

## **My Brother's Keeper Challenge Grant Questions and Answers**

1. Are eligible districts which have previously received MBK funds required /encouraged to pursue continuation funding, or is it possible to initiate programming to address a different milestone for a different aspect of the population?

**The eligible school district has the discretion to address one or more of the milestones for round 2 of funding. The use of MBKCG funds may be used to supplement but never supplant instructional models and activities that are required or are typically part of a rigorous educational plan or high functioning school system. Grantees may continue previously funded MBK Challenge Grant activities if the activities are in alignment with one or more of the three milestones.**

2. The RFP specifies that the FS-10's should be included as part of the application, outside of the 15-page limit. Will a Budget Narrative also be required, and if so, is that also outside of the 15-page limit?

**The Budget Narrative will be subject to the 15-page Project Narrative limit, but the FS-10 will not.**

3. Face page & page 2: January 13, 2020 – **June 30, 2020** ...*the first project period...January 13, 2020 and June 30, 2020...*Page 14: January 13, 2020 – **August 30, 2020** ...*for the initial 10-month project period of January 13, 2020 – August 30, 2020. The 10-month budget...*

**The typo in Section X Budget on page 14 is in error. The first project period will be January 13, 2020 – June 30, 2020; the second project period will be July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021; the third and final project period will be July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022. For the first project period, only expenses incurred between January 13, 2020 and June 30, 2020 will be eligible for coverage with these State funds.**

4. I am unable to find additional information about the MBK Challenge Webinar scheduled for tomorrow - time, dial in etc... Please guide me to the site to register and participate.

**A NYSED webinar was posted to the MBKCG webpage for viewing on 10/16/19. The webinar can be found at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/funding/2019-22-mbk-challenge-grant/webinar.html>**

5. With having to name the specific schools the grant will operate in, is the district limited to selecting TSI and CSI schools?

**Initiatives, activities or programs to improve outcomes for boys and young men of color must be prioritized at the schools identified as a TSI and CSI school within the district. However, students enrolled in the district in good standing schools are not excluded from participating in such activities.**

6. Are there any criteria for which school(s) are targeted by the grant?

**No, page 2 of the RFA details the Application Eligibility. The current list of eligible school districts can be found in the RFA Attachment X. (Charter Schools, non-public schools, and home-school groups or associations are not eligible applicants).**

7. There are three project periods, if the program is implemented but does not show results in the first six months, will program funding continue? For example, if there is no marked closure of the achievement gap in the first six-month program period.

**The My Brother's Keeper Challenge Grant targets closing the achievement gap among students in the elementary and secondary school grades. Project implementation and review will be provided by the program office. A fiscal hold maybe employed until a corrective action plan is reviewed and approved.**

8. If the district meets the matching fund requirement in-kind, can it be with items that are not allowable per criteria for use of grant funds?

**No, the match requirement must be used for activities related exclusively to the MBKCG project, and institutional accounts must be structured to reflect this contribution by the appropriate line item.**

9. Can you please clarify if an FS-10 must be submitted for the period 1/13/2020-8/30/2020, as stated on p. 14 of the RFP. Or, should the FS-10 be for the first project period is six months, 1/13/2020-6/30/2020.

**See question 4. The typo in Section X Budget on page 14 is in error. The FS-10 must be submitted for the first project period January 13, 2020 – June 30, 2020.**

10. On p. 17 of the RFP, it says the first project period can include expenses from 9/1/2019 to 6/30/2020. Is this correct? Or does this refer to the first project period listed on p. 1?

**The typo in Section XI Project Schedule on page 17 is in error. Only expenses incurred from January 13, 2020 – June 30, 2020 will be allowable.**

11. If we hand deliver our application, what name can we give when we arrive at the SED building for who we need to see to deliver the application? And what is her/her telephone number?

**Upon arrival the Security Officer will call the Office of Access, Equity and Community Engagement Services at 518-474-3719 to receive the application.**

12. Would the purchase of uniform shirts for students, to support the rebranding of their high school with the intention of providing an attendance incentive due to the social emotional benefits of pride in belonging and camaraderie be an allowable expense?

**No. See page 15, section B Allowable Expenses of the RFA.**

13. Will carry over from Period 1 be allowed? The Period 1 timeline of 5.5 months, inclusive of only the second half of the school year and without the summer break, will make the spenddown challenging, e.g. the staffing (recruiting and hiring), the professional development delivery, and the contracted items.

**Currently there are no plans to allow for the carryover of funds. Grantees must coordinate and design a robust plan to create an infrastructure to support emerging practices and activities aligned to one or more of the three milestones. The NYSMBK Target for 2024 is to have 90% of our Young Men of Color graduating high school with the emphasis remaining "Success for All."**

**NYSMBK communities and grant-funded programs are charged with positioning our young people for success, by creating the conditions and circumstances for growth and success.**

14. As part of our concrete plans to address Milestone 3 (graduating from high school ready for college and career), we would like to include a strong family education/involvement component, scaffolded for parents of both middle school and high school, including activities such as transition expectations, rites of passage for young men of color, high school credit requirements and how to meet them, and support services available to families through the District, the City and the Community. Would the provision of light refreshments for families attending these events be an allowable expense?

**It is SED's policy not to pay for costs of any food in federal and state grants in an agency which also conducts a feeding program eligible for reimbursement under the National School Lunch Act, Child Nutrition Act or Summer Food Services Program for Children. However, because the National School Lunch Act does not provide for snacks (except milk), these costs are eligible for reimbursement, specifically for approved MBKCG activities.**

15. On Page 7 it states that signatures are required from the Superintendent and the Principals of the schools involved in the MBK Challenge on Attachment III. However, while the form denotes that the Superintendent is required on page one, at the top of page two (above where the request for the Principal's signature is made) it states, "New York City ONLY". Also, a similar note [New York City Required Signatures ONLY] appears above the request for the Principal's signature on the Application Cover Page. Please clarify what signatures are required on Attachment III and the Application Cover Page for district's outside of NYC.

**The principal's signature is NOT needed for non-NYC applicants. Attachment III page 1 only the Chief Executive Officer or their designee's signature is required. New York City DOE applicants must complete page one and page two of Attachment III.**