

21st Century Community Learning Centers

FY25 Bidders Conference

Frequently Asked Questions

APPLICATION

Who can apply?

The Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) application is designed to provide funding to out-of-school and expanded learning time programs in Ohio. This funding supports programs that provide academic enrichment opportunities during non-school hours for children, particularly students who attend high-poverty and low-performing schools.

Can more than one application be submitted?

Applicants may submit no more than three applications per organization/IRN (in any combination of the three options). In addition, each grant awarded may support no more than three sites. Each site must focus on one of the three grant options. For information on how to get started with the application process visit [here](#).

PROGRAMMING

What are the program options?

1. **Expanded Learning Time**- All grades. Programs must offer a minimum of 300 expanded learning program hours during the school year and summer.
2. **Out of School Time for Elementary Schools**- Afterschool program that may include before and after school time. Must include a minimum of 100 hours of summer programming.
3. **Out of School Time for Middle and High Schools** – may include before and after school time. Must include a minimum of 100 hours of summer programming.

For details on programming, please review the request for applications (RFA).

Is virtual programming permitted?

Programs can offer specific activities virtually when there is a strong rationale, and it will increase effectiveness. Virtual opportunities (e.g. connecting with a mentor, parent learning opportunities) should be approved, however, the program itself must be in person.

Is a drop-in center eligible to apply?

All students are required to engage in full programming to include academic and youth development programs. Partial programming (drop-in) does not meet the requirements of the grant. Summer programs are expected to have consistency in attendance, just as they would during the school year.

COMPETITIVE PRIORITY POINTS

How can my application receive priority points?

Priority points will be given toward scoring applications containing high-impact tutoring and math in programming and rural programming.

High-impact tutoring – Option 1 grantees may use their 21st CCLC funds to provide tutoring during the school day. Options 2 and 3 should conduct tutoring during out of school time or use alternative funds to provide tutoring during the school day.

The National Student Support Accelerator has some great resources on High-impact Tutoring if you would like to learn more <https://studentsupportaccelerator.org/>

Mathematics – For more information, please visit the Math and Literacy Tutoring Collaborative <https://ohiop20litcollab.org/literacy-math-tutoring/>

Rural priority points will be given to Title 1 Schoolwide and targeted support buildings, geographic distribution, and district typology designations. Questions about typology should be directed to Diane A. Neal, PhD., Assistant Director, Office of Federal Programs, Diane.Neal@education.ohio.gov

PROGRAM LICENSING

Does my program need to be licensed to operate under this grant?

To “operate” a program means being directly responsible for the day-to-day planning, organizing, and managing of the program. That is, “fiscal agent” and “location” do not determine jurisdiction.

A program operated by an entity that is *not* a public school, educational service center, community school, board of developmental disabilities, or chartered nonpublic school should contact Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office of Family Assistance Bureau of Childcare Development Licensing and Monitoring 1-877-302-2347, option 4 or childcarepolicy@jfs.ohio.gov

Programs operated by a public school, educational service center, community school, board of developmental disabilities, or chartered nonpublic school should view the information at <https://childrenandyouth.ohio.gov/for-providers>

Questions regarding licensing should be directed to the appropriate licensing authority.

STAFF

Does the grant require licensed teachers?

At least one certified teacher is required to oversee the quality of the 21st CCLC academic curriculum. Responsibilities may include, but are not limited to, the development of lesson plans, alignment to the school day curriculum and/or Ohio's Learning Standards, student progress monitoring and development of differentiated instructional plans individualized to student needs. The teacher needs only be certified in one subject at the grade span served.

Are staff required to have other licenses or certifications?

Program personnel, volunteers and any contractors shall meet all licensing requirements for working with students, including appropriate background checks, if required by the state licensing entity that applies to the program site.

AWARDS

How do I know if my school partner is eligible?

Awards shall only be provided to applicants primarily serving students who attend schools with a high concentration of low-income students and families. For this application, a school with a high concentration of low-income students and families is defined as a school with a poverty percentage (the percentage of students eligible for free or reduced-price meals) of 40 percent or greater or a school that has received designation under the community eligibility provision, as determined by school enrollment or the participating attendance area.

Data for Free and Recued Price Meals can be found [here](#)

Please note the information is self-reported data that the sites report on the applications and claims for reimbursement in April and October of each year.

For more information contact child.nutrition@education.ohio.gov

BUDGET

How do I determine allowable and unallowable expenses?

A general listing of allowable and unallowable expenses can be found within the Request for Application. If an organization is awarded, all proposed budgets will be reviewed for allowable and unallowable expenses. If a budget requires adjustments, the program office will provide proper guidance after being awarded.

How will I know if my organization's application was awarded?

The following is a timeline of important dates:

February 1, 2024: Register for Bidders Conference

February 13, 2024: Bidders conference (virtual) – Participants are asked to register for the conference using the link below. If you are new to this process, please refer to page 21 in the RFA for details then visit [OH|ID to set-up](#) an OH|ID account.

February 20, 2024: 2-hour live Q&A Session (virtual) – participants will have the opportunity to ask the 21st CCLC team questions following the Bidders Conference

February 24, 2024: A Bidders Conference recording and supporting documents shall be posted on the Department's website no later than February 24, 2024.

March 4, 2024: CCIP opens for 21st CCLC applications.

April 5, 2024: CCIP closes at 5pm.

April-May 2024: Application grant reader training for qualified grant readers. Assignment of applications to qualified grant readers. 21st CCLC grant applications read and scored.

July 2024: Grant notifications sent via CCIP.