

Q & A
Challenge Grant Round 3 RFP GC22-008
2023-2027

Summary of updates to My Brother’s Keeper Challenge Grant 2023-27 RFP #GC22-008:

- Required signatures for NYCDOE applicants were updated to require only the additional original signature of the Chancellor (or designee)
- Section XIII. Narrative Format
 - The typeface or font size for the Focus Areas Chart, Attachment V was reduced to 12-point size
 - The Need Based Score Calculations table was updated
- Section XIV. Proposal Review, Method of Determining Award – NYC
 - Subsection 1) was updated to delete the language “Community School”. For the NYCDOE: Individual applications may be submitted by a Community School District, High School District or District #75 and #79. Up to \$2,000,000 will be allocated for annual awards to New York City Districts.

Please refer to the Updated RFP #GC22-008 for all updates and requirements.

| Topic | Question | Answer |
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| Provide your district's question regarding Eligibility. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are Charter schools eligible for this grant? 2. Are charter schools eligible to apply for this grant? 3. When discussing Cohort graduation rates (<76%), is that total cohort graduation rate or subgroups only? 4. The district's graduation rate is higher than 76%. Would it still be possible for our District to apply for this MBKChallenge grant? 5. Our District complies with two of the eligibility requirements; however, our high school graduation rate is over 76%. Is the District still eligible to apply? Many thanks. 6. It appears that high school districts in NYC are eligible to apply for the new Challenge Grant. Some of the language in the RFP is inconsistent (p. 24). Can high school districts in NYC apply for the new Challenge Grant? 7. Can we apply for this grant even if we have an existing MBK program, or is this for districts who are trying to start a new MBK program? | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No. Charter schools are not eligible to apply. 2. Same response as #1 above. 3. The 2015 Cohort (2019 graduating class) by August of 4th year % graduated < 76 is for All Students. 4. No. See Section V of the RFP, Institutional Eligibility. 5. Same response as #4 above. 6. Yes. For the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE): Districts include Community School Districts, High School Districts or District #75 and District #79. 7. Yes, districts with an existing MBK program may apply if they meet the eligibility criteria in Section V of the RFP, Institutional Eligibility. |

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| | <p>8. Under the "Eligible Applicants" section are 2015 cohort and 2019 graduating class. Do you want data on these dates?</p> <p>9. Does each school within the District that receives programming through this grant also need to meet the eligibility? Can the grant-funded programming be offered to all schools?</p> <p>10. Must ALL the schools in a District apply? Or, as an example, can the three K-8 schools in a NYC school district apply (in this care for two of the three focus areas)</p> <p>11. Is it a firm requirement that the district as a whole have a graduation rate below 76% in 2019?</p> | <p>8. Yes. The one set of data is the 2015 Cohort (2019 Graduating Class), required in Attachment IV, Need Based Calculation Table.</p> <p>9. No, it is the applicant school district that must meet the eligibility criteria in Section V of the RFP, Institutional Eligibility, not each school. It is in the district's discretion to disseminate services to school building(s) as needed.</p> <p>10. Same response as #9 above.</p> <p>11. Yes.</p> |
| <p>Provide your district's question regarding the Narrative Format & Submission.</p> | <p>12. For the chart is 15-point font the correct font size?</p> <p>13. Can the chart be converted to landscape format to make it easier to use the larger required font?</p> <p>14. Are forms Attachment VI and Attachment IV included in the narrative page limit of 15 pages?</p> | <p>12. No, for the Focus Area Chart, Attachment V, the font size is 12-point font. Please see the updated RFP.</p> <p>13. Yes.</p> <p>14. No, Attachment VI (MBK Composite Proposed Budget) and Attachment IV (Need Based Calculation Table) are not included in the 15-page limit.</p> |
| <p>Provide your district's question regarding Organizational Background.</p> | <p>15. Can you please clarify "A description of the enterprise for improving outcomes for the target population".</p> | <p>15. The enterprise for improving outcomes for the target population is the district's MBKCG project that aims to improve the outcomes of specific groups of students.</p> |

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| Provide your district's question regarding Partnerships and Collaboration | | |
| Provide your district's question regarding Program Elements | <p>16. How many students are required for each Focus Area?</p> <p>17. Focus Area 2 - What happens to Grades 4, 5 & 6.</p> <p>18. Focus Area 3 - What grades are to be included for the Financial Literacy?</p> | <p>16. There is no required number of students, however, student enrollment is contingent on the Focus Area selected.</p> <p>17. The requirement is to implement a research-based district-wide approach to teaching reading that will show evidence of increased growth in reading for all students (including students in grades 4,5, and 6), as detailed in Section IV of the RFP, MBKCG Objectives and Focus Areas.</p> <p>18. Focus Area 3 is applicable to students in primary, middle level and high school grades, as detailed in Section IV of the RFP, MBKCG Objectives and Focus Areas.</p> |
| Provide your district's question regarding Program Administration | <p>19. If grant-funded programming is allowed to be offered to all schools/all students, will SIRS reporting reflect ALL students enrolled or just a particular demographic?</p> <p>20. Can the coordinator be designated 0.5 FTE MBK and be paid for additional duties?</p> | <p>19. Reporting will reflect students who are receiving MBK Challenge Grant services</p> <p>20. Yes.</p> |
| Provide your district's question regarding Budget and Budget Narrative | <p>21. When preparing the Budget Narrative can we estimate that our available funds will be \$300,000 should we choose to focus on all three (3) areas?</p> <p>22. Is this included in the 15-page application limit?</p> | <p>21. Yes. See the Amount of Funding section of the RFP.</p> <p>22. No. The Budget and Budget Narrative are not included in the 15-page proposal narrative limit. Please see Attachment I.</p> |
| Provide your district's question regarding Needs Based Calculation | <p>23. For the needs based calculation, it appears that districts may garner more that 10 points. Is it correct, however, that 10 will be the maximum number given even if a district has more?</p> | <p>23. Yes, the Need Based Score has a maximum of 10 points. Please see the updated RFP.</p> |
| Provide your district's question regarding M/WBE | | |

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| <p>General Questions</p> | <p>24. Would like to know the age range of those students in the program?</p> <p>25. Just confirming that this grant is for elementary students up to 2nd grade only?</p> <p>26. How much of the 15% match can be in-kind?</p> <p>27. Is the 15% match above the maximum award of \$150,000 or is it included in the \$150,000 max?</p> <p>28. Under non-allowable expenses what is meant by "electronic communication cost"</p> | <p>24. The age range for students participating in the Challenge Grant is contingent on the Focus Area(s) selected, as detailed in Section IV of the RFP, MBKCG Objectives and Focus Areas.</p> <p>25. Same response as #23 above.</p> <p>26. The matching requirement may be met through the district's own resources, private sources, other government sources, and/or in-kind services, as detailed in Section IX of the RFP, Allowable Expenditures. The amount of the minimum 15% match and the distribution of the match in the MBK Composite Proposed Budget – Attachment VI is at the discretion of the district.</p> <p>27. Yes, the 15% match is above the maximum award of \$150,000.</p> <p>28. Electronic communication costs refer to call, data transfer and SMS costs incurred in communicating information.</p> |
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