# CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

#### 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS

GRANT BIDDER'S CONFERENCE 10/15/18 RFP DUE DATE, NOVEMBER 1, 2018

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# AFTER SCHOOL FUNDING ALLOCATION

- Approximately \$1.5 million dollars is available for new traditional after school grants awards.
- Five year grants will be available through a competitive grant process.
- The minimum grant award is \$50,000 to a maximum award of \$200,000.

#### ORGANIZATIONS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY

- Local education agencies (LEA's)
- Community-based organizations (CBO's)
- Faith-based organizations
- Other public and private entities
- A consortium of two or more agencies/organizations, or entities

#### THE PURPOSE IS...

- To fund programs that provide students with academic enrichment and recreational opportunities designed to complement their regular school day.
- To provide opportunities for the families of these students to participate in educational programs.

#### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

- Applicants must show that they primarily serve students attending schools with a high concentration of low-income students.
- A minimum of 40% percent of the student population are eligible for free and reduced priced meals.

#### PROGRAM OPTIONS

- Programs can be designed to serve students in Pre-K through grade 12.
- Each proposal must identify whether the proposal is intended for:
  - A. Elementary and/or Middle School; OR
  - B. High School.
- Applicants may submit more than one proposal.

#### **5 YEAR FUNDING CYCLE**

- Grant awards will be funded at 100% for the first three years of funding.
- In year four programs will receive 75% of the initial grant award.
- In year five, the applicant will receive 50% of the initial grant award.

#### **CONTINUATION OF FUNDING**

- Continuation of funding within the five-year grant cycle is contingent upon compliance with state and federal guidelines, including:
  - student attendance and data requirements;
  - use of funds;
  - adequate progress towards program goals;
  - submission of annual End of Year Report; and
  - submission of annual budget.

#### **COSTS PER CENTER**

- The average cost per center ranges from \$150,000 to \$200,000, servicing an average of 150 students and their parents.
- Costs per center may be higher or lower depending on the number of individuals served, the array of activities and the availability of additional resources.

#### PER PUPIL ALLOCATION

- Elementary and Middle School programs should not exceed \$2,000 per student.
- High School programs should not exceed \$2,500 per student.

#### **ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES**

- Funds can be used to carry out a broad array of before and after school activities.
- Applicants should clearly outline program offerings, including:
  - before school;
  - Saturday;
  - vacation; and
  - summer programming.

#### **ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES**

- Activities should be designed to complement learning objectives from the regular school day.
- Offerings should include opportunities for students to participate in activities outside of what is offered in the regular school day.

#### NEED FOR PROJECT

- Provide a clear and detailed description of the community and needs of the target population.
- Describe how the proposed program will address the needs outlined.

- Provide a detailed description of the partnerships between identified organizations and how these partners will address the specific needs outlined.
- Describe the collaboration between partners in the grant writing and planning process.

- Clearly describe the roles of partners, including:
  - specific responsibilities;
  - supervision, evaluation and supports for staff;
  - plans for ongoing communication; and
  - allocation of resources.

- Describe how the program staff will collaborate with school day staff and share information about program offerings and goals.
- Describe how professional development and training opportunities will be shared between partners.

- Include letters of commitment from the superintendent and school administration that programs have the capacity to invest time and resources and begin programming notwithstanding a delay in funding.
- Include memoranda of agreement (MOA/MOU)
   that clearly indicate the role and capacity of each partner organization.

- Identify the target population, including:
  - number of students per site;
  - grade levels; and
  - recruitment strategies.

Programs must be designed to serve the same students consistently over time.

High School applicants are advised to limit the proposed target number to no more than 50 students to better meet individual needs.

- Include a chart to outline days and hours of operation, including:
  - start date; end date; days per week; hours per day;
  - total expected weeks; and
  - before school; Saturday; vacation and summer offerings.

Programs must operate for a minimum of 25 weeks. Exemplary programs will provide programming from the first week of school to the last week of school.

Elementary School programs must operate for a minimum of four days per week at two and a half hours per day.

Middle and High School programs must operate for a minimum of three days per week at two hours per day.

- Describe project goals and objectives and how the project will provide services and activities not offered during the school day.
- Describe homework time, including:
  - facility space;
  - days and hours offered;
  - staff to student ratios; and
  - available activities for students who have completed work.

- Address how you will incorporate literacy, math and science components of as part of the academic and enrichment components, including:
  - facility space;
  - days and hours offered; and
  - student to staff ratios.
- Outline offerings for health, nutrition, and recreational programming.

 Describe additional services, programs and activity offerings that are designed to complement school day learning.

High School programs <u>must</u> include college and career development activities.

- Address how the program will meet individual and specific needs of students, including: students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs); English Language Learner Students and those at risk of academic failure.
- Outline plans to incorporate cultural competency practices into programming.
- Describe activities to support on-going family engagement.

- Examples of family engagement activities can include:
  - adult development activities;
  - parent and child shared activities;
  - governance and leadership activities; and
  - activities that link parents to schools.

 Describe how snack and/or supper will be provided to students.

Schools where a minimum of 50% of the student population is eligible to receive free or reduced price meals can receive reimbursable snack/supper options after school.

Please see the link below for more information:

http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2678&q=320670&s dePNavCtr= | 45534 | #45535

 Address how students will travel safely to and from the program.

- Include an organizational chart of key staff, including:
  - identified roles (must designate a program director, coordinator and data person);
  - percentage of time staff will be dedicated to the project;
  - credentials and backgrounds; and
  - roles and responsibilities.

 Provide a training schedule for direct service (certified and non-certified) staff to attend a minimum of two professional development trainings per year.

At least two program representatives must attend three Networking Meetings per year.

Program directors and coordinators must be trained in the Assessment of Program Practices Tool (APT) for assessment of programs.

- Describe the adequacy of support, including:
  - safe and accessible facilities;
  - leverage of existing resources (computer labs, libraries, classrooms etc.); and
  - partner contributions of resources (use of community areas, staff, supplies etc.).

- Address how the community has been provided with notice of intent to apply and how information is shared in a manner that is understandable and accessible.
- Outline how private school students will be notified of the program and how officials were included in planning and design.

Students who attend private school and reside in an area served by the 21stCCLC school are eligible to attend programming.

It is the responsibility of the program to notify all private schools in the area of this opportunity.

- Provide a budget and detailed budget narrative for year one that itemizes use of 21stCCLC funds, as well funds from other sources, including:
  - Per pupil allocation
  - Transportation costs (cannot exceed 20% of total budget)
  - Professional development & mileage reimbursement costs
  - Appropriate personnel
  - Family engagement activities (5% of annual budget)
  - Professional development, database management, quality advising, technical assistance, evaluation costs (5% of year one budget)
  - In-kind or matching contributions (cannot be derived from other state or federal funds).

Funding cannot be used to purchase facilities or support new construction.

Funding cannot be used to support large technology purchases. Any funds dedicated for purchase of technology must specifically used to support the grant.

 Describe the fee structure, if applicable, or indicate that one will not be instituted.

Applicants may establish a sliding fee scale that takes into account the financial need of the students and families targeted for services.

Applicants that choose to establish a fee structure must provide a narrative that explains the administration and management of fees.

Eligible students cannot be turned away from programming for inability or lack of payment.

Funded applicants must submit documentation outlining policies and procedures for the institution of a fee scale and how this structure is communicated to families.

The LEA or CBO shall be responsible for the administration of such fees.

Fees collected from the 21stCCLC must be used to support the program during the same fiscal year.

 Outline a plan to sustain the full scope of the program in years four and five when funding is reduced and beyond the five year grant cycle.

#### **FUNDING HISTORY & EXPERIENCE**

- This section will be used for applicants who have a 21stCCLC funding history since 2008.
- Applicants can lose up to six points in this section.
- CSDE program manager will assess the most recent year's performance for the following criteria:
  - Program operations followed the grant proposal, including number of weeks, days and hours that services were provided.
  - Program served the number of students outlined in the proposal or approved change request.
  - Program met goals for participant attendance expectations.

 A funded applicant must commit to submission of program and student data for Monthly Attendance Reports by the seventh day of each month of programming.

Programs must designate a staff member for data entry. Identified staff must attend database trainings and submit required information by deadlines.

Programs that do not meet attendance requirements are subject to a decrease in funding or termination of funding.

- Student data collected:
  - SASID information
  - Student demographics
  - Program attendance
  - School attendance
- Program data collected:
  - Site information
  - Details of activities offered
  - Teacher surveys
  - Staff information

- Programs must complete an End of Year Survey by June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year of funding.
- Programs must participate in a designated quality improvement process. This may include trainings, meetings, conference calls, site visits and interviews.

- Programs must submit revision request forms and receive approval from the CSDE program manager before implementing changes from what is presented in the grant application.
- Programs must send representatives to required CSDE technical assistance workshops and Networking Meetings.

#### LICENSING REQUIREMENT

- Please note that programs that plan to serve school age students through this funding opportunity are obligated to meet child day care licensing requirements, as defined under Connecticut General Statutes, Section 19a-77.
- Programs that are operated by public schools may be exempt from this requirement. All applicants must provide the requested assurance on the Grant Cover Page of this application, and or a copy of their current license.

#### LICENSING REQUIREMENT

Programs that plan to serve school age students through this funding opportunity are obligated to meet child day care licensing requirements, as defined under Section 19a-77 of the Connecticut General Statutes. Please verify below with an "X" and the signature of the Superintendent or Authorized Personnel whether your public school system administers the above named after-school program(s).

- ☐ Yes, the Board of Education administers the above named program and therefore retains ultimate responsibility for the management and oversight of such program, for the staff employed at the program and the children attending the program for the length of this grant funding.
- No, the Board of Education does not administer the above named program; a copy of the current license is included.
- Name (print):
- Title:\_\_\_\_\_
- Signature:\_\_\_\_\_
- Date:

# COMPONENTS OF A HIGH-QUALITY AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

- According to the U.S. Department of Education publication, Working for Children and Families: Safe and Smart After School Programs, there are nine components present in high quality programs:
  - Goal setting, strong management and sustainability
  - Quality staffing
  - High academic standards
  - Attention to safety, health and nutrition issues
  - Effective partnerships
  - Strong involvement with families
  - Enriching learning opportunities
  - Linkages between school day and after school personnel
  - Evaluation of program progress and effectiveness

#### **APPLICATION FORMAT**

The following sections must be included in each application:

- Application Abstract (Appendix B)
- Signed Grant Application Cover Page (Appendix A)
- Table of Contents
- Application Narrative
  - Need for Project
  - Partnerships and Collaboration
  - Program Elements
  - Program Administration
  - Expenditure of Funds & Sustainability
- Budget (Appendix D)
- Statement of Assurances (Appendix F)
- Certification Regarding Lobbying, Debarment & Suspension (Appendix G
- Affirmative Action Certificate (Appendix H)
- Letters of Commitment (Appendix I)

#### APPLICATION FORMAT

- Applications should be clearly organized and address all required components.
- Visual information, such as charts and graphs, should be included as appropriate to help simplify evaluator understanding.

#### REQUIRED SIGNATURES

- All proposals require signatures from the applicant school district's Superintendent or Authorized
   Personnel and principal(s) of the participating school(s).
- These signatures confirm accuracy of the information provided in the proposal and certify compliance with state and federal laws and regulations, including the sharing of State Assigned Student Identifier (SASID) numbers for CSDE data collection and reporting.

#### REVIEW PROCESS AND CRITERIA

#### Application deadline:

Thursday, November 1, 2018 by 3:30 p.m.

#### Deliver or mail to the attention of:

Shelby Pons, Education Consultant
Connecticut State Department of Education
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education
450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504 Hartford, CT 06103-1841

CSDE will convene a panel to review all completed applications received by the due date.

Applicants will be rated according to the rubric provided in Appendix C of the RFP.

#### **QUESTIONS?**

Slides from the presentation today and written answers to questions posed will be posted online following this conference.