



Contract Announcement: Program Evaluation

Idaho Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers Title IV, Part B Statewide Program Evaluation Model Development and Implementation Design

Introduction and Background:

The Idaho Department of Education (SDE) is the responsible State Educational Agency (SEA) for the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) program in Idaho.

21st CCLC is authorized under Title IV, Part B, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015.

The program supports the creation of community learning centers that provide academic and enrichment opportunities during non-school hours for children, primarily those who attend high-poverty and low-performing schools. The program helps students meet challenging state academic standards and local academic standards.

The purpose of 21st CCLC is three-fold:

1. Provide opportunities for academic enrichment. Including providing tutorial services to help students, particularly students who attend low-performing schools, to meet the challenging State academic standards (ESSA, Sec. 4201(a)(1)).
2. Offer students a broad array of additional services, programs, and activities, such as youth development activities, service learning, nutrition and health education, drug and violence prevention programs, counseling programs, arts, music, physical fitness and wellness programs, technology education programs, financial literacy programs, environmental literacy programs, mathematics, science, career and technical programs, internship or apprenticeship programs, and other ties to an in-demand industry sector or occupation for high school students that are designed to reinforce and complement the regular academic program of participating students (ESSA, Sec. 4201(a)(2)).
3. Offer families of students served by community learning centers opportunities for active and meaningful engagement in their children's education, including opportunities for literacy and related educational development (ESSA, Sec. 4201(a)(3)).

The 46 current subgrantees operate 85 centers, and serve over 6,700 students in grades Pre-K through 12 in five active cohorts. Thirty of the current subgrantees are local education agencies/school districts and sixteen are community-based organizations.

Purpose and Intent:

The Idaho State Department of Education (SDE) is seeking an external evaluator/or researcher to evaluate the implementation and outcomes of the Idaho Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21stCCLC). The SDE will select one, two-year contract for the redesign and implementation of a State-level evaluation system that will provide an analysis of critical data to a) meet statutory requirements under the Every Students Succeeds Act, Title IV Part B, b) inform SDE decision-making to improve administration of the program and efforts to scaffold technical assistance for subgrantees to improve local program quality and evaluation strategies.

Potential Components of the Evaluation:

- Data analysis-
 - Use existing data management system to assess Federal Objective and Student Outcome data growth
 - Collaborate with SDE to design outcome measures to collect using current data management system for pre-K and homeschool participants (not currently collected)
- Stakeholder engagement-
 - Assessment of SDE support, resources and trainings
 - Identify opportunities for improvement
 - Develop a timeline for stakeholder feedback follow up and implementation design
- Local Evaluation Methods and Timeline Recommendations
 - Develop a framework and supporting resources for a high-quality local evaluation process for 21st CCLC subgrantees
 - Develop a timeline for evaluation follow up and implementation of results.
- Statewide Objectives
 - Engage stakeholders to review current state objectives
 - Collect feedback and gather information in collaboration with the SDE and stakeholders to develop measurable statewide objectives
- Create Annual Evaluation reports for dissemination in collaboration with SDE and Evaluation Director Advisory Group.

- Design Professional Development opportunities for stakeholders to disseminate evaluation reports at the local level to inform program improvement and best practices.

Key Dates

Event Description	Date
Evaluation Opportunity Release	November 10, 2023
Evaluator Interviews- Scope of Work and Cost Pricing Review	November 15- December 15, 2023
Evaluator Selection	January 1, 2024
Tentative Work Begins	February 1, 2024
Stakeholder Engagement Assessment (In-Person)	April 8-9, 2024

Interested parties are required to send a Letter of Interest to the 21st CCLC Program Coordinator, Sheena Strickler sstrickler@sde.idaho.gov no later than November 30, 2023.