

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (MDE)

2017-2018 21st CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS GRANTS



Frequently Asked Questions

- ? **Are Community Based Organizations or Faith Based Organizations required to partner with a school district?**

In order to serve the neediest students, you will need to work with a Local Education Agency (LEA) to target a specific school.

- ? **Can an applicant submit more than one application?**

Yes, but each applicant will only be eligible for one funded application.

- ? **Are applicants required to use the provided form for letters of support?**

Applicants may use the form, or use submitted letters. Either is acceptable.

- ? **Are applicants required to only cite evidence-based models?**

MDE is asking all applicants to cite their sources. No specific curriculum model has been identified or endorsed by MDE.

- ? **How does 21st CCLC work with other grants?**

It is recommended that funding is leveraged to provide comprehensive programming. Grant funds must be used to SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT other local and federal sources of funding.

- ? **Requirement is four days a week, 2 ½ hours a day, 32 weeks per year plus 6 weeks in the summer?**

*Yes. Programming must be offered to **each** student, **each** day of programming. Applicants must offer the equivalent programming to all students **each** day.*

- ? **If applicants are currently using Title I funds for tutoring, how does this blend with 21st CCLC funds?**

Applicants may use 21st CCLC concurrently with Title I (or other grants) to optimize or increase program offerings, such as transportation. Grant funds must be used to SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.

- ? **May applicants serve Pre-K students with 21st CCLC funds?**

Yes, provided applicants can justify how programming would be different from GSRP. Keep in mind, there are currently no 21st CCLC programs servicing Pre-K programs in Michigan. Grant funds must be used to SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.

- ? **Must applicants serve the same students in the summer and that were served during the school year?**

It is expected that the same students are served, subject to some variations in enrollment.

- ? **Is there a list of schools that currently have funding?**
Yes. Contact MDE, 21st CCLC for more information.
- ? **Can 21st CCLC funds be used to support a current program that offers one-on-one tutoring?**
21st CCLC funds must be used for more than just one-on-one tutoring. Applicants must develop a comprehensive program that expands beyond existing programs.
- ? **Can a community based organization (CBO) enroll students from multiple areas?**
Yes. Keep in mind that each school from which students attend must be identified and will be calculated in the applications Priority Points.
- ? **Must applicants list every school from which students will be served?**
Yes. All schools must be identified and will be used to calculate Priority Points.
- ? **Are public schools (Local Education Agency) with students who have elected another district under schools of choice required to service those students in our 21st CCLC program?**
No, applicants may not service students enrolled in other public schools. However, applicants must offer service to home-school or private school students within the catchment area of the schools to be served.
- ? **Is there a disadvantage for applying for two or four sites?**
It depends. There are many variables that may or may not impact an applicant's score.
- ? **What data should applicants submit for Assessment of Need?**
Readers need to be educated on the uniqueness and needs of the students and community. Readers will be looking for the community's target population. Assume the reader knows nothing regarding the students projected to be served.
- ? **What if the school year site is unavailable for proposed summer programming?**
The proposed site must meet licensing requirements and be as accessible as the school students attend. If a different location is used for summer programming, it must also meet all licensing and accessibility requirements.
- ? **Do function codes 230, 240, 250, 260 and 280 fall under the administrative cap?**
Function codes 230, 240, 250, 260 and 280 all fall under the administrative cap. The only exceptions are EZReports and Local Evaluation (Function Code 281) which are not included under the administration cap.
- ? **How does MDE define "community" for a Public School Academy (PSA)?**
Look at the catchment area for the students currently served by the PSA. Be sure to let the readers know the needs of the catchment area (they may not understand the geography).

- ? **What are the program goals related to student attendance?**
MDE expects all students to be served. Minimum regular attendance is defined as 30 times within a school year. Additionally, MDE will look at the average daily attendance as indicated in EZReports.
- ? **What is ESSA?**
ESSA is Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, which replaced No Child Left Behind. 21st CCLC is authorized by Title IV, Part B of ESSA.
- ? **What are the requirements for transporting students in rural area programs?**
Regardless of rural, urban or other locations, transportation must meet licensing guidelines, keeping in mind that 21st CCLC programs must be accessible to all students.
- ? **Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP) provides data for two years. Which data should be used to determine priority points for Math and ELA scores?**
Use the only the data provided in the linked MDE Data File, found at www.michigan.gov/21stcclc.
- ? **May applicants submit more than one application?**
An applicant may submit more than one application. However, only one application is eligible to be awarded funding. The more applications received the more difficult the competition will be.
- ? **Will a STEAM program be eligible to score points for STEM?**
Yes, evidence for embedded STEM is required.
- ? **If the schools Free and Reduced lunch data is not on or is different from the Data File, will alternative data be considered?**
A notation should be made on the MDE Data Form that the applicant requests that the alternative data be evaluated for consideration.
- ? **Under Priority Points, is it Math OR ELA or Math AND ELA targets?**
*It is Math **OR** ELA.*
- ? **A school to be served has percentages for free and reduced lunch is 79.6%. Where does it fall on priority whose cut-off is 80%?**
Information must be exact on the data form, MDE will average all schools to be served and round the average using common rules.
- ? **A school to be served is K-8 under one building code. How many sites can this represent?**
Only one site since the school to be served goes by building code.
- ? **What are the chances of a first-time applicant being awarded a grant?**
There are many factors that determine grant awards, new applicants have succeeded in the past.

? **Please explain the Administrative Cap**

230, 240, 250, 260, and 280 Support Services--General Administration, School Administration, Business Services Operation and Maintenance, Central Support – are combined for administration. A maximum of 10 percent of the grant may be used for the administrative and indirect costs identified in these functions, such as telephone, duplicating, postage, insurance and other support activities to the program. Grant funds used to pay rent and transportation costs are excluded from this administrative cost ceiling.

Indirect costs up to eight (8) percent are allowable but must be counted as part of the ten (10) percent administrative cap. Districts and other agencies that have a negotiated indirect rate with the Michigan Department of Education must not exceed the negotiated restricted rate or eight (8) percent.

? **What if sites are located in multiple Prosperity Zones?**

The Prosperity Zone is determined by county in which the physical address for the site is located.

? **Must Project Director and Site Coordinator be funded from 21st CCLC funds?**

No, but if funded through Local Agency Share it must be reflected in the budget.

? **Are benefits included under staff salary and benefits?**

Yes.

? **May an applicant charge fees to participants?**

*Yes. However, a sliding scale must be established to assure all students are able to participate. All fees collected must be used by the **program** in the **same fiscal year**.*

? **May we sustain a balance after the school year?**

No. All funds, whether 21st CCLC or fees charged must be spent in the current fiscal year for the program.

? **For K-2 buildings what data may be used, since there are no M-STEP scores?**

Standardized test results. Alternatively, the M-STEP scores of the school the majority of the students will attend in 3rd grade may be used.

? **If successful, how does an applicant receive funds?**

This is a reimbursement program. Funds may be requested after expenditures are paid in full, the applicant will submit documentation through an electronic disbursement system.

? **Can an application include a school that is listed as one of the failing schools on the School Reform Office closure list?**

Yes, if the application is awarded and the school closes prior to September, MDE would work with the grantee to provide services to the students who would have attended that school or a school with equivalent priority and demographics. If neither action is possible or practical MDE will reduce funding.