Afterschool Centers on Education

21st CCLC Out-of-School Time Waiver

Purpose. The <u>federal waiver</u> permits 21st CCLC programs to provide supplemental activities during the school day. The waiver extends flexibility to current Cycle 9 and Cycle 10 grantees and remains in effect during the 2020-2021 school year due to COVID-19.

The regular in-person 21st CCLC grant program may operate as usual during non-school hours in accordance with local COVID-19 restrictions. Grant programs should coordinate closely at the campus level to identify and support the academic and other needs of students and develop coordinated responses that will help students achieve academically.

Statutory requirements. All requirements continue to apply, including:

- Maintain supplement, not supplant
 - The waiver allows centers to provide in-person 21st CCLC programming if students are receiving in-person instruction so long as supplement not supplant is maintained (i.e., for pullout academic supports)
- All students served must be eligible for the program
- All other requirements in the original and continuation grant application agreements

Process for Waiver Submission. The waiver application will be posted, and all grantees will be notified once waiver approval is received from the US DoE. Grantees applying for the waiver will submit the waiver application and required grant amendment documents to TEA. Once applications are reviewed, TEA will notify each grantee of approval decisions. Waiver applications and resulting grant amendments must be based on a recent assessment of student and family needs at each campus served. Non-local education agency grantees must assure that the waiver plan was developed in partnership with each district served by the grant.

Staffing. School day teachers who also work in the afterschool program cannot be paid from the grant while the regular school day is in session.

Physical Space. Grantees must comply with local restrictions on use of campus facilities and related TEA program-specific grant requirements. If services are proposed to be provided in a location not already approved in the grant application, TEA must be notified and approve the location prior to serving students or obligating grant funds.

Food and Nutrition. 21st CCLC programs may use the federal Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) At-Risk program while they are participating in the Summer Seamless Option or Summer Food Service Program. Please see www.squaremeals.org or contact the food service program serving the campus for more information. Minimal costs for nutritious snacks and meals are allowable with grant funds if they are reasonable and allocable to the program.

Allowable Activities. The activities in statute remain allowable under the waiver. They are:

 academically aligned enrichment activities, structured mentoring programs, accelerated learning and tutoring services that are aligned with the challenging state academic standards, such as the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and state-required assessments and end-of-course exams;

- well-rounded education activities, including credit recovery or attainment and dual credit programs for secondary students;
- literacy education, including financial literacy and environmental literacy;
- activities that support a healthy and active lifestyle, including nutritional education and regular, structured physical activity;
- services for individuals with disabilities;
- activities that emphasize language skills and academic achievement for students who are English learners;
- cultural programs;
- telecommunications and technology education programs;
- expanded library service hours;
- programs that assist students who have been truant, suspended, or expelled to improve their academic achievement;
- drug and violence prevention and counseling;
- activities that build skills in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) including computer science and that foster innovation in learning by supporting nontraditional STEM education teaching methods;
- programs that partner with in-demand fields of the state or local workforce or build career competencies and career readiness and ensure that career readiness skills are aligned with the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act; and
- providing parents and legal guardians of students participating in the grant program with active and meaningful engagement in their children's education, including opportunities for literacy and related educational development.

October 2020 2