

<b>DATE:</b>	<b>October 22, 2020</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Application Now Available: 2021-2022 Nita M. Lowey 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers, Cycle 11, Year 1 Grant Program</b>
<b>CATEGORY:</b>	<b>Competitive Grant Opportunity</b>
<b>NEXT STEPS:</b>	<b>Share with out-of-school time staff, grant managers, or other appropriate staff to determine eligibility</b>

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) is pleased to announce the 2021-2022 Nita M. Lowey 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC), Cycle 11, Year 1 grant program. Approximately 40 grants, ranging from \$50,000 to \$1,700,000 each year for up to 5 years, will be awarded through this process.

The 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Program, in accordance with the Every Student Succeeds Act, Title IV, Part B, supports the creation of community learning centers that provide academic enrichment opportunities during non-school hours for students, particularly those attending high-poverty or low-performing schools. Eligible entities can apply to establish or expand community learning centers that:

- provide opportunities for academic enrichment, including tutoring services to help students, particularly those with an identified need for support;
- offer students a broad array of non-academic services designed to reinforce and complement the regular school day; and
- offer families of students served by community learning centers additional opportunities for engagement in their children's education.

During the application process, applicants will participate in a series of professional development webinars aligned with the Texas Ace Blueprint, the framework which outlines quality components of the 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC program. Applicants will provide evidence of alignment with Blueprint components in their submitted application.

Eligible applicants are local educational agencies, including public school districts, open-enrollment charter schools, and regional education service centers; community-based organizations (CBOs); Indian tribes or tribal organizations; other public or private entities; or a consortium of two or more eligible entities.

Details about the grant program and application requirements can be found in the grant application documents posted on the [TEA Grant Opportunities Page](#). Complete applications must be received **by 5:00 p.m. CT, on January 7, 2021**.

Questions about the application instructions and program guidelines should be emailed to [21stcentury@tea.texas.gov](mailto:21stcentury@tea.texas.gov). Questions will be answered during the aforementioned webinars and via an FAQ to be posted on November 20, 2020.