caught unaware. Having products available keeps students at school.	Out of pocket : approximately \$200, which is not sufficient
Southwest - 6	Union County Public Schools - 900	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Other (Please describe.)	Underwear	As budgets tighten at the school levels, it would be great to provide supplies to our schools to support student's needs. We have in the past purchased underwear for students so they are able to remain at school thus maximizing instructional time. Thanks for the consideration.	\$5,000
Southwest - 6	Valor Preparatory Academy - 138	Charter	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads		As a private school we are able to take care of our female students' basic needs without causing embarrassment or judgement of their financial situation. This will aid in protecting the mental health of our students who don't otherwise have the access or resources to afford such materials. I serve a K-12 school, so half of my population consists of students who use feminine products. Providing educational tools and materials about female hygiene and puberty would benefit our students greatly.	\$3,000
North Central - 3	Vance Charter School - 91A	Charter	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Reusable Pads,Other (Please describe.)	Printed materials about menstrual cycles; underwear		\$2,500
North Central - 3	Vance County Schools - 910	LEA	\$5,000	Pads		As a school nurse I will say we are seeing students enter puberty at a much younger age than in years past. Therefore, the needs for menstrual education and feminine hygiene products reaches a much larger group of students within all of our elementary, middle, and high schools. The availability of such products is not always guaranteed to our students at home due to cost or ability to obtain the products, but being able to meet their health and well-being needs here at school allows them to feel comfortable, confident and also reduces absences related to soiled clothing or not attending due to lack of access to proper hygiene products.	We do not currently have a budget for these products therefore we rely heavily on community donations and many school staff end up buying products out of their pockets themselves so that they can have them available for their students when they need them.
Southeast - 2	Wayne County Public Schools - 960	LEA	\$5,000	Pads		Wayne County Public Schools, a low wealth school district with over 17,000 students, will use this grant to purchase pads for school nurses and school social workers - many of whom students go to obtain feminine hygiene items because of their lack of resources at home. Because inflation has greatly increased the costs of personal hygiene products, our student services support teams recognize that having feminine hygiene products at school will reduce embarrassment and remove this barrier for children whose families cannot afford to purchase them. We believe this is critical to keep students at school, necessary for academic recovery, and reduce absenteeism due to a student's lack of resources at home. Note: Without this grant, school nurses and school social workers have to seek donations of pads to support children who lack items at school.	\$0
Northeast - 1	Weldon City Schools - 422	LEA	\$5,000	Tampons,Pads,Period Underwear		Over 10% of the population at Weldon City Schools are identified as homeless and over 94.06% are experiencing poverty. The grant will remove the barrier for students attending school because they do not have access to period products. Prior to the pandemic 4 out of 5 students reported either missing school or knowing a classmate who missed school due to not having period products.	\$2,500
Northwest - 7	Wilkes County Schools - 970	LEA	\$5,000	Pads,Period Underwear		Due to great need for menstrual supplies in our district, we have purchased carts to go in every restroom in our nine middle and high schools to enhance menstrual equity in our district. We also provide them through school nurses and teachers to students in our thirteen elementary schools. We have partnered with the NC Diaper Bank to help provide these supplies, but find we need additional supplies for our program in between the periods when we can order from the Diaper Bank. Our students benefit by having the products they need to reduce their anxiety and improve their attendance in school.	\$5,000
			\$ 250,000	Total			