

## Smart Start RFP gc-19-101 Q&A: eligibility-related questions

**Question 1:** Is it possible for a BOCES to be both the Consortium Lead and the primary PD providers (PDSPs)?

**Answer 1:** As stated in the Smart Start Program RFP on pages 9 and 10:

“Professional Development and Support Providers: Professional development and support (PDSP) must be provided by qualified non-profit organizations or institutions of higher education. Grant applications should include information on the organization(s) that have agreed to provide professional development and support if the grant application is successful. Please note:

- a. Non-profit partners and/or institutions of higher education must be (or must have applied to be by the deadline of this RFP) [NYSED-approved Continuing Teacher and Leader Education \(CTLE\) sponsors](#).
- b. For the purposes of this grant, BOCES, NYS Teacher Centers, and school districts do not qualify as non-profit organizations.”

Therefore, BOCES cannot provide professional development for the Smart Start Grant program.

**Question 2:** Can BOCES work with non-component districts?

**Answer 2:** Yes, for the purposes of the Smart Start Grant Program, BOCES can work with non-component districts.

**Question 3:** Who is eligible to be a PDSP?

**Answer 3:** Professional development and support must be provided by qualified non-profit organizations or institutions of higher education. For the purposes of this grant, BOCES, NYS Teacher Centers, and school districts do not qualify as non-profit organizations. See pages 9 and 10 of the RFP.

**Question 4:** If we are a smaller school does that mean we have no chance of getting a grant?

**Answer 4:** All Rest-of-State (ROS) public school districts with total enrollment of all students P-12 as of the 2017-2018 school year below 8,000 must apply as part of a consortium. See page 2 of the RFP.

**Question 5:** If we do not see local colleges on the partnerships list, how do we get them approved?”

**Answer 5:** On page 9 of the Smart Start RFP it states: “Non-profit partners and/or institutions of higher education must be (or must have applied to be by

the deadline of this RFP) [NYSED-approved Continuing Teacher and Leader Education \(CTLE\) sponsors](#).“

Therefore, local colleges not appearing on the list of NYSED-approved CTLE sponsors must apply to be CTLE sponsors by the deadline of the RFP. Information about applying can be found at:  
<http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/resteachers/registrationguidance.html>