



Colorado Department of Education – Communications Office
201 East Colfax Ave.
Room 103
Denver, CO 80203
Phone: 303-866-3898
Fax: 303-866-6938

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News Release

21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant Competition

Proposals are now being accepted for the new 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant program. Proposals are due Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2009.

This request for proposal is designed to distribute approximately \$7 million to qualified applicants pursuant to Title IV, Part B, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 to establish or expand community learning centers that provide students with academic enrichment opportunities along with activities designed to complement the students' regular academic program. Proposed programs must serve students that attend high poverty, low performing schools.

This grant program focuses on helping children in high-need schools succeed academically through the application of scientifically based practice and extended learning time by:

- Providing opportunities for academic enrichment, including providing tutorial services to help students (particularly students in high-poverty areas and those who attend low-performing schools) meet state and local student performance standards in core academic subjects such as reading and mathematics;
- Offering students a broad array of additional services, programs, and activities, such as youth development activities, drug and violence prevention programs, counseling programs, art, music,

and recreation programs, technology education programs, and character education programs, that are designed to reinforce and complement the regular academic program of participating students; and

- Offering families of students served by community learning centers opportunities for literacy and related educational development.

Any public or private organization is eligible to apply for a five-year 21st CCLC grant. These include, but are not limited to public schools, non-profit agencies, city or county government agencies, faith-based organizations, institutions of higher education and for-profit corporations. An intermediary unit, such as a Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), may apply for and receive a grant. Community-based and faith-based organizations are encouraged to apply.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to collaborate with other public and private agencies, including the local school district, to create programs as comprehensive and high quality as possible. The selection criteria applied by the Colorado 21st CCLC program reflects this emphasis on collaborative approaches to the design and delivery of the proposed community learning centers.

The request for proposal is available at
<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdecomp/21stCCLC/21stGrant.htm>.

Applicants must complete and submit proposals to Lynn Bamberry in CDE's Office of Federal Programs by Wednesday, Oct. 20 at 4 p.m. For more information, call 303-866-6813 or e-mail bamberry_l@cde.state.co.us

For more information, contact Mark Stevens, 303-866-3898, or Megan McDermott, 303-866-2334, in the CDE Office of Communications. To sign up for the CDE e-mail news service, please visit <http://www.cde.state.co.us/Communications/index.html>.

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