How To Apply for Funding In 2012

Welcome to the New York State Education Department informational session on applying for 21st Century Community Learning Center funding, Part 1.

To make it easier for applicants to absorb all of the important points regarding the RFP, we have broken this webinar into three sections

If you have questions, you may email them to the address on the last slide of Part 3. We will post all questions and responses on our web site, also shown on the last slide, as quickly as possible.

Agenda

- Background information
- What is required in the 2012 RFP
  - New requirements
  - Ongoing requirements
- Quality programs
- Additional Information

The agenda for this presentation is as follows: First, we will provide some background about 21st Century programs. Then, we will talk about application and program requirements. Some are new and others are the same as in previous funding competitions. After looking at the basics of 21st Century programs, we will cover the elements of quality programs and the process of developing meaningful objectives.

Throughout the presentation, the term "21st Century Program" will be used in place of the longer "21st Century Community Learning Centers Program." Similarly, the term "Department" will be used in place of "New York State Education Department."

Background Information

Let's go over some background information about the 21st Century Program.

Three Components of All 21st CCLC Programs

- opportunities for academic enrichment
- positive youth development:
  - drug and violence prevention
  - counseling
  - art, music and recreation
  - character education
- literacy & related educational development to families of students

All programs are to include the 10 essential elements of quality programs (QSA)

In accordance with legislation, every 21st Century program must have three major components.

The first is academic enrichment. Academic enrichment means activities that supplement, enhance, or reinforce what is learned during the regular school day. Academic enrichment is not a repetition or follow-up drill of the classroom lesson. A simple example for elementary school may be a cooking activity in which the student measures the ingredients using fractions learned in the math classroom. An example for middle school might be a cultural event to celebrate a country that students are learning about in a social studies class. Service learning is another appropriate enrichment opportunity, involving a community service project that incorporates lessons from the regular classroom curriculum. Service learning may also help meet volunteering requirements at the high school level.

The second component of each 21st Century program involves positive youth development – these activities encourage students to develop into well-rounded and healthy adults who are contributing members of their community. Appropriate activities designed to reinforce and complement the regular academic program may include drug and violence prevention programs, counseling programs, art, music, and recreation programs, technology education programs, and character education programs.

The third component of every 21st Century program is the provision of literacy and related educational services to the families of enrolled students based on family needs. For example, families may need instruction in English, computer skills, or assistance in preparing resumes to look for better jobs. This component should consist of ongoing programs and services. Occasional family events are encouraged but are not sufficient to meet this program requirement.

In addition, it is important to provide families with meaningful opportunities to be active participants in student experiences in ways that deepen their connections to the school's curriculum, teaching and learning, and the programs in which their children participate.

All three components of 21st Century programming should reflect the ten essential elements of quality after school programming that are described in the RFP and are contained in the New York State Afterschool Network's Quality Self-Assessment Tool, which will be discussed in more detail later in this presentation.

Funding Allocations

- Federal funds – NCLB Title IV, Part B
  - Approximately $82 million for new programs this year
  - 55% to New York City
  - 15% to Big Four Cities of Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Yonkers
  - 30% to Rest of State
  - Each Lead applicant may apply for an annual grant of a minimum of $50,000 to a maximum of $1,200,000. Agencies applying for multiple grants will be limited to a maximum annual award of $1,200,000.
  - Up to $1,200,000 set aside for successful for-profit applicants, not awarded by geographic region. Limit of $400,000 per for-profit application

21st Century programs are federally funded by Title 4, Part B of the No Child Left Behind Act. This year, approximately 82 million dollars is anticipated to be available to support programming

The Department administers these funds. It awards funds to all parts of the State by distributing 55 percent of the award money to New York City, 15 percent to the Big Four Cities of Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Yonkers, and 30 percent to the Rest of the State.

Each applicant may apply for an annual grant of a minimum of 50,000 dollars to a maximum of 1.2 Million dollars. Agencies applying for multiple grants will be limited to a maximum annual award of 1.2 million dollars.

In addition, 1.2 Million dollars of the available funds are set aside to fund for-profit organizations that apply. Each for-profit application is limited to 400,000 dollars. This amount is not allocated geographically.

New York 21st CCLC

Currently Funded Programs:

- Round 4: 108 grants
- Round 5: 60 grants
- Round 5B: 17 grants

Over half of the grantee lead agencies in New York are Community Based Organizations.

There are currently 185 21st Century grants operating around the state, totaling 86.9 million dollars. All programs will sunset on June 30th, 2013. It should be noted that currently, community-based organizations are the lead agencies for more than half of New York's 21st Century programs, which is higher than in most other states.

New York
21st Century Community
Learning Centers

SOARING BEYOND EXPECTATIONS

The RFP

Let’s talk about the Request For Proposal, or RFP.

Who Can Apply for Funding?

- LEA's - Public school districts, BOCES, charter schools, private schools
- Not-for-profit and for-profit agencies
- City or county government agencies
- Faith-based organizations
- Institutions of higher education

Either the LEA or the other agency may be the lead applicant, responsible to be the fiscal agent for the program.

Who can Apply for 21st Century funds in this RFP?

Any public or private organization that meets the eligibility requirements can apply for 21st Century funding, including public school districts, BOCES, charter schools, private schools, nonprofit agencies, city or county government agencies, faith-based organizations, institutions of higher education, and for-profit corporations.

For the purpose of this RFP, local education agencies (LEAs) are public school districts, BOCES, charter schools, and private schools. All LEAs must apply in partnership with another agency, which may include not-for-profit and for-profit organizations, faith-based organizations, local government agencies and institutions of higher education.

Either the LEA or the partner agency may be the lead applicant, and will also be the fiscal agent responsible for the program.

Application Eligibility

FEDERAL ABSOLUTE PRIORITY

Programs must primarily target students who attend schools that are eligible for Title I school wide programs or schools that serve a high percentage of students from low income families (40% free lunch in NYC, or 40% free and reduced lunch in ROS).

At least 50% of the participating schools must meet this criteria.

In order for a 21st Century program application to be eligible for review, it must primarily target students who attend schools with high poverty.

Generally, a school is considered to have high poverty if –

A. It is eligible for a Title I school-wide program, meaning that the school has a high level of poverty,

B. It is in NYC and has a free lunch rate of at least 40%, or

C. It is located in another part of the State outside of NYC and has a combined free and reduced lunch rate of at least 40%.

If an applicant proposes to serve students from more than one school, at least 50% of the participating schools must have high poverty.

Additional options for determining that a school has high poverty are covered in the next slide.

High Poverty Schools

Three Ways to Determine High Poverty

1. Lists of eligible schools
2. Feeder pattern option
3. Administrative option

How can you find out if a school has high poverty and is eligible for 21st Century funding?

The first way is to look at the lists of eligible high poverty schools included within the RFP. Any school on one of the eligibility lists satisfies the high poverty criteria. Schools listed in New York City have at least a 40% free lunch rate. The schools listed that are outside of New York City have at least a 40% combined free and reduced lunch rate.

Another method to determine if a school building is eligible is the “feeder pattern” option. A middle or high school building can be considered high poverty if the elementary schools that feed into it have an average free and reduced lunch rate of at least 40%, or for New York City middle schools, an average free lunch rate in feeder elementary schools of 40%. This approach cannot be used for high schools in New York City because students may apply to attend any high school in the City.

The administrative option applies to small school districts that have just one building per grade span – i.e., one elementary school, one middle school and one high school. If just one of the buildings has high poverty, then all of the buildings of the district are considered to have high poverty.

RFP - 2012

- Estimated $82 million available for Round 6 programs
- 5 year funding period 7/1/13 – 6/30/18
- Annual awards range from $50,000 to $1,200,000
- Maximum cost per student of $1,500

As previously stated, the Department expects to have approximately 82 million dollars available for this round of programs.

Funding will be awarded for 5 years, beginning on July 1st, 2013 and continuing through June 30th, 2018, subject to availability of funds from the United States Department of Education.

Annual awards can range from a minimum of 50,000 dollars to a maximum of 1.2 million dollars, depending on the size and scope of the program and number of children being served. For this funding competition, the maximum allowable cost per student is 1,500 dollars.

2012 Round 6 RFP Timeline

- October 12 - Request for Proposals (RFP) issued
- December 14 - Proposals must be Uploaded through ReviewRoom by 3:00 p.m.. Mail-in forms must be postmarked or delivered
- December - Department verifies applicants' eligibility for funding and for priority points.
- December/January - Peer Review
- February/March - Selected proposals are announced and grant or grant contract preparation begins.
- July 1, 2013 - Funding and programs begin.

On this slide you see the timeline for this funding competition.

The RFP was released on October 12th, 2012. Proposals are due by Friday, December 14th, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. ***Not*** 5:00 p.m., ***3:00 p.m***. Packets containing required forms with original signatures must be postmarked or delivered by December 14th.

After all applications are received, the Department will screen each one to ensure that the high poverty eligibility requirement has been met and to determine which proposals qualify for priority points. These priority points will be explained later in the presentation.

During the end of December and early January, all eligible applications will be reviewed using an electronic peer review process. We'll talk more about that later as well.

Selected proposals may be announced by early to mid March and the grant or grant contract preparation will begin.

Funding and programs will begin on July 1, 2013.