2020-21 21st CCLC RFP Question and Answer-Week 4

All the questions have been organized by the RFP section most pertinent to the response. We hope this will help readers navigate the documents better. The questions posted here include questions received through the RFP email (21stCCLCRFP@fldoe.org) and will contain those received during the RFP webinars. Duplicate questions have only been included once, in most instances. All questions submitted prior to this deadline but not posted in this update will be posted in the next updated Q & A. The deadline for submitting questions was Friday, April 3, 2020. Questions submitted after this deadline will be answered at the discretion of the 21st CCLC State Director.

(Key: Questions are in *italics*, answers are in **bold**.)

Section 1: General

How do you qualify to be added to the Eligible List?

District superintendents were sent a memo prior to the opening of the RFP to identify additional schools in need of support. These schools were added to the Eligible List. Only local education agencies (LEAs) are given the authority to do this according to ESEA Sec. 4203(3)(A)(2).

Where do we get the Agency number from? Not sure, I thought the RFP mentioned we wouldn't have one yet?

The agency number is assigned by the FDOE Office of Grants Management after the deadline. Agencies without an agency number should leave it blank.

Can an agency applying for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (Number 84.287C 1.4), for the purpose of providing opportunities during non-school hours offer an in-school service component?

The Statewide RFP is for out-of-school time programs only. The Expanded Learning Programs (ELP) RFP can offer an in-school component.

Would schools with separate grade configurations need to apply separately? For example, if there is a campus with more than one MSID#--such as an elementary and a middle school—would they be allowed to apply together?

We don't require that the grade configurations be separate. However, considering that the charter schools must apply through the districts, you may have to abide by district parameters that they set in addition to our requirements. We have existing projects with elementary and middle schools on the same project.

Since the application deadline has been extended for two weeks to Friday, May 15th, will you please extend the deadline for submitting questions for two weeks through Friday, April 17th? After the deadline, we will consider questions at the discretion of the Program Office.

Since it is NOT necessary to obtain the endorsement of the school in which we wish to perform services, would an applicant receive a deduction of points for not providing it in the RFP response?

The applications are scored by external reviewers and not by the FDOE. Therefore, we cannot determine how a reviewer would score specific scenarios.

The grant application is for grades Pre-K-12. As an Early Education Provider, may the Pre-K students in my care be included in the grant? Is the RFP restricting Pre-K Children to Expanded Learning Program participants serving in Public School Only?

PreK students that are targeted must attend eligible schools as indicated in Section 1.5 of the RFP.

We have several schools on the TS&I and CS&I list that have N/A beside them that are actually current high-need schools (2019-2020 vs 2018-2019). Does this mean we cannot use them to target students? They are not on the LEA list. Another school is listed N/A because they are K-2 but feed into a high need school. Can we target students there?

The schools that have N/A are not eligible as they are not identified as TS&I or CS&I.

If a school is Community Eligible for Free & Reduced Lunch, 100% eat free at all our schools. Can we use Economically Disadvantaged Percentages?

Yes, you may use economically disadvantaged percentages.

Would a school that will be opening in August 2020 be eligible to apply for the 21st CCLC grant if the school is not yet identified as "in need" or "not in need" of support? The school will be located in a campus that was previously a 21st CCLC recipient with a different organization. It has been closed as the management company of the previous school closed down. Knowing that the school was a recipient of 21st CCLC funds, an academic program is being designed that would benefit the future students and parents.

Target schools must meet the eligibility requirements in Section 1.5 of the RFP. Schools that may have been eligible under No Child Left Behind (NCLB) may no longer be eligible under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) as eligibility requirements changed.

Can a school with a current 21st CCLC program, change providers in the middle of a 5-year cycle?

Please discuss this process with your existing program development specialist.

Can a program drop its current CCLC provider and start a new 5-year cycle with a new provider? The existing program should discuss the specifics of this scenario with the existing program development specialist.

If awarded the grant for 2020-2021, will there be a mandatory, annual step-down in funding for grant years two through five? If so, how is that decrease amount determined?

There is no mandatory funding adjustment during the subsequent years of the project.

We are in our 5th and final year of the grant funding. Is there something else besides the RFP that needs to be completed or a renewal process for programs that are already receiving funding?

If you are in your final year of funding, the Monitoring and Compliance Unit will be in touch with you regarding closeout procedures. If you wish to receive more funding, you should apply under this RFP.

During the webinar, it was stated about the selection of sites and no duplications of existing sites. Can a site be selected that is presently in operation, but that site grant is it is fifth year...closes out?

Yes, a site that is closing out would be eligible to be funded again.

I am wondering after attending the webinar, it seems like the school should potentially hire someone to take on this project as most school staff members do not know most of this material. I have been assigned to help with this, but I am just the school data clerk and I can help pull data, the rest is foreign to me. Should someone else be involved with this process who is more qualified?

Many agencies develop grant proposals in different ways. We encourage you to reach out to your agency to express your concerns.

If a community based organization runs an afterschool program on-site at a local public high school can they run their summer program serving the same high school at a different facility (a Center for Community Outreach) during the summer?

Yes, the agency should indicate the location of the both programs in their narrative and on their site profile worksheet.

If a community based organization runs an afterschool program on site at a specific local public high school can their summer program (either on-site at the high school or in another facility different from that high school) serve that specific public high school and other target high schools?

Yes, if the target high schools are eligible according to Section 1.5 of the RFP and identified in the application. Also, note that the site can serve up to four schools to support appropriate coordination.

May we provide services at our club for middle school students? It is listed as a TS& I school for which we plan to serve African American and students with disabilities.

Services may be provided at locations that are as safe and accessible as the student's local school as indicated in the Facilities and Safety and Student Transportation sections under Section 3.

On the webinar the presenter said if the school is not identified as in need (TS&I, CS&I, or identified by the district itself), then the school is not eligible. Is this true? If not, I have a follow-up question: one of the schools on the letter of intent has not opened yet (but is slated to open this upcoming school year). Would that school be eligible?

Eligibility for 21st CCLC is based on school improvement status as listed in the question. As new schools do not have any data to have a school improvement status, they would not be eligible.

We applied for – and did not receive – 21^{st} Century Community Learning Center funding for some sites last year. At one point we were given access to our completed applications and points rankings by sections from the evaluators. Could we have access to those applications and rankings again? The evaluations would be very helpful.

Please send an email to 21stcclcrfp@fldoe.org with the specifics of your agency and we can get that information to you.

What are the major differences, if any, between this year's 21st Century Community Learning Centers application and last year's?

Each applicant must read the RFP to make the determination in the differences in the application.

We are applying for a site that will serve three schools, one of which operates a 21st Century Community Learning Center in its building. Our program would be at a separate site away from any of the school buildings. You said that we cannot operate a program in the same building with an existing program, and we would not do so, but is the arrangement that we are suggesting acceptable?

Yes, a program can serve another set of students in a location off site from the program that is serving students at their target scool.

Can school site "A" be included in the 2020-2021 competition? The school has a 21st CCLC program that will be ending this school year (July 2020). Can the school site be included in this new competition?

The school site can be included if it is eligible according to Section 1.5 of the RFP.

Does the ELP grant require an existing 21st CCLC program to be in place in order to apply for the ELP?

No, an existing program is not required to be in place.

Our county does not appear on the List of counties not being served, however we don't have a 21st CCLC program serving our general student population. I believe there is some confusion with the DJJ program (serves only boys & these come from all over the state- not our county), which our public school students may not apply for, nor be served at. May this list be reviewed and perhaps our county be added?

This question has been sent to leadership for discussion as the RFP is typically not altered after it has been approved for release.

What is the timeline for awarding grants after submission? Would we be notified by July 1, 2020?

The program period for the award begins on August 1st. Notifications of recommendations for funding are currently scheduled to be disseminated by July 1.

In light of COVID-19, applicants will have to hold conference calls and/or virtual meetings to involve nonpublic schools and the community in the development of grant applications. Is this ok? How do we document and upload the meetings occurred?

This is reasonable. You may document with logs, meeting minutes, notes or other communication mechanisms as appropriate.

Can an agency include a school location in their proposal if they are a subcontractor at the school by another nonprofit?

The school location should not house an existing 21st CCLC program that will be in operation in 2020-21.

Can we select 3 targeted schools and 1 private school? Will this disqualify us if we include private school? Should we targeted 4 schools and collaborate with a private school? Based on Week 3 question, if funded, programs are required to offer services to students and adult family members of private school students and to offer professional development to teachers at the private school, so we would include this cost in the budget, correct?

A private school cannot be targeted as a target school, but may be consulted with, collaborated with and served as part of the equitable services provision.

Once the Grant Management Training is taken, it can be used for both of the RFP, correct? Grants Fiscal Management Training is required to be taken annually by each agency under reimbursement with performance. Once it is completed, it can be used for all applications.

Must all enrolled in the program meet all the following requirements:

- 1. Attend Title I school
- 2. School identified as in need of Targeted Support and Improvement (TS&I)
- 3. School identified as in need of Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CS&I)
- 4. School have been identified by an LEA (school district) as in need of support If not please clarify.

Students enrolled in a project funded under the statewide program must meet one of the requirements in 2-4 mentioned above. Students enrolled in a project funded under Expanded Learning Program must attend a Title I school (requirement #1) AND meet one of the requirements in #2-4 mentioned above.

Will the two RFP's be reviewed together or separately?

The applications will be reviewed separately as they will be randomly assigned to an expert panel of peer reviewers.

Can one school have both programs?

Yes, one school can have both a Statewide and an Expanded Learning Program.

How is funding dispersed?

Historically, each application is scored by at least three external expert peer reviewers. The scores are averaged and then priority points are added to any average score above 70. Applications are funded in order of highest scoring to lowest scoring until the funding allotted for the program is depleted.

Will applications be prioritized for funding based on 100 points or 123 points?

Applications will be prioritized based on 123 points for the Statewide Program and 113 for the Expanded Learning Program.

We are applying for both a BGC site and also a second application to run our programs at four school sites after school. For that latter program, that would fall under the original RFP, not the Extended, correct?

Yes, out-of-school time programming would fall under the Statewide RFP.

Are the 300 hours for the life of the grant or each month?

The 300 hours of programming are calculated annually.

Per the training on Friday morning, I understood that all schools listed qualify. But, as I look at the Clay County Schools on this list some don't qualify. They are on the list, however, when I checked their school report cards, they were identified for support as "NO." Therefore, please clarify – are the schools that qualify only those who list "Yes" Identified for support – in the edudata.fldoe.org site? Don't go by this list?

If the schools have been identified by the district as in need of support and are on the LEA-list, they are eligible schools. The schools on the LEA-list are not required to be designated as TS & I or CS & I.

Section 2: Fiscal and Administrative Requirements

Are you able to elaborate on Section 2.1? This does not pertain to other programs within the program, just the 21st CCLC program, correct?

Correct. Program income is not allowed for the 21st CCLC program.

FLAGS - how many users can we have, wondering if we can assign a backup person?

Please see the agency user guide here:

http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7604/urlt/FLAGS AgencyUser.pdf.

FLAGS - When should we access the system, now or once funded?

Programs should access the system after being awarded.

Section 2.8 Contractors - what are ancillary services?

Ancillary services are grant funded activities that an agency provides that do not delegate the provision of the scope of work to the agency.

Can we have an indirect cost line item? And if so what is the percentage?

Negotiated indirect costs are found here:

http://www.fldoe.org/finance/comptroller/indirect-cost-rates1920.stml

Do we need to get all 3 evaluator quotes this year with the COVID crisis? Yes, three evaluator quotes should be retrieved.

The presentation stated that only negotiated indirect costs will be allowed. Describe how nonprofit community-based organizations that have not previously had a negotiated rate should reflect the de minimis indirect cost rate allowed in OMB Uniform Guidance. De minimis is 10% of modified direct costs.

The de minimus indirect cost rate should include all costs that are of an administrative nature. If a non-profit community based organization elects to include an indirect cost rate, it should not include additional lines in the budget related to administrative costs. Examples of these types of costs are included in Section 2.15.

We learned that furniture is not an allowable expenditure; however, is other essential equipment permitted, such as computers, printers and other technology services that will be used by the students to research homework assignments and explore creative resources? Equipment is permissible. Please see Section 2.14 of the RFP for details.

Are short, group visits to local businesses, to learn and understand new careers and vocations, considered "field trips"? Will activities such as this require pre-approval?

Yes, these are considered field trips. If awarded, a program would have discussions with the Administrative Team regarding which field trips need approval.

Our summer career and technical development program for high school students places them in supported and moderated service learning and employment positions. Within the confines of the RFP how do we treat hours that participants partake in off-site service learning and employment opportunities? Do we treat these as field trips?

Off-site learning for high schools students may require a non-traditional model. If awarded, we would discuss your model with the Administrative Team to determine how to best provide technical assistance.

Our summer career and technical development program for high school students places them in supported and moderated service learning and employment positions. Do the hours that participants partake in these programs count as program hours per the RFA?

Off-site learning for high schools students may require a non-traditional model. If awarded, we would discuss your model with the Administrative Team to determine how to best provide technical assistance.

The program operates a Summer program as well and has several activities, for example, swimming, bowling, skating which is a necessary component in our program. Would

you consider these activities or field trips? If so, do we need permission to do these activities from you? Can we include the cost charged from the vendors in our budget cost?

If recommended for funding, our Administrative Team would determine how to best provide technical assistance to an agency in regards to field trips. Please note that 21st CCLC program field trips but be educational in nature, and entertainment venues are unallowable. Costs from vendors should be included in the budget.

If I were to hire an outside yoga company or chess company, etc - is that considered a contracted service?

Yes, this is a contracted service.

Section 3: Scope of Work/Narrative and Scoring Criteria

Public Notice - where can we get a copy of a previously awarded RFP from? It stated, we have to list the RFP on the webpage, so how can we locate a copy of that for someone who has applied before?

Previously awarded applications should be on the websites of the respective agencies.

Section 3.4 Can you give an example of what actually has to happen here? This item is confusing. I know you mentioned private schools are not eligible, so what are we actually doing to comply with this particular item?

According to Section 1.6, private entities are eligible to apply. This includes private schools. However, they must serve eligible schools listed in Section 1.5.

Section 3.4 Asks that applicants do the following:

- Describe how the applicant informed the school, district and community, including eligible private schools, of their intention to submit a proposal in response to this RFP.
- Include the locations or sources used to notify the community.
- Also describe how the proposal will be available to the community following its submittal.
- Include a detailed description of the platforms used to provide notice and share information and documentation.
- Describe what information will be available on the web page, what staff will be charged with maintaining the content and the timeline for the launch and maintenance of the web page.

What do programs currently do to meet the requirements for snacks/meals?

Programs enter into agreements with local food services organizations or become providers of meals. Please see the Food and Nutrition resources in the Resources and Links section of the RFP.

Please elaborate about this letter, what are the requirements on this letter? or is it a simple paper written Exempt?

The exemption letter for child care licensing is issued by the Florida Department of Children and Families. Please contact your local licensing office for more information.

I know that I do not need to be DCF licensed as we operate in public schools and serve middle school-aged children. Do I still need to apply to DCF for an Exemption Letter to upload for the project?

Please confirm your status with your local licensing office at DCF. If they do not require licensure or exemption, a middle school level program would not have to provide it; however, there are some localities that require licensure for middle school programs.

Is it allowable for programs to partner with community members who teach students a trade/skill that they can use to generate funds to help sustain the program once the program is no longer funded? For example. Can students plant and grow a lemon farm, create a lemon aid stand at school and use the funds to pay for services to sustain the program in years that the program is not funded?

Any income generated from 21st CCLC funding is program income and not allowable under this RFP.

In doing my needs assessment I have 85 Kindergarten students that fall under academic needs/ELL/Free and Reduced Lunch, but realistically only 40 students would really need the academic help. Do I do my budget based off of the 85 students or the 40?

The number of students is determined by the program; however, programs are encouraged to propose the number of students that they could reasonable serve each day.

For the Adult Family Service...Can family activities be held during the school day? For example, Family STEM day 9am-2pm.

Yes, family activities could be held during the day; however, programs should align programming times with the availability of the families served.

Is there a minimum or maximum number of students that must be served at each school site?

A minimum number of 10 students must be served from each school. There is not a maximum number across the board. It would be determined by a number of factors, such the maximum capacity of the site, etc.

Is it mandatory for 100% of students served in the program to participate in each activity? Each student must be afforded the opportunity to participate in all activities.

May I offer free before care and free breakfast? In one of the emails it states we have to include food but the webinar stated we cannot pay for food?

Before school is an option for programming. Funds cannot be used to pay for food. Applicants must find other funding sources for food.

The ISC has to be a position that is solely dedicated to this grant - I was going to try to hire someone that deals with social skills and coping, since we are incorporating behavior and

coping into our application - can that person be the same? Can I pay the whole salary? The webinar broke out the hours but if their job is that program - maybe working 8:30 to 4:30 or 9am to 5pm?

Yes, this is a reasonable use of funds associated with the Integrated Services Coordinator position.

Section 4: Project Budget

If an hourly employee works during the school day and is going to work the after school program, they will go over their 40 hours a week. How does overtime work? Would I calculate OT into their hourly salary?

Typically the federal program cannot solely take on the burden of overtime. These costs would be shared with the agency.

Is the FRG form and its formulas the single, definitive guide for determining the amount of the grant request? All budget items shown on the DOE 1010S must be derived after that number, yes?

Yes, the budgeted amount is derived from the FRG. The total budget must not exceed the FRG.

Can I opt out of including Fringe Benefits in my budget?

If an employee is contracted, Fringe Benefits would not be required. However, if an employee is employed by the agency, agencies should budget for at a minimum FICA and unemployment insurance in addition to the other benefits the agency offers.

Is there a cap on the percent of students that we can budget for?

The number of students budgeted for should correspond with the number of students proposed to be served on the Funding Request Guide.

Is there a cap on how many students or what proportion of students we can request funding for as part of the 21^{st} century CCLC program grant RFP?

The number of students proposed should be the number of students that the program expects to recruit to attend each day. The funding maximum is 700,000, so the student funding formula should not exceed that amount.

We charge a flat rate for our tutoring services per hour which is higher than the chart, how do we put this in the budget? Do we have to accept the rates that are listed in your funding guide? For example, I tutor a youth for \$45 per hour. If you say \$6.00 per hour how would this work? The \$6.00 per hour would not cover the hourly rate of the tutor?

The funding amounts are set by the FDOE Program Office and are not revisable. Please note that program income and supplanting are not allowable under this RFP.

Section 5: Priority Points

What is acceptable documentation for Priority 1 Points? 100% of our District's students receive free meals through community eligibility.

Acceptable documentation includes any documentation of the Free and Reduced Lunch rate sent to the Florida Department of Education.

What is considered mental health first aid to meet the requirement and get the bonus points? We applied last year as our staff receives mental health first aid training, but we did not get the points.

According to Section 5 of the RFP, the application must provide a professional development plan that includes the following:

- a calendar for training,
- the documentation of the evidence-basis of the curriculum and
- the qualifications of the proposed training entity.

Please also note that the priority asks for a plan for training. Training that has already been provided does not qualify for priority points.

How many priority points are awarded per each of the 5 Criteria?

Section 5 outlines the number of priority points awarded for each category.

Does an agency have to qualify for all five criteria to participate in the Priority Points, or (should we qualify with the needed 70 points), may we apply for only those that are most suitable? Yes, you can only apply for the priority points that are most suitable for your application.

Do we include all 3 components and then choose 3 areas for a total of 9 to focus on? **Yes, you can apply for up to nine areas.**

One of the priority point categories is for high schools that support workforce education. At no point do you describe what you will accept as evidence that our high schools are fulfilling the requirements. So, specifically, what evidence will be sufficient to prove that the high school for which we are applying supports workforce education?

Programs can outline how their program narrative supports workforce education and the grade levels of the students being targeted.

For the Priority Preference, the RFP states that it is the responsibility of the applicant to provide documentation that it meets the criteria. We have our documentation ready to upload for Priority 1, but the online application does not have an upload link under this priority. Are we still required to provide the evidence?

We have added upload links under this priority.

Section 6: Proposal Submittal Requirements

For charter school applicants, will you please confirm which documents must be signed by the Superintendent and which may be signed by the charter school? Normally, for charter school CSP grants, the Superintendent only signs the DOE 100a Project Application. The charter school should be the one signing the other documents since FDOE already has the District assurances on file. Charter schools are separate legal entities and need to take responsibility for the federal funding they receive. Since the District passes the funds through and monitors the charter school as a subrecipient, isn't it the responsibility of the Charter School Board Chair to sign the subrecipient assurances, the GEPA statement, and the Private School Assurances? The charter schools in question have been identified as high risk in their most recent Single Audit Report.

As stated in Section 1.6, all public schools, including charter schools, must apply through the school district.

Due to social distancing, it may not be possible to get both CEO and Board chair signature on the same page. Is it allowable to upload the docs separately if required? (same doc, signature on two separate pages)

Yes, however, we only require the agency head, which would be the CEO.

In the survey monkey format, supporting data charts and graphs are not upload-able in the text box.

No, this is not supported in the text box, but you may upload a file with these charts and graphs in the upload feature.

On the section where the actual live application was demonstrated, there was a section where the county must be checked. In the short amount of time we were on that section, and my scan of the counties listed, I did not see Alachua County. Are entities in Alachua County allowed to submit a proposal for this RFP?

This section is only for the respective priority points. Both RFPs are available to entities in all counties in the state of Florida.

Where can we find a comprehensive list of required uploads? Please review Section 6 of the RFP.

As of now, many agencies and school departments are closed because of COVID-19, and we have no idea how long the emergency will last and how long agencies will remain closed. Given this situation, we may have difficulty reaching appropriate people at partner agencies who can negotiate agreements or sign letters of partnership. Will any provisions be made for situations in which we cannot reach agreements or obtain needed documentation within current time limits?

We have extended the application deadline by two weeks to mitigate some concerns. Additionally, electronic signatures are allowable.

With the COVID crisis, are principal signatures required in the support letters? Principals are not required to sign; however, for applicants choosing to seek signatures, electronic signatures are allowable.

With many of our partner organizations and agencies being affected by closures due to the "stay-at-home directives" will this be considered since it may be difficult to secure letters of commitment and partnership opportunities from them that will need to be included in the proposals due by May 15, 2020?

Electronic letters of commitment will be considered.

For program offerings held during school and/or after school can digital formats be a way to make these offerings?

Digital formats can be one of many program offerings; however, typically 21st CCLC programs offer hands-on programming in actual physical program locations.

Please confirm that signatures for the 'agency head' for a community-based organization is the chairperson of the board – that for a local chapter that that would be the chairperson of the National board vs. the local advisory board – and that a letter authorizing someone else to sign needs to be signed by the chairperson of the National Board.

The agency head of a community-based organization is typically the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or an Executive Director.

When we hit the Review button in the application, will we be able to print out a copy of the application that we are going to submit?

Yes, you will be able to download your complete application.

Will peer reviewers be hired this year and what is the hiring process?

Yes, peer reviewers are hired annually. They apply and are screened for conflict of interest and educational and employment history qualification. After passing the initial screening, they apply to our funding entity as independent contractors. Peer reviewers are paid after they satisfy all the requirements of the review. Note that those whose agencies are currently funded by 21st CCLC programs or applying to 21st CCLC programs cannot be reviewers.

I am looking at the Forms section and am not seeing a number of the usual forms (e.g. Partners Table, Objectives Table, etc.). Can you tell me where to find those?

The forms are in the SurveyMonkey Apply application. The link is as follows: https://fldoe21cclc.smapply.io/.