

21st CCLC FY26 RFA Technical Assistance Webinar , Part I Grant Purpose, Overview, and Tips

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development

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March 11, 2025



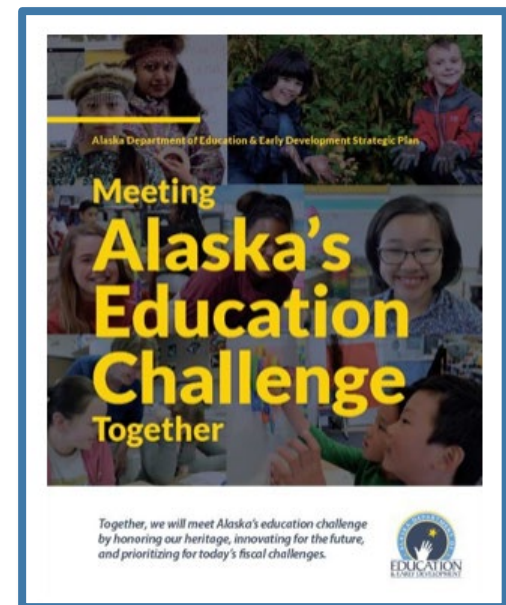
Mission, Vision, and Purpose

Mission	Vision	Purpose
An excellent education for every student every day.	All students will succeed in their education and work, shape worthwhile and satisfying lives for themselves, exemplify the best values of society, and be effective in improving the character and quality of the world about them. - Alaska Statute 14.03.015	DEED exists to provide information, resources, and leadership to support an excellent education for every student every day.

Strategic Priorities: Alaska's Education Challenge

Five Shared Priorities:

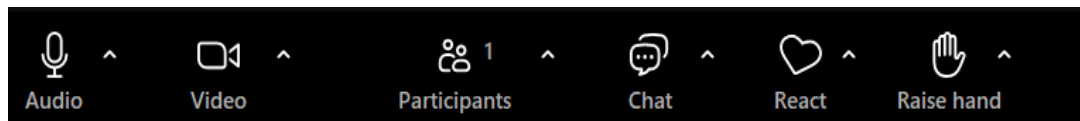
1. Support all students to read at grade level by the end of third grade.
2. Increase career, technical, and culturally relevant education to meet student and workforce needs.
3. Close the achievement gap by ensuring equitable educational rigor and resources.
4. Prepare, attract, and retain effective education professionals.
5. Improve the safety and well-being of students through school partnerships with families, communities, and tribes.



education.alaska.gov/akedchallenge

Engage by using the tech:

- Open your **Participant** window
- Open your **Chat** window
- Locate your **Microphone** button
- Locate your **Video** button
- Locate your **Reactions** button
- Locate **Hand-raising** button



Audio and Video Settings.

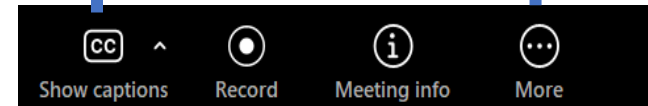
Click icon to turn on or off. Red slash through the icon indicates that it is turned off.

Click arrow (^) to the right of each icon for more settings (e.g., change microphone, virtual backgrounds).

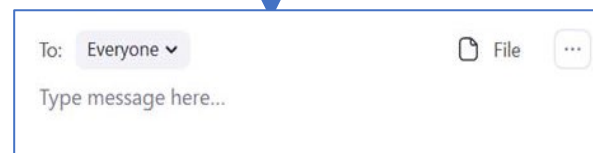
Show Captions:

This will display live closed captions.

Transcript: This will display a running transcript. Find by selecting from **More** button.



Chat: This will allow you to chat with the Host and other participants.



React: This will allow you to use an emoji to provide a reaction without interrupting the meeting. Reactions will disappear after 5 seconds. **Raise Hand** might be found here or as its own button



Leave microphone muted until speaking

Before we get started...

- This is being recorded
- Keep microphone off or telephone muted
- Use headphones so your mic does not re-transmit
- Use non-verbal tools as appropriate
- I will try to pause between major topics for questions
- Ask **generalized questions** relevant to entities other than yourself
- If you have a question—
 - Write in the chat and/or
 - Raise hand
 - If only on phone line, wait for pause and then state “I have a question”

Who is here?

In the chat box, type:

- Name
- Community
- Organization
- Email address

If on telephone only, state the same aloud

Agenda

- Overview of 21st CCLC
- Reporting and other Grantee Requirements
- Tips for New Applicants
- Applicant Resources
- Questions
- Next Steps

Overview of 21st CCLC

21st Century

Community Learning Centers Program

21st CCLC funding source

- Funded through the U.S. Department of Education
- Appropriated by Congress
- ESEA - Title IV, part B
- Many other [federal regulations](#)
- Alaska receives about \$6 million/year
- Distributes through competitive RFA process
- Plan to run another RFA next year



Purpose of 21st CCLC funding

- Increase student academic achievement
- Provide educational opportunities **outside** of the school day that align with regular day
- Particularly for students who attend high-poverty, low-performing schools



Academic assistance

- English language arts and mathematics instruction
- Targeted tutoring, skill building
- Homework/classwork help
- Credit recovery
- Credit accrual



Smaller staff to student ratio

Aligns with and supports regular school day

Educational enrichment

Hands-on, project-based, active, experiential, programming that engages students and supports state academic standards:

- STEM/STEAM projects, science clubs, coding, robotics, math games
- Art, music, cultural activities, theatre, second language, cooking, dance, chess
- Structured physical activity—archery, swimming, NYO, Girls on the Run,
- Drug and violence prevention, counseling
- Career readiness and competency building, employer-recognized credentials, service learning



Social, emotional, non-cognitive, and/or life skills building

- Program intentionally designed to support positive youth development
- Social/Emotional instructional curriculum
- Embedded in project-based learning



Family engagement in student's education

- Family Nights
- Literacy training
- Training in school online support resources
- Educational resources and activities
- Facebook and Newsletter stories
- Parent surveys
- Parents as volunteers, instructors, advisors
- (One *event* required per term)



Additional features of 21st CCLC programs

Free snack or meal *without* using 21st CCLC funds, such as

- NSLP Afterschool Snack
- CACFP Meal
- Summer Food Service Program

Safe transportation to and from program, such as

- Bus

Regular attendees

- Attends at least 75 hours

Evaluation process

- Data
- External observation
- Performance Indicators
- Ongoing Continuous Quality Improvement

Purpose of 21st CCLC funding repeated

Increase student academic achievement



What it's NOT

- Study hall—No: Planned lessons, small student-teacher ratio
- Drop-in tutoring—No: Regular attendance of target population
- Mandatory intervention—No: Voluntary
- A way to buy expensive equipment—No: Unless supported by quality staffing
- A way to fund school's favorite clubs—No: Supplanting
- A way to build/fund a rec center—No: Construction not allowed
- A way to fund out-of-town student trips—No: Educational field trips that are aligned with programming and within community only
- Tuition/scholarships to send students to other camps, schools, or programs—No: This is the learning center

Who can apply?

Any public/private organization can apply

- School districts
- [Faith-based](#) organizations
- Community-based organizations
- Tribal organizations
- Combination

Essential to collaborate with students' school

- Five Priority Points
- [External Organization Pool](#)



Who should apply?

School District

as lead applicant in coordination with school and in partnership with local organizations

- Ensure it's actually desired by school and community
- Doesn't harm community non-profits
- Variety of programming
- Priority points

Local Non-profit

as lead applicant in partnership with school district and other organizations

- Ensure it's actually desired by school and community
- Need data sharing agreements, academic support, facility from school
- Priority points

Funding parameters

- Between \$50,000-\$900,000 per year
- Awarded annually for 5-years, contingent on federal funding
- This competition will likely fund 6 - 9 new grants
- Funds must “supplement not supplant” existing federal, state, local, and non-federal/private funds
- Begins July 1, 2025



Supplement not supplant

Supplement = Allowed

- Create brand new program
- Add/replicate successful program at a new additional site
- Double the number of students previously served; double the number of days of operation. 21st CCLC pays only for the new students/services.
- Use 21st CCLC funds to operate a program previously funded by COVID money that died September 2024.
- Use 21st CCLC funds to operate a program previously funded by a 21st CCLC grant that ends June 30, 2025.
- Significantly add on to a current program and fund pre-existing part with non-21st CCLC funds

Supplant = Not Allowed

- Offer the same programming you offered in the prior year but swap how it is paid for
- Incorporate traditionally offered activities into a 21st CCLC program and pay for the activities using 21st CCLC funds
- Use 21st CCLC funds to operate a program previously funded by the district's BSA, Title I-A, Title IV-A, CTE, etc.
- Use 21st CCLC funds to operate a program previously funded by fundraising activities.
- Use 21st CCLC funds to pay for an activity required by federal, state or local law

Supplement not supplant continued

- *Congress intends 21st CCLC funds to provide programming and activities that would not occur if this funding didn't exist.*
- *One ways to understand “supplement not supplant” is to acknowledge that it is somewhat unfair.*
- *21st CCLC isn't a funding source to help pay for what you are already doing; it's a comprehensive program in its own right.*
- [More guidance](#) on Supplement not Supplant

Who is eligible for services?

- Schools
- Students in K-12
- At least 60% of the students served must attend **schools** with poverty rates of 40% or greater or Title I *schoolwide* sites
- Free of charge
- Option to charge nominal fee but subtracted from award
- See [21st CCLC DEED School Data Sheet](#)



Who is the priority population?

Priority population is students who attend **schools** that are--

- 2024 Comprehensive Support & Improvement or Additional Targeted Support & Improvement (CSI & ATSI) for 25 – 26 Implementation
- Fewer than 31.5% were proficient/advanced on Spring 2024 AK STAR ELA
- Title I-A site (SW or TA) or Alternative School
- **Not** served by 21st CCLC during past 3 years

2024 Results Available	(According to CMS Title I-A January 2023)	Disseminated (According to CMS Title I-A January 2023)	School in DEED's system for implementation 18-26-2023	Students Proficient/Advanced on STAR English Language Arts Spring 2024 assessment	Title I-A School (According to CMS Title I-A January 2023) and/or an Alternative School during JK-7s school year?	CCLC grant during 2023-24, 24-25, 25-26
Alaska Gateway School District	Alaska School Academy	17	Yes	No	No	Yes
Alaska Gateway School District	Dot Lake School	11	Yes	No	Yes - Title I-A SW	No
Alaska Gateway School District	Montross Lake School	30	Yes	No	Yes - Title I-A SW	No
Alaska Gateway School District	Eagle Community School	30	Yes	No	Yes - Title I-A SW	No
Alaska Gateway School District	Yukon School	34	Yes	Yes - CSI/MS	Yes	Yes - Title I-A SW
Alaska Gateway School District	Tuk School	188	Yes	No	Yes	Yes - Title I-A SW
Alaska Gateway School District	Wadley Northway School	64	Yes	Yes - CSI Lowest 2%	Yes	Yes - Title I-A SW
Yukon-Charley-Northway School District	Alutian School	24	Yes	No	Yes - Title I-A TA	No
Yukon-Charley-Northway School District	Yukon-Charley School	6	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Yukon-Charley-Northway School District	King Cove School	75	Yes	Yes - ATSI	Yes	Yes - Title I-A TA
Yukon-Charley-Northway School District	Land North School	85	Yes	No	Yes - Title I-A TA	Yes
change School District	Airport Heights Elementary	272	Yes	Yes	Yes - Title I-A SW	Yes
change School District	Alchovik & C2 Learning	277	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
change School District	Alaska Middle College School	300	No	Yes - ATSI	No	Yes
change School District	Alaska State School for the Deaf & Hard of He	23	Yes	No	No	Yes
change School District	Alpena Elementary	145	No	No	No	Yes
change School District	Archdiocese of Anchorage	176	No	No	No	Yes
change School District	Alaska Native Cultural Charter School	281	Yes	No	Yes	Yes - Title I-A SW
change School District	Aquaman Charter School	389	No	No	No	Yes

See the [21st CCLC DEED School Data Sheet](#)

Why will students want to attend?

- Positive atmosphere
- Relationships with peers and adults
- Community and belonging
- Leadership and responsibility
- Voice and choice
- Food (not with 21st CCLC funds)
- Variety of engaging programming
- New ideas, activities, opportunities
- Support to succeed in school
- Regular attendance encouraged



When is programming?

Required: After school day during school year

- Typically 2 or 2.5 hours, 4 or 5 days per week
- Must offer at least 220 hours per center during SY

Optional: Summer

- Typically half - full day, 4 or 5 days per week
- Must offer at least 90 hours per center if do summer

Additionally:

- Before school (typically 30 - 60 minutes)
- Saturdays (particularly for parent involvement)
- Evenings (for HS students)
- Winter or spring break (typically full day, 5 days)



Where are the “centers”?

Safe

- Current safety inspections

Accessible

- ADA compliant
- Site not a barrier to transportation

Convenient

- Students
- Staff
- Families

Economical

= School Buildings



Who are the staff?

Administrative:

- Program Director (.25 to 1.0 FTE)
- Site Coordinator (.5 to 1.0 FTE)
- Teacher in Charge (15 hours per week)

Instructional:

- Teachers on extra duty stipend
- Paraprofessionals on hourly wage
- In-kind staff from school or community partners
- Contracted from local non-profits and for-profits
- Volunteers



Effective management structures

- 1.0 Director, 5 X .75 Site Coordinators, 5 large sites
- 0.5 Director, 4 x 1.0 Site Coordinators, 4 large sites
- 1.0 Director, 4 X 0.5 Site Coordinators, 4 medium sites
- .25 Director, 1 x 1.0 Program Coordinator, 4 Teachers in Charge, 4 small sites
- 1.0 Director/Site Coordinator, 1 medium site

How is staff quality ensured?

- Organizational support for program
- Appropriate hiring practices, including background screening
- Provide training and PD
- Provide time to plan
- Staffing appropriate for the program and realistic for community
- Clear contracts and job descriptions
- Support from the fiscal staff



Why are partnerships important?

- Staffing
- Programming variety and expertise
- Programmatic funding and/or in-kind support
- Sustainability



How do we ensure program quality?

- Measures of Effectiveness embedded in RFA
- Must set and track goals and performance indicators
- Must contract and work with external evaluator
- Must attend meetings, trainings, and conferences
- Review PQA or other youth program quality tools and frameworks
- Many, many online resources for afterschool or out-of-school-time programming, such as
 - The [Alaska Afterschool Network](#)

Reporting and other Requirements

Reporting and requirements

Data Collection:

- Must collect a variety of program and individual participant data throughout the year in order to report on federal and state performance indicators, as well as local performance indicators the grantee will set.
- Individual student data include items such as demographic information, program attendance, grade point average, and teacher surveys on student progress.
- Such data is submitted via Excel workbooks and using online tools.

Federal and State Reporting:

- Center Data Workbooks for every **center** school year and summer (attendance, teacher survey, operations data, partners)
- Annual Narrative Reflection, Sustainability Plan, Evidence of Consultation with private schools
- Federal Profile and Performance data entered online in 21apr (due 2 times per year)
- Grantees determined to be “at-risk” may be required to submit additional or more frequent data or reports

Local Evaluation:

- In first year, select performance measures/indicators that align with the objectives of local program. Data to measure performance will be submitted to DEED’s external evaluator to create an annual Local Evaluation Report
- Contract a trained external evaluator to observe program at least once per year and write up the assessment and recommendations
- Use all this evaluation data to self-assess progress and set goals for program improvement annually

Reporting and requirements continued

Participation in Training, Technical Assistance, and PD:

- Directors in-person meeting(s), online meetings, state conference, national conference

Budget:

- Budget and budget narrative (submitted annually in spring via online Grant Management System)
- Budget reimbursement requests (submitted quarterly via online Grant Management System)

Compliance Monitoring:

- Conducted by DEED Program Manager; once in five years or more if needed; typically in 2nd year
- Grantee submits documents to demonstrate compliance
- Involves site observations

Tips for New Applicants

Tips for implementation and application

- Don't understaff the key management positions: Site Coordinator and Director.
- Don't try to serve too many centers; it's fine to start with one.
- Consider focusing on a specific grade level: Instead of serving four schools grades K-12, try just serving K-5 at the four schools.
- Don't design programming that is overly narrow; it reduces adaptability. Maybe it is most appropriate for your organization to be a specialized **partner** who provides quality programming as just one part of a 21st CCLC program.
- Take the needs assessment section seriously. Don't write a grant that will compete instead of cooperating with the community's current resources. Don't submit application if school or community does not support the program.
- Don't overestimate the number of "21st CCLC regular attendees" who will voluntarily attend 75 hours or more; funding will be reduced; for typical K-12 school the average attendance is 35% of elementary students and 10% or less of secondary (could consider not serving).

Tips for implementation and application continued

- Consider contracting a grant writer; your organization will still have much work to do to submit a grant application that is compelling and able to be implemented; can't pay with grant funds.
- Don't reduce existing programming and don't try to supplant how the existing programming is funded; your community will tattle on you.
- Keep track of how much it will cost per "[student hour](#)" (hours of programming x regular attendee); too high a cost per student hour won't be competitive; don't "pad;" don't make it too expensive for the probable gain (form on page 38).
- Remember that federal funds have [many restrictions](#) (incentives, snacks, celebratory food, entertainment are unallowable costs); additionally, costs must be "[reasonable and necessary](#);" instead, can organization provide and list as in-kind support?
- Don't focus on reviving a derelict building; must meet ADA compliance and safety regulations; try to use school.
- Don't over rely on volunteers; it's unrealistic.

Applicant Resources

DEED 21st CCLC website

[DEED 21st CCLC Website](#)

Home / 21st CCLC

21st Century Community Learning Centers

- Overview**
- Competitive Grant Opportunities
- External Organization Partner Pool
- Statutes, Regulations, and Guidance
- Current State Grantees
- Resources for Afterschool

Overview

The purpose of the Nita M. Lowey Alaska 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) program is to provide competitive grants to organizations that are working in partnership within their community and schools to provide expanded learning and enrichment opportunities for children and their families outside of regular school hours. The program is designed to target funds to communities that have low achieving students and high rates of poverty but lack the resources to establish after school centers. Funding for Alaska's 21st CCLC program is provided by federal funds from ESEA, Title IV, Part B.

Foundational Documents

- [21st CCLC Federal Statute - ESEA, Title IV, Part B \(pdf\)](#)
- [21st CCLC Federal Performance Measures \(GPRA\)](#)
- [Alaska 21st CCLC Key Quality Indicators \(pdf\)](#)

Important Dates

- [2024 Alaska Out-of-School-Time Conference](#)
- Live in Fairbanks
- November 20 – 22, 2024

Contact Us

21st CCLC Program Manager
Jessica Paris:
907-465-8716

Online and print resources

- [21st CCLC NTAC](#)
- [Alaska Afterschool Network](#)
- [Afterschool Alliance](#)
- [Foundations, Inc](#)
- [What Works Clearinghouse](#)
- [Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality](#)

Questions?

Questions

- Can we apply only to do summer programming?
- Must we include summer programming?
- Do we have to supply an afterschool snack or a meal?
- Can we use grant funds for the snack or meal?
- Instead of a “center,” can we simply meet in a school?
- Can we use funds for bus routes home?
- Do student participants have to pay to attend?
- If this isn't the right funding source for what we want to do, what is?

Answers

- Can we apply only to do summer programming? **No**
- Must we include summer programming? **No**
- Do we have to supply an afterschool snack or a meal? **Yes**
- Can we use grant funds for the snack or meal? **No**
- Instead of a “center,” can we simply meet in a school? **Yes**
- Can we use funds for bus routes home? **Yes**
- Do student participants have to pay to attend? **No**
- If this isn't the right funding source for what we want to do, what is? **Try I-A, IV-A, REAP RLIS or SRSA, CTE, SIF, ANE, AAN mini grants, DOH PYDAP**

Next Steps and Contact Information

Next steps

- Participation in technical assistance opportunities – next one **Thursday!**
- Research
- Community meetings
 - Schools,
 - Private Schools,
 - Tribes,
 - Partners
- Local grant preparation and planning
- Intent to Apply is due March 21, 2025
- Application is due April 16, 2025

Contact information

Jessica Paris, 21st CCLC Program Manager

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(907) 465-8716

Website: www.education.alaska.gov/21cclc/

Stay connected



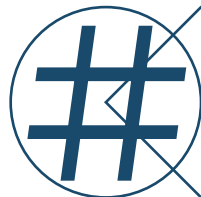
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Social Media

- @AlaskaDEED