

21st CCLC FY15 RFA
Technical Assistance Webinar, part 1:
Grant Purpose, Overview, and Tips

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While you are waiting, run the Blackboard “Audio Setup Wizard”: Click the icon of the microphone with the red flower

Before we get started...

- This is being recorded
- Keep microphone off or telephone muted (*6) until you have a question
- Choose a quiet space so that other noises are not broadcast

If you have a question

- I will pause periodically
- If on Blackboard, raise hand to ask question and then click “talk” button or speak into phone
- If only on phone line, wait for pause and then state “I have a question”
- Ask generic questions during this session
- Save “sensitive” questions for emails

Who is here?

- State name, community, and organization
- On Blackboard
- On Teleconference line

Agenda

- Overview of 21st CCLC
- General Review of RFA
- Website Resources
- General Grant Writing Tips
- Questions

Overview of 21st CCLC

21st CCLC: Funding source



- Funded through the U.S. Department of Education – ESEA
 - Law
 - Non-regulatory guidance
 - EDGAR, Omni-Circular
- Alaska receives \$5.5 million/year
- Applicants' responsibility to understand and follow the federal law and administrative guidelines

21st CCLC:

Purpose of funding

- Increase academic achievement
- Provide opportunities **outside** of the school day
- Particularly students who attend high-poverty, low-performing schools



21st CCLC:

Who can apply



- Any public/private organization can apply
 - School Districts
 - Faith-Based Orgs
 - Community-Based Orgs
 - Coalitions
 - Combination
- Must collaborate with students' school

21st CCLC:

Funding parameters

- 5-year grant award
- Between \$50,000-\$500,000 per year
- This competition will likely fund **4-6** new grants



Who is eligible for services



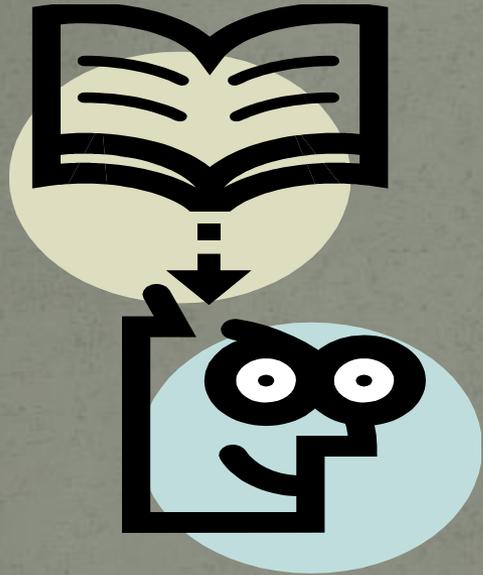
- More than half of the students served must attend schools with poverty rates of 40% or greater
- Can also provide services to parents of participating students

Who is the priority population

- Priority population is students who attend
 - Schools with poverty rates of 40% or more
 - Schools with 3 stars or less in ASPI system
 - Priority and Focus schools
 - Title 1 schools



Academic assistance



- Focus on improving reading, writing and mathematics
- Measured through improvements in State and Local Assessments
- Targeted tutoring, skill building, homework help,

Educational enrichment

- Hands-on, project-based, active, experiential, programming:
 - STEM or STEAM
 - Arts, music, culture, sports
 - Health, drug and violence prevention, character education



What it's NOT

- Study hall
- Drop in tutoring
- Mandatory intervention
- A way to buy expensive equipment
- A way to fund one favorite club
- A way to build/fund a rec center

Capacity and program staffing



- Organizational support for program
- Well-trained and supported qualified staff
- Staffing appropriate for the program and realistic for community

Community partnerships

- Staffing
- Advocacy
- Marketing
- Programmatic funding and/or support
- Sustainability



Best practices and resources

<http://education.alaska.gov/21cclc/>

- Doing What Works – research-based education practices online
 - http://www.dww.ed.gov/Increased-Learning-Time/topic/index.cfm?T_ID=29
- U.S. Department of Education
 - <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/21stcclc/index.html>
 - <http://y4y.ed.gov/>
- Harvard Family Research Project
 - www.hfrp.org
- Afterschool Alliance
 - <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/startingaProgram.cfm>

General Review of RFA



Section I

- Pages 4-15
- Purpose, eligibility, priority
- Federal information and guidelines
- Obligations and restrictions
- Award process
- Due dates

Section II

- Pages 11-16
- Specific, detailed directions for completing and compiling application package
- Application package is combination of narrative, forms, tables, appendices

Please note: The “Application Narrative” is only one part of the entire application package

Section III

- Prompts
- Forms
- Templates

Please note: Some portions of the application package have NO form/prompt/template in Section III

Website Resources

EED 21st CCLC Website

Resources for Applicants and Grantees

- Alaska 21st CCLC Key Quality Indicators - pdf
- Guidance for Local Evaluations - pdf
- Federal GPRA Measures for 21st CCLC Program - pdf
- Guidance for Sustainability Planning - pdf
- 2013 NSLP Free & Reduced Eligibility Report – pdf
- ASPI School Star Ratings 2013 – pdf
- Alaska Priority & Focus Schools 2013 - pdf
- Title IV, Part B – pdf
- Non-Regulatory Guidance – pdf
- Credit Recovery – pdf
- Equal Treatment Regulation
- Doing What Works
- You for Youth (Y4Y)
- Harvard Family Research Project – Afterschool Evaluation 101
- Building and Managing Quality Afterschool Programs – pdf
- Publications

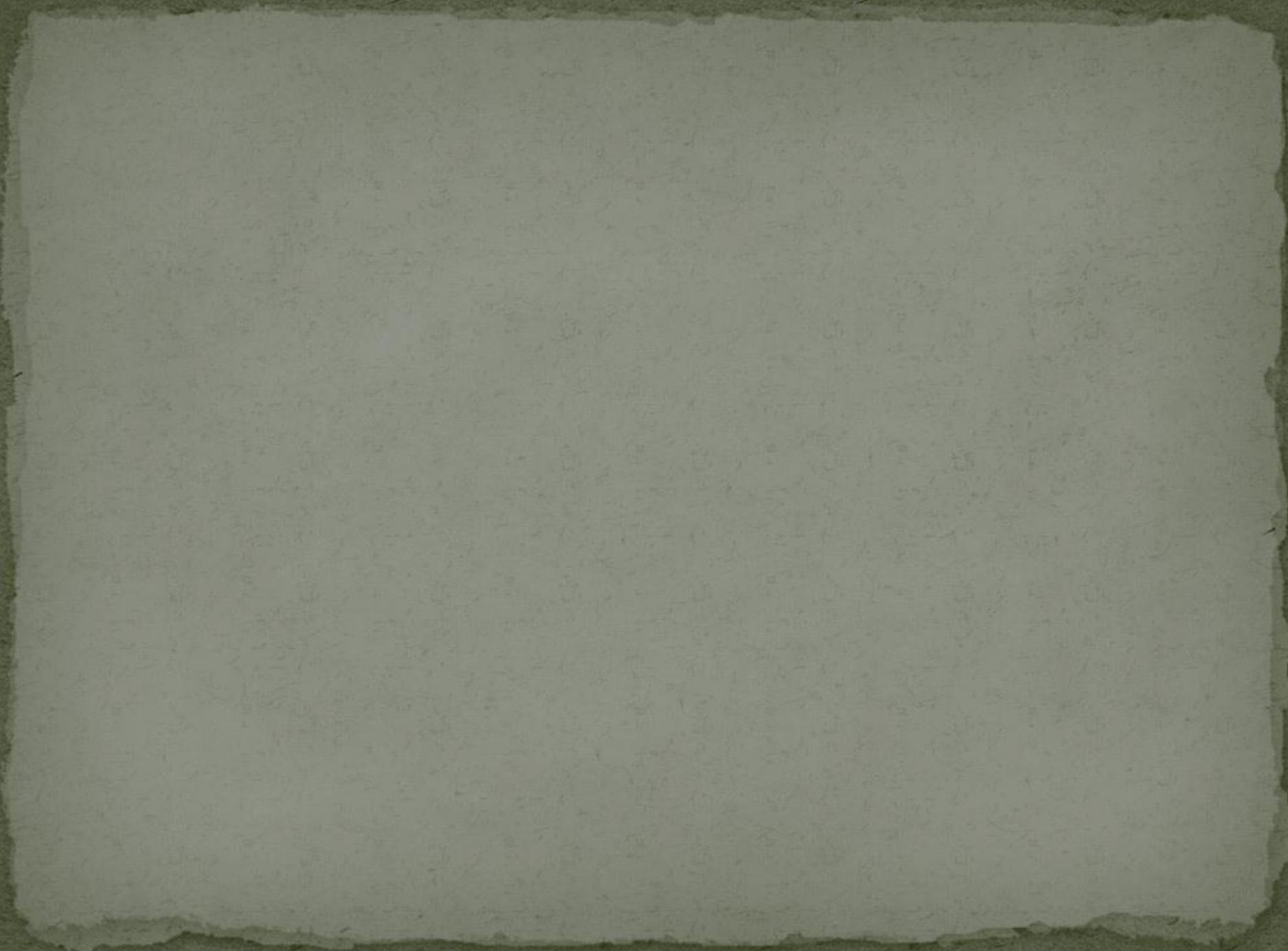
Individual technical assistance will be available by telephone 907-465-8716 or email jessica.paris@alaska.gov

Updated 2/11/2014

<http://education.alaska.gov/21cclc/>

General Grant Writing Tips





#10 – Note Page Limitations

- Do NOT stretch beyond limits
- Do NOT shrink font, use smaller margins, narrow font etc.
- **Do** number all pages in the same location
- **Do** ensure page orientation is portrait unless specified.

#9 – Careful of Acronyms

- **D.N.U.T.U.P.I** – Do not use these unless previously identified
- **Do** give a brief explanation where necessary –reviewer may not be familiar with your program/service, etc.

#8- Write for this Request for Applications

- Make sure all answers are easy to follow and make sense
- Make sure to answer in the order of the questions/sections
- Tailor application's goals and narrative directly to THIS application's purpose
- Determine if this grant matches YOUR objectives or mission

#7 – Less is More

- Cut to the chase
- Say what you want to do and why
- Use graphs and charts to describe or highlight points or goals

#6 – Understand your service recipients

- Understand the needs of your population
- Understand the community including the support/desires that may be in place
- Base decisions on Reliable, Accurate and Current data

#5 - Capacity

- Demonstrate capacity to provide proposed services
- Include realistic plans for hiring expertise, if necessary
- Applicants should anticipate for unforeseen changes; such as difficulties in hiring personnel, and plan accordingly

#4 - Funding

- Only ask for what you need
- Do not “pad” budget
- Budget should match your programming

#3 – Direct Services

- Most grant dollars should be focused on services to the intended population

#2 – Priority Areas

- Applicants should recognize any targeted or priority populations expressed in the application
- Applicants should have planned services, research based programs, or other evaluated initiatives that are well articulated and comply with application stipulations
- Applicants should consider their ability to apply for this funding

#1 – Innovative Solutions

- Don't use “more of the same” if it clearly isn't reaching the goals
- Find ways to involve hard to reach populations in the crafting of the solution
- Make sure solutions are tied to research or the application articulates CLEARLY the evaluation already in existence

Proposal Trouble Spots

- When it is not clear what is being addressed by the proposal or why it is worth addressing
- When there is no evidence that the proposal has a good chance of succeeding
- When the applicants are unaware of other efforts in their communities
- When the proposal is too expensive for the probable gain

Proposal Trouble Spots

- When the proposal is more appropriately funded through other sources
- When the proposal is badly presented and/or filled with spelling and grammatical errors
- When the proposal uses portions of previous applications without updating
- When the proposal does not following guidelines/deadlines (timelines for submission, fonts, charts, orientation etc.)

Biggest Common Mistake for Proposal Writers

- Understanding that your application is a commitment, like a contract, and if you say you are going to do it (and you are funded) - we will expect you to do it.

Questions



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Next steps

- Research
- Community meeting(s)
- Local grant preparation and planning
- Participation in technical assistance opportunities –
Next one **tomorrow!**
- Note DUE dates
- Ask questions

Need more information?

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