**Expanded Learning Opportunity (ELO) Grant Program**

**Two-Year Opportunity Grant Competition**

**Funded by Proceeds from Nebraska Lottery**

**Digital Submission Deadline: July 1, 2024, 11:59 pm CDT**

**Overview**

The Expanded Learning Opportunity Grant Program Act was created by the Nebraska Legislature to promote academic achievement in high-need schools during afterschool and during summer break. Beginning July 1, 2016, one percent of proceeds from the education portion of proceeds from the Nebraska Lottery are transferred to this fund. Effective July 1, 2024 this increased to 1.5 percent.

Approximately $700,000 is available for this competition. Eligible sites must be receiving funding from a 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) Continuation Grant for the 2024-2025 school year. The grant period will be August 2, 2024 – June 30, 2026. The minimum grant award is $10,000. Since award amounts are based on the size and scope of the project, there is no maximum award. Applicants are required to have a 1:1 match. The application must clearly state how new funds will be used for new programming and will not displace current 21st CCLC funding.

**Eligibility**

* **Applicant:** Eligible applicants must be either a school district or community-based organization that intends to collaboratively deliver services in eligible 21st CCLC site(s). The signature of the authorized representative of the applicant is required and indicates their commitment to meet the matching resources requirement.
* **Fiscal Agent:** Eligible fiscal agents must be a school district or community-based organization that is a member of the partnership. Fiscal agents are subject to approval by the Nebraska Department of Education.
* **21st** **CCLC Sites to Receive Services:** Existing 21st CCLC sites that have been in operation at least five years and will be receiving funding from a 21st CCLC Continuation Grant for the 2024-2025 school year may receive services from this grant. All applications require the signature of the school district superintendent, 21st CCLC project director and the building principal of each proposed site, as well as the signature of the authorized representative of each participating partner organization. These signatures document approval to fully participate as a member of the partnership.

**Requirements**

* **Student Contact Hours:** An applicant must offer at least 15 student contact hours of ELO grant activities to eligible sites in both the Fall and Spring terms of the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years. Although not required, ELO grant activities may be provided during the summer terms of 2024, 2025 and/or through June, 2026. Applications to provide summer only programming is allowable. All summer programs must offer at least 15 student contact hours of ELO grant activities.
* **Partnership Contributions:** Opportunity grants require 1:1 matching funds. These partnership contributions may be in the form of cash contributions, staff or supply commitments, field trips, etc. Proposals must clearly identify how the partnership will match ELO grant dollars with new resources that will expand opportunities for participating children/youth.
* **Planning/Evaluation/Reporting:** If funded, prior to implementation applicants must agree to: 1) meet with all partners to continue planning for project implementation, including roles and responsibilities; 2) meet with the 21st CCLC statewide evaluator to develop an agreed upon evaluation plan that includes methods of monitoring and/or measuring the effectiveness of the proposed activities using 21st CCLC data collection regimens, and 3) meet with the 21st CCLC state coordinator and fiscal analyst to develop agreed upon data to document the 1:1 match. Grantees must report on activities at the end of each term.
* **Fiscal:** The fiscal agent must be a member of the partnership and approved by NDE. The amount awarded must be divided between year 1 and year 2 of the grant period (does not need to be equal). ELO grant funds will be disbursed on a reimbursement basis. If awarded, the amount of grant funding requested may be revised due to the number of eligible sites being served or legislative changes to the statute.
* **Site Participation:** Programs funded for school year programming must offer at least 15 hours of student contact in both the Fall and Spring terms. Summer only programming is allowable. All summer programs must offer at least 15 hours of student programming.
* **Submitting the Proposal:** The 21st CCLC project director is responsible for uploading a digital copy of the proposal in the dropbox labeled “Two-Year Opportunity Grant Proposals” in SharePoint. The digital submission deadline is July 1, 2024 at 11:59 pm CT.

**Timeline**

May 13, 2024 – RFP released

July 1, 2024 – Application deadline (SharePoint Dropbox closes at 11:59 pm CT)

August 2, 2024 – Grant period begins

June 30, 2026 – Grant period ends

**PART I. Narrative (maximum of 5 pages)**

Use the following format to describe the Two-Year Opportunity Grant proposal.

1. ***The Partnership* *(10 Points)***

* Identify all members of the partnership (including 21st CCLC site(s) receiving services).
* Discuss the structure of the partnership and describe how members are working together and will share leadership.
* Identify who will be responsible for making decisions about programming.

1. ***The Opportunity (10 Points)***

* Briefly describe how this proposal will enhance learning opportunities for students attending the existing 21st CCLC program.
* Describe the immediate impact of this expanded opportunity.
* How will this partnership strengthen the participating 21st CCLC afterschool program(s)?

1. ***The Approach (10 Points)***

* Briefly describe how the community-based organization(s) will collaborate with the identified 21st CCLC site(s) to create new opportunities for children/youth engagement.
* Describe the resources that will be used to engage children/youth in this program.
* Provide a timeline in table format that includes the ongoing partnership planning and staffing/activities proposed during the two-year grant period.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Planning / Partnerships** | **Staffing / Activities** |
| **2024 Summer Term** |  |  |
| **2024 Fall Term** |  |  |
| **2025 Spring Term** |  |  |
| **2025 Summer Term** |  |  |
| **2025 Fall Term** |  |  |
| **2026 Spring Term** |  |  |
| **2026 Summer (through 6/30)** |  |  |

1. ***The Envisioned Outcomes (10 Points)***

* What are the outcomes that will be used to determine success?
* What are some possibilities for collecting this information?
* Provide an assurance that the 21st CCLC project director will provide ELO attendance data in the online database.

1. **The Budget *(10 Points)***

* Describe in narrative the 1:1 matching contributions (must at least equal the amount of grant funds requested). How will these contributions be documented?
* Identify the fiscal agent. If other than a school district, identify how the entity meets the following NDE criteria for fiscal agents:
  1. must be a member of the ELO partnership,
  2. previous experience administering local, state or federal grants of similar dollar value,
  3. proven fiduciary responsibility through one or both of the following: annual audits and/or adequate fiscal controls to meet federal and state guidelines/regulations.
* Complete the Grant Funds and Partner Matching Funds budget forms. The amount awarded must be divided between year 1 and year 2 of the grant period (does not need to be equal).

Nebraska Department of Education

Data, Research, and Evaluation

301 Centennial Mall South

PO Box 94987

Lincoln, NE 68509-4987

Applicant Name

NDE 04-070

Rev 05/16

Date Due: 07/01/24

NDE 34-019(A)

New 10/02

Date Due: 02/03/03

**TWO-YEAR OPPORTUNITY GRANT -- BUDGET JUSTIFICATION**

**(GRANT FUNDS ONLY)**

The following form must be used to summarize specific expenditures for each object code.

Budget period: August 2, 2024 – June 30, 2026

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| BUDGET ITEM | **EXPLANATORY NOTES & JUSTIFICATION**  **(INCLUDE CALCULATIONS)** | **GRANT FUNDS REQUESTED** |
|  |  |  |
| Subtotal for this page |  |  |
| Grand Total |  |  |

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Applicant Name

NDE 04-071

Rev 05/16

Date Due: 07/01/24

NDE 34-019(A)

New 10/02

Date Due: 02/03/03

**TWO-YEAR OPPORTUNITY GRANT -- BUDGET JUSTIFICATION**

**(PARTNER MATCHING FUNDS ONLY)**

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| BUDGET ITEM | **EXPLANATORY NOTES & JUSTIFICATION**  **(INCLUDE CALCULATIONS)** | **GRANT FUNDS REQUESTED** |
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