

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR HIGH SCHOOL AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

1. Could there be a Dinner Program as part of the high school afterschool program? Some programs are open until 7:00pm or later. Is there a reimbursable program for dinner similar to the currently mandated afterschool snack?

Generally, an LEA - or any other grantee - must use its 21st CCLC funds to provide after-school enrichment programs as described in its application/plan. If the dinner meal is part of their program plan, they could offer a dinner meal. If they have not included the dinner meal in the existing plan, they will need to amend the plan and submit it to CDE. The grantee may want to check with the nutrition services department regarding any potential funding for a dinner meal.

2. If an afterschool program did not apply for a supplemental ACCESS grant for transportation in the initial grant application can it be applied for separately?

No. You may apply for it in addition to your reapplication when your grant ends after five years. This question is under "Frequently Asked Questions" regarding the 21st CCLC program on the CDE website. To view this page, go to: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ba/cp/>. In the meantime, you can revise your current grant's budget and plan to accommodate for transportation.

3. Can attendance be counted for students in your after school program if they are in a class with volunteer staff?

Yes. If you have volunteer staff in your after school program they must be subject to the same screening process as a paid staff member. Volunteers must meet the district minimal requirement to be NCLB compliant, be fingerprinted, and maintain the 20 to 1 student to teacher ratio as indicated in the grant. If those stipulations are met, a volunteer staff person's group of after school students may be counted toward program attendance. If those stipulations are not met, students cannot be counted.

4. Could students from other out of school programs, such as homeschooled or independent study students, participant in a high school afterschool program?

If it is part of their application and plan they could include those students based upon the Superintendent's approval. If not included in the existing plan, they should amend it and submit it to CDE.

5. Can students from neighboring high schools such as nearby private and charter schools who do not have a grant take part in an afterschool program at a high school with ASSETs funding?

The 21st CCLC program, as described in federal statute, is designed to provide opportunities for communities to establish or expand before-and after-school programs that provide disadvantaged K-12 students (particularly students who attend schools in need of improvement) with academic enrichment opportunities and supportive services to help the students meet state and local standards in core content areas. Programs could serve private and charter high schools within the school community. Services should be established in the program plan; if they are not included, an amendment would be needed.

Language from the latest RFA related to private school participation is posted below. The same criterion applies to existing grantees.

Private School Consultation Requirements

All Cohort 5, ASSETs grant applicants, including private schools, must consult with officials from the private high schools (including faith-based schools) that meet the funding eligibility criteria and are in the geographic area to be served, prior to the submission of the application to the CDE. Consultation must provide equitable opportunities for private high school staff to be involved in the design and implementation of the 21st CCLC program, consistent with the uniform Provisions of Title IX of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, sections 9501-9504. Additional information about the requirements for timely and meaningful consultation is available online at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/ps/cd/guidance.asp>.

Public or private organizations awarded a grant must provide equitable services to private high school students and their families. In designing and developing a program that meets this requirement, applicants must (1) provide comparable opportunities for the participation of both public and private high school students in the area served by the grant, and (2) consult with private high school officials on issues such as how the students' needs will be identified and what services will be offered. Applicants must retain documentation of consultations with personnel from private high schools for audit and monitoring purposes.

6. Does a student have to take part in all of the mandated components (academic, enrichment, snack and physical activity) each day in order to be counted for attendance?

No. The components must be offered consistently and be ASSETs sponsored but it is up to the program/grantee to determine what the requirements are for a student to be counted as attending the program daily. Those requirements can range from a student getting every component each day to the number of hours a student spends in the program each day. If your site's requirement for attendance is a student must take part in at least one activity a day to be counted then that activity has to be an ASSETs sponsored activity. The attendance requirements and what you plan to offer are in your grant application as part of your program plan. If the attendance requirement is not there, create that requirement with the input and consensus

from all stakeholders and implement it. Ideally, it would be great if each student got all components each day in order to maximize the benefits of your program.

This particular question always poses many other follow up questions. Take time to continuously review your grant application. Look at what you planned to implement and periodically assess if that is working or not. Please call or email Chris Rury if you need any clarification.

7. Are public charter schools eligible to participate in the 21st CCLC program?

Yes. Under State law, a public charter school is generally either an LEA or a public school within an LEA. As such, public charter schools are eligible to be considered for support on the same basis as other schools or LEAs in the State. Regardless of a charter school's status as an LEA or a public school, it is eligible to apply for a grant because any public or private entity may apply. Even if a charter school does not apply for or receive a grant, its students may participate in 21st CCLC programs established through an application submitted by other organizations. In this instance a charter school without an ASSETs grant could participate in an LEA grant, subject to approval of the superintendent and inclusion in the application and program plan.