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Q&A

- Can NDE send the Grants Department a copy of the Partial Continuation letter regarding specific activities sent of last week to the districts?
  - **All schools that qualify for Partial Continuation have been notified.**
- Will there be another vendor showcase for newly applying eligible schools or will NDE provide a packet of vendor information to include services they provide, so we may disseminate to eligible schools?
  - **Unfortunately, we were not able to organize another showcase before the RFA was released. We can definitely send over the information we provided at last year's showcase that you may share with the new schools.**
- Which consolidated application grant(s) requires interim and annual evaluation reports, and which require annual evaluation reports? Will NDE provide the evaluation template? When are the reports due?
  - **Title IV A – Social Workers are evaluated under the same guidelines and timeline as the Social Workers in school grant recipients. That is the only evaluation outside regular monitoring. 1003(a) – desktop monitoring as all schools have been asked to submit in the past. I believe it is twice a year - Fall & Spring.**
    Turnaround - There is a mid-year (120 day) evaluation that is due 120 days into the school year – so around November. There is some on site monitoring as needed.
    CCR- Evaluations are due by June 15 for each of the programs (DE, AP, SEM, WBL). The evaluations are to submit data of increases in student completion for the programs.
- Does each school complete a 2 – pager for each funding stream they are applying for or is it one 2 – pager for each school?
  - **Each 2-pager should include an overview of how any program they are asking for will fit into the overall school performance plan of the school. So 1 2-pager per school for the grant.**
- Should we submit a 2-pager for each of the projects (STEM, DE…) for CCR?
  - **The 2-pager per school should include how the programs fit into the overall school performance plan. One 2-pager will suffice.**
- Does each funding stream: 1003(a), Turnaround, Title IVA, and CCR AP, CCR Dual Enrollment, CCR STEM, CCR Work Based have 2 pages per school for each piece of funding, for a potential 12 pages or is it two pages for 1003(a)/Title IVA or Title IVA/Turnaround then a whole district application for all CCR?
  - **15 pages for the district strategy and then a 2 pager for each school no matter what grant they are asking for funding through.**
- Do budgets need to be separated by instruction & support functions as we do for all other grants? The forms provided are not separated this way.
  - **Yes they do. The budget template is designed with the 2 columns.**
- Do charter schools submit to SPCSA or NDE?

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- Is support for social workers considered (title IVA) a level 4 for ESSA Evidence? What about Dual enrollment? AP?
- **Social Workers are a Level 4 unless they have the research (multiple years in service) to show the programs they support meets Level 3. Dual Enrollment and AP already meet ESSA Level 2 as a program.**
- What are the criteria used to establishing low, medium or high need of a school?
- **He districts justify the needs of the school. Based on the funding, the needs for schools are different. The LEA should make a case for the high, medium or low needs based on the funding stream priorities**.
- Can any previously identified 1003(a) school apply for turnaround?
- **There is an eligibility list for Turnaround funding. This does include schools that received 1003(a) funds in FY18 but do not qualify for FY19.**
- Is WBL a level 4?
- **Level 2 in providing these opportunities for students under the State definition of WBL.**
- When TSI schools are identified, how then would they apply for or receive funding?
- **TSI will be identified in September. They CSI will be prioritized for 1003(a) and then TSI.**
- If the STEM PD training helps teachers help their under-served student subgroups in STEM, which is a priority of the STEM strategic plan, will it be a priority for the CCR portions of the grant?
- **Yes, this is one of the priorities in the CCR grant RFA.**
- Are there specific questions in the application about evaluation? If so, where are those included? Also, what is the total amount of dollars districts can ask for within 1003(a) grant umbrella?
- **Evaluation is in the scoring rubric. An explanation should be included with the district strategy. There is no cap to the amount requested under 1003(a).**
- External Evaluation means an outside agency?
- **Yes, a third party.**
- Have you looked at external evaluators to determine the cost? For 21st century grant, we have to go out to bid.
- **There are many companies that do this work at a variety of pricing. You would follow your LEA procedure for securing an external contract.**
- On the CCR can a district/ school just go after the STEM portion or must they go for AP, DE, WBL, & STEM?
- **You may apply for funding under one or all of the opportunities**
- If we are extending social worker program, do we need to fill out the staffing form? There is no evidence- based provided tied to these positions.
- **Yes, you must fill out the personnel form for any position being requested. There must be an ESSA level to be funded. SW are usually a Level 4 unless they have been evaluated for effectiveness by a third-party person.**
- How would TSI schools apply for funding if they have not been designated?

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- o **They can't because they have not been identified.**
- Can 1003(a) schools apply for Title IV?
- o **Yes**
- SPCSA did not apply for CCR by school, they applied with the district. How do you want charter schools to apply?
- o **Charter Schools can apply either with district or as a charter school.**
- How can we go about correcting the list of schools that are listed as eligible in the consolidated application if we believe the list is incorrect?
- o **This has been completed and is available upon request.**
- It looks like 1003(a) schools may request to purchase curriculum programs if evidence based as well?
- o **Core curriculum must meet evidence levels 1,2, or 3. So yes, they can be purchased.**
- The budget templet is different from what is on NDE website.
- o **Yes. This one us under the consolidated application and is different from the normal budget templet.**
- There is not enough room on this webinar. Can you please make arrangements before the next webinar?
- o **Yes**
- Will you approve a service provider that has an ESSA level of 1, 2, 3, or 4 who is not on your list? So, if we pick a provider that is not on your list but they do have ESSA evidence 1,2,3,4, then you will approve it?
- o **1003(a) has to be 1, 2, or 3. Yes we will consider vendors not on the NDE vetted list, however you must provide the research used to determine its level of evidence**
- Which part of the application do continuing applicants complete? Does this include CCR?
- o Continuation is only for Purchased Services for Partners (vendors) and coaches (intervention, literacy, etc.) that were funded by 1003(a) or title IV A. CCR funds were not used for these purposes so they do not qualify for PC.
- o **For funds that are part of these criteria, you only have to complete the PC pages beginning on page 18 of the RFA. Also, a letter has been sent to each district that qualifies with the specifics.**
- What does appendix J apply to? Is there a form for non-school based positions?
- o **Appendix J applies to any district that is asking for personnel to be funded through one of these grants (excluding a couch under PC above). Please explain further what non-school based positions would be. District personnel? They would be under the same requirements of Appendix J.**
- Will the evaluation reports be combined for this PY19 Consolidated, or will they be required separately, by funding streams?
- o **Evaluation reports such as the CCR and Turnaround end-of-year will be separate. This is because our audits are separate.**

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- Can new title IV A (did not receive funding in the FY 18 or stand-alone application) schools apply if they are on the eligible list?
  - **Title IV A is available to every school in the state. However, apps are prioritized on those with the most needs as defined within the RFA. Eligibility only applies to 1003(a) and Turnaround.**
- Can new 1003(a) schools (not funding in round 1, 2, or consolidated pilot) apply if they are on the eligibility list?
  - **There are no new 1003(a) eligible schools this year. The schools that are eligible are all rising star schools whether they chose to apply last year or not.**
- Can we hire school based positions in this grant? Are the positions only support 1003(a) schools?
  - **Any reasonable and supported position may be asked with Appendix J attached. As always, the review team and leadership make the final determination as to what is funded and not funded. Some grants support personnel more heavily than others. For example a Work-based Learning coordinator is encouraged.**
- Do we need to complete a collective responsibility chart for each funding stream?
  - **No, 1 chart per application submitted. We will be going over this in detail during the webinar on Tuesday.**
- How will indirect cost be calculated for this grant?
  - **Each budget is submitted separately. Therefore, there is no change to how indirect cost is calculated.**
- Which parts of the application do new schools listed on this grants eligibility list complete?
  - **All parts should be completed.**
- How do we measure the effectiveness of the vendors?
  - **We are encouraging districts to hire an outside evaluator to evaluate outcomes of programs, personnel or any other part of funding asks. This would include vendors. Vendors work for the district, therefore should be evaluated for effectiveness and decisions to retain or replace are solely made by districts/schools.**
- There is a reference to a competitive grant process. Is that part of this application and, if not, when will that RFP be released? Page 8
  - **This is a competitive grant application. The narratives and requirements begin on page 16. We have just streamlined the process for certain object codes to reduce the burden of duplicative asks.**
- Are only two budget lines (purchased professional services and coach salary) allowable in this partial continuation application? Page 19
  - **Yes**
- Did each school receive a letter specifying line items and total amount that can be requested for funding? If not, how do we determine the allowable line items and amounts that can be requested by school?
  - **Districts were sent the letter late last week.**
- Does each school answer the questions in Subsection A and B? page 19-21

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- o **We encourage all decisions for continuation of services to be made in collaboration between the district and the school.**
- • Are social workers included in the partial continuation grant?
- o **Social Workers are not considered an evidence-based provider so they do not qualify for the continuation. It would be the provider who would qualify**.
- • In the 15 page limit for district, do you want us to include District Strategy and Collective responsibility for each of the four grant programs?
- o **No, We really want you to focus on the holistic plan, therefore the district strategy should describe the district support available for overall improvement, not necessarily support for each individual grant funding ask. Think of your District Strategic Plan and describe how the continuous improvement/school improvement plan plays a role with funding requests. The Collective Responsibility should also be considered in a holistic way.**
- • Are we supposed to be answering the questions in Appendix J for all staff just in the full application or in the partial as well? And if so, is Appendix J part of the 15 page count?
- o **Appendix J is an attachment so it does not count toward the District 15 page maximum. All positions can be justified in Appendix J and submitted on the one document. Be specific and clear as to each position being asked for throughout all funding streams.**