

Continuation Grant Funding Available; Action Required

June 30, 2015

TO THE ELIGIBLE APPLICANT ADDRESSED:

SUBJECT: 2015–2016 Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Cycle 8, Year 3
(RFA #701-13-107)

TEA is pleased to offer continuation funding for the Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Cycle 8, Year 3, grant for 2015–2016. This is a continuation of the original agreement. It is subject to the requirements and assurances defined for the original grant. Grantees are required to maintain the scope of their projects as approved in the original application or subsequent amendments. Approval of the application is contingent upon the submission of the application in substantially approvable form, successful completion of prior year activities, and compliance with all conditions and requirements of the grant. **Only recipients of the Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Cycle 8, Year 2, and Cycle 8B, Year 2, grant identified in a separate eligibility list are eligible to apply for this continuation funding.**

Supplement to the Program Guidelines

Any requirements that are in addition to or revised from requirements published for the original year 1 grant are listed in the Supplement to the Program Guidelines, which is posted along with other RFA materials for this grant year. Grantees must provide assurance in the program-specific assurance for this grant that they have read the supplement and will comply with any terms described therein.

Project Period

The project period is August 1, 2015, through July 31, 2016.

Project Funding

A total of \$46,894,888 is available. The continuation award amounts are listed in the eligibility list posted along with the RFA on the TEA Grant Opportunities website.

Use of Funds

Project funds must be used to continue and fulfill the requirements of the program as described in the 2013–2014 Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Cycle 8, Year 1 grant program, incorporated into the guidelines and Notice of Grant Award (NOGA) by reference, with minor adjustments for program improvement and appropriate activities.

Please note that TEA reserves the right to reduce funding if budget projections are determined not to have been realistic based on actual participation and expenditure of grant funds during the original grant period. TEA also reserves the right to make any award contingent upon satisfactory progress toward program goals and performance measure targets.

Funding Contingencies

Funding for this program is contingent upon availability of state or federal appropriations.

TEA reserves the right not to award a continuation grant that was originally competitive to a grantee that is identified by TEA as high risk or not financially reliable between the time the application is submitted to TEA and the time the application is approved and the NOGA is awarded.

In addition, the awarding of continuation funding is contingent upon full compliance with all program requirements, including the timely and up-to-date submission of all progress reports, evaluation data, and fiscal information requested as outlined in the 2013–2014 Texas 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Cycle 8, Year 1 RFA.

Fingerprinting Requirement

Per Section 22.0834 of the Texas Education Code (TEC), any person offered employment by any entity that contracts with TEA or receives grant funds administered by TEA (i.e., a grantee or subgrantee) is subject to the fingerprinting requirement. TEA is prohibited from awarding grant funds to any entity, including nonprofit organizations, that fails to comply with this requirement. For details, refer to the [General and Fiscal Guidelines](#), Fingerprinting Requirement.

Maintenance of Effort (MOE)

Public Law (P.L.) 107-110, Section 9521, states “a local educational agency may receive funds under a covered program for any fiscal year only if the State educational agency finds that either the combined fiscal effort per student or the aggregate expenditures of such agency and the State with respect to the provision of free public education by such agency for the preceding fiscal year was not less than 90% of such combined fiscal effort or aggregate expenditures for the second preceding fiscal year”. As per the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), this requirement applies to this grant.

Local educational agencies (LEAs) are responsible for maintaining effort and for documenting MOE. TEA will verify each LEA’s MOE using information obtained from the PEIMS database. TEA staff will notify the applicant if fiscal effort has not been maintained. The final grant amount will be reduced in exact proportion by which the LEA fails to meet 90% of the combined fiscal effort per student or aggregate expenditures (using the measure more favorable to the LEA). [P.L. 107-110, Title IX, Section 9521.]

Reporting Requirements

Applicants that are awarded grants are responsible for meeting all required deadlines. *Failure to meet deadlines may result in loss of funds and could cause the applicant to be identified as “high risk.”*

Reporting requirements are specified on the [TEA Grant Opportunities](#) page for viewing and downloading. In the “Select Search Options” box, select the name of the RFA from the drop-down list. Scroll down to the “Application and Support Information” section to view all documents that pertain to this RFA.

Application Instructions

Refer to the instructions hyperlinked to each schedule (see the schedule titles) for information on how to complete each schedule in the application.

Submission Guidelines

Three copies of the application, with an original signature (in blue ink) on Schedule #1-General Information, must be received in the TEA Document Control Center by July 29, 2015. Send the application to the following address:

Document Control Center
Division of Grants Administration
Texas Education Agency, William B. Travis Building
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701-1494

Applications not received by the due date may not be processed or awarded by TEA. A continuation application not received by the deadline date will become effective on the start date of the grant or the date the application is received in the Document Control Center, whichever is later.

Contact Information

Contact Audrey Hukari by email at audrey.hukari@tea.texas.gov or by telephone at (512) 463-8525 if you have additional questions about completing the application. Contact Christine McCormick by email at christine.mccormick@tea.texas.gov or by telephone at (512) 936-6060 with questions about appropriate program activities.

Sincerely,

Monica Martinez
Associate Commissioner
Standards and Programs