

Contracts For Excellence Frequently Asked Questions – 2023-24 Webinar

1. What happens if our district already submitted the final contract to NYSED with the previous allocation?
 - Due to increased Contract Amounts calculated for each district, a new draft contract capturing the full Contract Amount as shown is required to be submitted.

2. Can the Special Education expenses captured for Maintenance of Effort also be used for Contract for Excellence?
 - Yes, as long as the required MOE amount being reported is expended from Foundation Aid in the General Fund it can count toward both IDEA MOE and C4E compliance.

3. Will we have to solicit input from stakeholders again if we already did so?
 - It is important to inform stakeholders that that the Contract for Excellence amounts have increased, and how that is going to impact program allocations. In addition, the public comment period after the initial Contract is posted is still required.

4. Can you elaborate more on supplement versus supplant?
 - If a service or program in the base year that was not otherwise going to be provided in the current year because the grant or other source of revenue was reduced or eliminated due to actions beyond the control of the Board of Education, then Contract for Excellence funds could be used to continue that service in the current year.

5. Can you talk through some examples for reallocating ARP-funded programs to Contract for Excellence funds?
 - Examples might be continuing/expanding afterschool programs for students who suffered extended learning loss during the COVID-19 pandemic and have shown to be successful; or continuing/expanding a targeted ENL/ELL program that did not exist prior to the district receiving federal stimulus funds. It is important to tie the C4E programming to the school buildings indicated as containing the highest percentages of students in the targeted populations, as per the Needs/Weights tables provided by NYSED.

6. Can a district use the entire 23-24 calculation, and not opt for the three-year contract increase phase-in?
 - While a district is always welcome to program more than their annual contract amount to student populations served by Contracts for Excellence (should budgets allow), districts are only required to report expenses up to the annual contract amount posted on the Contracts for Excellence website.