



Indiana Department of Education

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21st Century Community Learning Centers

2016 RFP Workshops – Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: What is suggested if you are an organization that provides services to more than one School Corporation? Do you apply with one application or more than one application?

A: That is an organizational decision on how you think it is best to set up your application. Each school corporation would be able to apply and list your organization as a partner provider or your organization could apply and list the different schools you will serve.

Q2: When the RFP is available, will there be a template or guidelines for expectations of each section?

A: Yes, the RFP will indicate the page limit or format required for each section.

Q3: In expanding a current cohort of funding, can we add students?

A: A Cohort 7 grantee is eligible for funding in the 2016 RFP as long as the program is expanding. Adding students to the current program is not enough to secure additional funds. For example, if the current program is serving two schools, an expansion would involve serving two additional schools.

Q4: Can 21st Century be expanded to summer school (if there is no local summer school)?

A: Summer programming is an eligible activity for 21st CCLC.

Q5: If a rural applicant is not low income, are they eligible to apply?

A: Yes. Please refer to eligibility section of the RFP.

Q6: How would an applicant prove previous success of their program?

A: An applicant may prove previous success by sharing the story of their program. A reference to or submission of data on the program is also admissible.

Q7: What is the split between elementary and middle school?

A: Elementary school includes 6th grade whereas Middle school starts at 7th grade.

Q8: Can we apply to serve high school even though we are already serving Jr/Sr High School?

A: Yes. Current grantees must expand their programs if applying for cohort 8 funding. See eligibility requirements in the RFP.

Q9: Can a nonprofit/neighborhood center provide a before/after school program for 4-5 year old students who attend a school-based preschool/early childhood education program?

A: Preschool/early learning programs are eligible for 21st CCLC programming.

Q10: How many awards were issued in the last funding cycle and how many applied?

A: For the 2013 RFP there were 115 applications and 54 awards were issued, with one grantee later dropping from the program.

Q11: How many priority points may an applicant use?

A: Priority points may be selected from each category.

Q12: How are the priority points weighted?

A: One priority point may be selected for an additional five (5) points per category.

Q13: Will a Promise Zone designation be included for priority points?

A: No, a Promise Zone designation is not included for this year's priority points.

Q14: Do you have to justify being rural for the priority point?

A: Yes, a rural applicant will have to prove that status based on the definition in the RFP

Q15: For the proposed 25 mile rule for rural applicants, does it matter if it is in another state?

A: No.

Q16: Is Accounting a Direct Cost?

A: No. According to 34 CFR 76.565, as used in the restricted indirect cost rate formula, general management costs include the costs of accounting, payroll preparation, or personnel management.

Q17: Is the money awarded to the entity (school) tied in directly to the amount of Title I funds that school receives? If so, how does it tie in?

A: No. The total 21st CCLC funds for state are based on the Title I funds for the state. The award amount given to a grantee is based on their application, not the amount of Title I funds for that school.

Q18: What is a grantee's relationship with a school improvement plan?

A: Focus and Priority schools have school improvement plans and the 21st CCLC grant should be included in that plan.

Q19: Does the funding reduction in years 3 & 4 apply for previous grantees in the history of the grant or just grantees currently funded (Cohort 6 or 7)?

A: A previous grantee includes participation in any of the previous cohorts. For example, if an organization received funding as a part of Cohort 5 but are not a grantee in Cohorts 6 or 7, that organization is still considered a previous grantee.

Q20: Are matching funds required?

A: No, matching funds is not a requirement of this grant.

Q21: Are education based nutrition and health food costs allowable?

A: Cooking programs are an allowable activity to foster application of reading, writing, math, and science skills. Food costs for snacks, meals, or entertainment purposes are unallowable.

Q22: If an application is for a certain amount, is it possible to be awarded at a lower amount? Is it what you apply for or nothing?

A: No, it is not the amount you apply for or nothing at all. It is possible to be selected as a grantee with a lower amount than was requested in the application.

Q23: May an organization serve as their own fiscal agent or must they find an outside fiscal agent?

A: It is not required to find a separate fiscal agent.

Q24: Is a grantee's sustainability plan for each year of the grant or for all four years?

A: Yes. However, adjustments to the plan are permitted.

Q25: How many years does an evaluator have to be in service?

A: IDOE 21st CCLC does not require an evaluator to have a number of years of experience. Please refer to the Evaluation sections of the RFP.

Q26: Is there a percentage of the budget that must be used for evaluation?

A: No more than 6% of the total award amount may be used for evaluation services.

Q27: How would an applicant find a local evaluator?

A: The IDOE cannot make recommendations. The American Evaluation Association's Indiana branch lists evaluators located in the state.

Q28: Are there new evaluation requirements in ESSA and U.G.G?

A: The new ESSA requirements are a work in progress. As we receive more information, we will update the field regarding any changes.

Q29: Will the number of students expected to attend a program correlate with the award amount given?

A: Yes, the RFP includes a chart with ranges of students to serve per funding range.

Q30: If an instructional assistant that works under 30 hours a week for the awarded school is hired to work for the after-school program and then works over 30 hours, does that employee have to be given health care? Does the after-school program count as a different job?

A: Please consult with your human resource department.

Q31: Does all of the programming need to be evidence-based?

A: Yes, for the most part. Of course some aspects of the program (like mentoring) are not evidence based. Overall the curriculum implemented should be evidence-based.

Q32: Expanded Computer Lab, can we pay for the staff to cover this?

A: Yes. If 21st CCLC student will use the computer lab for a certain number of hours per week a portion of the staff pay may be used by 21st CCLC funds.

Q33: What is the youngest age allowable to serve if they are in a K-12 school but not school age?

A: Four (4) years old. Please see RFP for Early Learning requirements.

Q34: What are the Professional Development opportunities through the grant?

A: The 21st CCLC program has developed a Professional Development Academy with different topic streams. Grantees have access to the Academy to further their skills and training.

Q35: What is the cost of the Professional Development Academy?

A: The IDOE 21st CCLC program has worked with different vendors to set up the Academy at a fair price for grantees. The expenses of PD through the Academy are allowable through grant funds.

Q36: Does the PD need to align to your priority point selection?

A: Yes, due to the new accountability components of the priority points, PD will need to align with the point selection.

Q37: What are the programming hours required by the grant?

A: For elementary school students the minimum programming is four days a week for 12 hours per week of services. For middle school students, the minimum is 10 hours per week and for high school the minimum is eight hours per week.