

To: All LEAs
All Public, Nonpublic, and Private Schools
All Pennsylvania Higher Education Institutions

From: N. Craig Scott, 21st CCLC Education Administration Supervisor
Bureau of School Support
Division of Student Services

Date: January 27, 2022

Re: Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) Cohort 11 Grant Announcement,
Instructions for Applications (IFA)

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) is pleased to announce the availability of the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) Cohort 11 Grant Instructions for Application (IFA). The Cohort 11 application for the 21st CCLC grant will be submitted via the eGrants system starting February 15, 2022. The period of availability is five years, which is anticipated to begin October 1, 2022, and end September 30, 2027, subject to availability of funds from the United States Department of Education and satisfactory performance of the grantee in the previous year.

The Nita M. Lowey 21st CCLC grant is a competitive grant that provides federal funding to establish community learning centers that provide academic, artistic, and cultural enrichment opportunities for students and their families. These opportunities must occur during non-school hours or periods when school is not in session to help students attending high-poverty and low-performing schools to meet state and local standards in core academic subjects. Centers must also offer students a broad array of activities that can complement their regular academic programs and literacy and other educational services to their families. The 21st CCLC program is authorized under Title IV, Part B of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 and reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015.

21st CCLC Non-Regulatory Guidance, www2.ed.gov/programs/21stcclc/guidance

Program Purpose

The purpose of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) program is to provide opportunities for communities to establish or to expand activities in community learning centers that:

1. provide opportunities for academic enrichment, including providing tutorial services to help students, particularly students who attend low-performing schools, to meet the challenging State academic standards.
2. offer students a broad array of additional services, programs, and activities, such as youth development activities, tutoring, service learning, nutrition and health education, drug and violence prevention programs, counseling programs, arts, music, physical fitness and wellness programs, technology education programs, financial literacy programs, environmental literacy programs, mathematics, science, career and technical programs, internship or apprenticeship programs, and other ties to an in-demand industry sector or occupation for high school students that are designed to reinforce and complement the regular academic program of participating students; and

- offer families of students served by community learning centers opportunities for active and meaningful engagement in their children's education, including opportunities for literacy and related educational development.

Funding Availability

PDE will have approximately \$20 million available for Cohort 11 grants. Applicants may choose to provide out-of-school time programming (i.e., before school, afterschool, holidays, weekends, and summer school services) focused on providing opportunities for academic enrichment, including tutorial services to assist students, particularly those who attend low performing schools and to assist them in meeting the challenging academic standards in kindergarten through grade 12. The performance measures of school attendance, classroom performance, and/or reduced disciplinary referrals and meeting state and local academic achievement standards in reading, math, and science must be addressed by all applicants.

Applicants may request funds ranging from a minimum of \$50,000 to a maximum of up to \$500,000. Programs that propose to provide both school year and summer programming are more powerful for results and data. There will be no summer-only applicants in this grant round. Requests for funding should be based on a maximum per pupil-cost of \$1,500 - \$1,800, which includes administrative and transportation costs.

Eligible Applicants

Any public or private organization that meets the eligibility requirements can apply for 21st CCLC funding. This includes public school districts, charter schools, private schools, nonprofit agencies, city or county government agencies, faith-based organizations, institutions of higher education, Indian tribes or tribal organizations, and for-profit corporations. All programs must be implemented through a partnership that includes at least one (1) local educational agency receiving funds under part A of Title I and at least one (1) nonprofit agency, city or county government agency, faith-based organization, institution of higher education, Indian tribe or tribal organization, or for-profit corporation with a demonstrated record of success in designing and implementing before school, after school, summer learning, or expanded learning time activities.

All applicants must target students in the lowest 5 to 10 percent of Title I schools or those listed as focus and priority schools. To be eligible for this grant, at least 85 percent of the students an applicant is proposing to serve must attend: schools that are Title 1, TSI, ATSI, or CSI.

A current list of TSI, ATSI, CSI list of schools is available at www.education.pa.gov/K-12/ESSA

Current cohort 9 and 10 grantees are eligible to apply but cannot duplicate services of their current grants or propose to provide services to the identical target population of students. Cohort 11 applicants selected for funding are not eligible to amend their target populations to include current cohort 9 or 10 grants once funding for previously awarded grants has ended.

Program Conditions

Programming must be high quality and evidence-based, connected to school day learning and outcomes, conducted in a safe and accessible facility, and offer every participating student a minimum of 240 to 300 non-school hours of programming during the school year.

Unsuccessful Applicants are eligible for due process under section 76.401 of Edgar, <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-34/subtitle-A/part-76>

Grant Award Process and Key Dates



All potential applicants must complete the following steps:

1. Read grant qualifications – Beginning January 27, 2022, the Cohort 11 grant Instructions for Application (IFA) can be found by visiting PDE's website at www.education.pa.gov, using the search keywords 21st CCLC.
2. Notify PDE via email (RA-21stCCLC@pa.gov) of the applicant's intent to submit an application (must be received at the 21st CCLC office by Thursday, February 10, 2022). Include in the letter:
 - a. The legal name of the entity
 - b. The Administrative Unit Number (AUN) and vendor number for the lead organization (to find your AUN visit the [EDNA](#) website).
 - c. The target population to be served by your program including grade levels, proposed site locations, district and school names, community-based organization partners.
 - d. The name of your Agency Administrator and any agency signatory authority.

NOTE:

From your emailed letter of intent to the 21st CCLC office at RA-21stCCLC@pa.gov by Thursday, February 10, 2022, PDE will create your entity account which will grant access to the Division of Student Services grants.

3. Confirm your access to the eGrants system (If you do not have an AUN number and/or if you have any question regarding eGrants registration, contact the Program Office Administrator Joseph Eye at jeve@pa.gov).
4. Attend the Grant Writing Webinar on February 4, 2022. Registration for this event is available on the Center for Schools ([CSC](#)) website.
5. EGrants opens for 21st CCLC Cohort 11 grant applications February 15, 2022. Deadline for submission is 5:00PM on March 25, 2022.
6. Awarded Applicants will be notified by June 2022.
7. Contract effective date anticipated to be October 1, 2022. Deadline for program to begin is October 3, 2022.

More Application Information Available:

- Visit PDE's website at www.education.pa.gov, using the search keywords 21st CCLC.
- Email additional questions to: RA-21stCCLC@pa.gov or to N. Craig Scott, 21st CCLC Education Administration Supervisor, Division of Student Services, Bureau of School Support, at nscot@pa.gov, or contact by phone at 717.346.3251.

PA Department of Education Bureau of School Support 333 Market Street | 3rd Floor | Harrisburg, PA 17010
Phone: 717.783.6466 | Fax: 717.783.4392 www.education.pa.gov

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