

**OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION**

**NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY**

**Fiscal Year 2024 Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant  
(ESEA Title IV, Part B)**

**Request for Application (RFA) Release Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.**

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) will be soliciting grant proposals from eligible District of Columbia local educational agencies (LEAs) or community-based organizations for the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) grant. The purpose of the 21st CCLC program is to establish or expand community learning centers that provide students with academic enrichment opportunities along with activities designed to complement students' regular academic programs. 21st CCLC also offers educational development opportunities for participating students' families, including literacy programs. Programs may be located in elementary schools, secondary schools, or other similarly accessible facilities, and provide a range of high-quality services to support student learning and development. The 21st CCLC program is authorized under Part B of Title IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015. The grant is supported through federal funds awarded to the District of Columbia to support the 21st Century Community Learning Centers and the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.

**Eligibility and Selection Criteria:** OSSE will make these grants available through a competitive process. Any entity defined as an LEA, community-based organization, Indian tribe or tribal organization (as such terms are defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Act (25 U.S.C. § 5304)), another public or private entity, or a partnership/consortium of two or more such agencies, organizations, or entities is eligible to apply for the 21st CCLC grant. Individual schools in an LEA are not eligible to apply directly for funds and cannot sign partnership agreements. All applications and school partnership agreements must be submitted and signed by the LEA on behalf of the school. Partnerships or consortiums must meet certain requirements as described in the RFA.

Applications will be scored on the following selection criteria: provision of an executive summary, application priorities, needs and resource assessment, evidence-based program design, program management and implementation, program evaluation and monitoring, sustainability, and detailed planning budget expenditures.

**Length of Award:** The 21st CCLC grant award period is five years. The initial award length is from the date of the award to September 30, 2024. Successful applicants will be funded for four (4) additional years subject to funding availability and continued compliance with grant terms and conditions. All awards will be reviewed annually for consideration of continued funding.

**Available Funding for the Award:** The total funding available for the 21st CCLC awards is approximately \$6,000,000. OSSE anticipates making 6-10 new awards. Program funds may not be used to supplant existing programs and/or funding. Additionally, all expenditures must be consistent with applicable state and Federal laws, regulations, and guidance. Program costs must be paid, not merely incurred, by the awardee to the payee prior to requesting reimbursement.

**Application Process:** A review panel will be convened to review, score, and rank each application. This panel will be comprised of neutral and qualified professionals selected for their expertise, knowledge, or related experiences with 21st CCLC programming. Upon completion of their review, panelists shall make recommendations for awards based on the scoring rubric. OSSE may use multiple panels to review, score, and rank applications. OSSE will review these recommendations and has the discretion to determine final award decisions based on these recommendations and any other factors consistent with federal statute.

- The RFA will be released on June 28, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. on OSSE's 21st CCLC webpage: <http://osse.dc.gov/service/title-iv-part-b-21st-century-community-learning-centers>.
- OSSE will provide two web-based pre-application technical assistance sessions on July 6 at 10:00 a.m. and July 13, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.
- Applications must be submitted through the Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS) by August 11, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.
- Awards will be announced by September 30, 2023.

The pre-application technical assistance session will include an overview of the 21st CCLC grant program, competition, and online application submission process. These sessions will also provide opportunities for any grant competition inquiries. The content of both sessions will be the same. Interested applicants may join [here](#) for the session on July 6, 2023 at 10 a.m. or [here](#) for the session on July, 13, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

Organizations interested in applying for the 21st CCLC may use the following link to access EGMS: <http://grants.osse.dc.gov/>. Applicants will need to create an EGMS username and password to access the 21st CCLC application. The RFA and application submission guidance will be available on OSSE's 21st CCLC [webpage](#).

To receive more information or a copy of the RFA, please contact:

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