



**Request for Investment: Opportunity And Access 2020-2021 School Year
UPDATED 06/17/2020**

#	Question/Answer		Date Answered
1	<p>Question(s): We at Hamilton are curious when we should hear about the 2nd round for Levy funding offerings for College and Career efforts. We were under the impression that we would be hearing about this after the “larger grant” recipients were notified last week. We are hoping to apply and want to make sure we see the emails coming through so we can make sure to meet the deadlines.</p>	<p>Answer(s): The Opportunity and Access RFI is open. You can find the link to the application, and more information about the RFI here: http://www.seattle.gov/education/for-providers/funding-opportunities/opportunity-and-access_2020-21</p>	03/13/2020
2	<p>Question(s): Do you accept applications form community agencies using fiscal sponsors?</p>	<p>Answer(s): Applications will be accepted from organizations/agencies using a fiscal sponsor provided all requirements can be met (see RFI pages 10-11) and the financial management system is described in Section 3.</p>	03/13/2020
3	<p>Question(s): For a CBO lead application, I have 1 quick question: Are we allowed to partner with 2 or more schools within the same application, “if” the body of work is all within 1 of the program areas; college and career readiness or expanded learning opportunities...?</p>	<p>Answer(s): Applicants may partner with multiple schools within the same application provided that work falls under a single component--College and Career Readiness or Expanded Learning Opportunities.</p>	03/13/2020
4	<p>Question(s): I am writing to see what time the FEPP Levy K-12 O&A RFI Information Session on 3-11-2020 starts? As well as: Wednesday, March 18, 2020 and Wednesday, March 25, 2020.</p>	<p>Answer(s): All sessions are from 3:00-4:15PM online at Link: Join online meeting Join by Phone: 206-386-1200, conference ID:77867128</p>	03/13/2020
5	<p>Question(s): Please see below for questions regarding Opportunities & Access.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> It is clear that schools receiving FEPP school based investment funds are not eligible to apply. However, can CBOs apply if they are naming a school in their application that has been awarded other FEPP SBI funds? A maximum award amount isn’t listed; is there any other guidance towards roughly how much awards will be? Review panels consider oversaturation of services for one school if multiple proposals are submitted from different organizations to partner with the same school? Is any sort of documentation of agreed partnership required by CBO or school (i.e. a letter of support)? 	<p>Answer(s):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, CBOs may apply for O&A funds and propose a partnership with a school receiving a FEPP SBI award. Applicants may propose the budget they believe they will need based on the program/service intended and given funding information and priorities provided in the RFI application. Review panels will utilize the eligibility, funding priorities, and scoring criteria outlined in the RFI to evaluate applications. A letter of support is not required. An application that proposes a program/service to be delivered at more than one location/site will be accepted. 	03/13/2020

	<p>5. If an organization submits one application, can they list work that will happen in multiple schools? And if it does, are they still eligible if one of the schools they list is receiving FEPP SBI funds?</p>		
Funding Process Suspended as of 3/24/2020 and Open again on 5/11/2020			
6	<p>Question(s):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are the amounts to be funded spread out over up to three years, or renewable? For example, at a total pool of \$1.2 million and expecting approx. 20 proposals to be funded, the average grant would be about \$64,000. Would that be \$64K over up to three years, or a \$64K grant that can be renewed for up to three years (total \$192,000)? 2. Is increasing access to enrichment and academic experiences defined as increasing the number of students currently served (or a new program), OR can it be to improve services/outcomes for students in current programs? 	<p>Answer(s):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The available funding is an annual amount. Applicants should propose funds needed annually, if successful, the award would be renewed in years two and three so long as performance expectations continue to be met. 2. Enhancements to existing programming as well as expansion of new or existing programming will be considered. 	05/15/2020
7	<p>Question(s):</p> <p>Is there a maximum amount? Is the funding amount cumulative over three years or duplicated every year?</p>	<p>Answer(s):</p> <p>The available funding is an annual amount. Applicants should propose funds needed annually, if successful, the award would be renewed for years two and three if performance expectations continue to be met.</p> <p>There is no stated maximum amount, however the total amount available under the grant is \$1.28 million, and DEEL intends to fund up to 20 proposals. Applicants should consider these factors, along with the evaluation criteria for Section 2 (found on page 22 of the RFI) in developing their proposed budgets.</p>	05/15/2020
8	<p>Question(s):</p> <p>So secondary is higher funding priority than elementary?</p>	<p>Answer(s):</p> <p>One of the priorities listed on pages 9 and 22 of the RFI is "proposals that support student preparation for postsecondary pathways into college, career, and the work force and prioritize proposals supporting Levy focus students in the secondary grades (6-12)." This priority, however, is one of several, and will be weighed against a number of other factors in the evaluation process.</p>	05/15/2020
9	<p>Question(s):</p> <p>Can funding be used for administrative costs that support program implementation?</p>	<p>Answer(s):</p> <p>Yes. Funding may be purposed toward program related administrative costs up to 15% of total award. If this is part of your proposal, please include in your budget submission.</p>	05/15/2020
10	<p>Question(s):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can we get a copy of the slides? 2. Do we need mou's for partnerships between school and community organizations? 	<p>Answer(s):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All technical assistance materials are posted online. 2. DEEL will develop a contract with funded agencies (school or CBO), the terms of which will require compliance with district policy. If the partnering organizations have policies requiring an MOU between them, then one would need to be developed. 	05/15/2020

11	Question(s): Are CBOs eligible if they are naming a school in their partnership that is receiving FEPP SBI funds?	Answer(s): Yes, CBOs may apply for O&A funds and propose a partnership with a school receiving a FEPP SBI award.	05/15/2020
12	Question(s): Is any sort of documentation of agreed partnership required by CBO or school (i.e. a letter of support)?	Answer(s): A specific letter of support is not required as part of the application submission. However, partnerships will need to be described in the workplans (and budget, if applicable), with this collaboration in mind. If partner(s) are providing significant resources for the services you are requiring be funded through this RFI, then a signed letter of intent describing the specific resource(s) the partner will provide should be included. (see p. 17)	05/15/2020
13	Question(s): Can you submit additional information in appendices?	Answer(s): There are no appendices submitted/accepted for this application process.	05/15/2020
14	Question(s): Is there a balance between funding for school year and summer programming? Or will it just depend on the quality of the applications you get?	Answer(s): A review panel will evaluate applications using the RFI Scoring Criteria. Application scores and review panel discussions will inform review panel recommendations for funding awards. DEEL will consider review panel recommendations, FEPP Levy investment alignment, and other priorities including diversity, partnership, and postsecondary preparation as outlined on the bottom of page 9 in the RFI.	05/15/2020
15	Question(s): Is it preferred to have the school as applicant?	Answer(s): Please see evaluation factors listed on p. 22.	05/15/2020
16	Question(s): Will the next meeting be similar to this one?	Answer(s): Yes. All Technical Assistance sessions will be done ONLINE.	05/15/2020
17	Question(s): The Opportunity and Access RFI says there is a \$40,000 minimum for the budget, but is there a maximum amount?	Answer(s): The available funding is an annual amount. If successful, an applicant's annual award would be renewed in years two and three if performance expectations continue to be met. There is not a maximum, however when developing a proposed budget applicants are encouraged to 1) propose funds needed annually to implement their program/service, 2) consider the total funding available through this opportunity, and 3) consider the evaluation factors stated on page 22.	05/15/2020
18	Question(s): Are Community Based Organizations required to partner with Seattle Public Schools for the K-12 Opportunity and Access RFI?	Answer(s): No. DEEL intends to fund proposals that leverage strong partnerships between organizations and school communities, which may or may not include SPS directly, to maximize student outcomes.	05/15/2020
19	Question(s): 1. What is recommended number of focus group categories to select? Is the intent to focus on a limited number of these focus groups or to select all that would be served through the program? 2. When applying as a school, in partnership with a CBO, should we be answering the FTE question	Answer(s): 1. Student enrollment in programming or services provided through O&A investments will prioritize students that meet one or more of the focus student criteria. Organizations are encouraged to select focus students aligned to their mission, experience, and proposed programming.	05/15/2020

	<p>on page 15 for our school or the CBO? Also, to be clear, is it just for who will be employed for the given project or in their organization in total?</p> <p>3. More generally, in the narrative of the RFI, when talking about “our organization” should we be focusing on our school only or do we need to focus on the CBO as well (or on the partnership between our school and the CBO?)</p>	<p>2. Please provide FTE information for the applying organization, in this case the school, and include total FTE.</p> <p>3. References to the organization generally should focused on the applying organization. Partnerships should be described in response to the questions and scoring criteria.</p>	
20	<p>Question(s): Can Gatzert elementary apply for this grant for an extended learning program (for after school and summer break) and also at the same time can a community provider also apply for funding from this same grant for an extended learning program during summer break? The services for both grant applications would support Gatzert students and services would take place at Gatzert elementary for both applications?</p>	<p>Answer(s): Organizations may submit no more than two applications and no more than one application per component.</p>	05/15/2020
21	<p>Question(s): Can a CBO apply to serve in two schools with one application as long as both schools did not receive levy funding from the City.</p>	<p>Answer(s): Yes, programming may take place at more than one site.</p>	05/15/2020
22	<p>Question(s): I saw that the application date opening was today. Can you please let me know if I can apply for funding and what my next steps are.</p>	<p>Answer(s): Eligible applicants include community-based organizations, government agencies, and schools not receiving FEPP Levy School-Based Investments who are interested in providing expanded learning and college and career readiness services for focus student populations. To be considered for funding, eligible applicants are invited to submit RFI applications by 3:00 pm Monday, June 22, 2020.</p>	05/15/2020
23	<p>Question(s): I’m reaching out to you because I am interested in learning more about the K-12 Opportunity and Access Investment application and qualifications. Our organization currently provides our programs and services at Dimmitt MiddleSchool (Skyway), Showalter Middle School (Tukwila) and Meeker Middle School (Kent/Renton). Would any of these schools qualify under this potential funding opportunity? Our funding request would come directly from After-School All-Stars, but we serve students at these three school sites.</p>	<p>Answer(s): Opportunity and Access investments are funded through the City of Seattle's Families, Education, Preschool and Promise (FEPP) Levy approved by voters in November 2018 and will be directed toward programs in Seattle.</p>	05/15/2020
24	<p>Question(s):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Doing the math, with a total investment of \$1.28 million & a maximum of 20 organizations, should we assume that our program budget should be around \$65,000 to be competitive? 2. With the adjusted timeline, award notifications won’t happen until August 21, 2020. Is it possible to give us more notice? With the school year set to begin September 2, 2020, the current timeline only gives us a little over a week to get our 	<p>Answer(s):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No, award size will be contingent upon services provided and students served. You are encouraged to propose a budget is reasonable based on the proposed level of service and desired outcomes. 2. Contracts may begin anytime between September 1, 2020 and January 31, 2021. All contracts, regardless of start date, will end by December 31, 2021. Start and end dates will be determined during contract negotiation with successful applicants. 	05/26/2020

	<p>program up & running with little time for recruitment & planning.</p> <p>3. Will the TA sessions be posted for those of us who missed it?</p>	<p>3. All technical assistance materials as well as the RFI application and instructions, submission templates, and submitted questions and responses are posted on our webpage at: http://www.seattle.gov/education/providers/funding-opportunities/opportunity-and-access_2020-2.</p>	
25	<p>Question(s): I know on the webinar that you said to select one component, but if their programs really cover BOTH components--a huge strength--which Component do you advise us to choose? I know some of us on the webinar had much angst about this yesterday, even though you assured us no one would be disqualified if they chose the wrong category! Any advice you can give us would be greatly appreciated!</p>	<p>Answer(s): Applicants should select the component and key element(s) most reflective of the program or service they intend to provide and draft their RFI proposal accordingly. Consider the focus of your program/service proposal and use the bullets under each key element in the RFI application to guide your decision. If you are seeking funds for more than one program/service proposal, note that organizations may choose to submit one application per component for a maximum of two applications.</p>	05/26/2020
26	<p>Question(s): I am writing to inquire if funding is restricted to entities that are located only in Seattle or if the funding is available to an entity such as the Museum of Flight that has delivered STEM based education programs to Seattle schools and families for decades. As we speak, we continue to develop and deliver online programs for K-12 students and professional development for teachers. Please advise if the Museum would be eligible for this funding.</p>	<p>Answer(s): Eligible applicants include community-based organizations, government agencies, and schools not receiving FEPP Levy School-Based Investments who are interested in providing expanded learning and college and career readiness services for focus student populations. Opportunity and Access investments are funded through the City of Seattle's Families, Education, Preschool and Promise (FEPP) Levy approved by voters in November 2018 and will be directed toward programs serving Seattle public school students.</p>	05/26/2020
27	<p>Question(s): I wanted to clarify whether it is possible to apply for just one "key element" within a "component," e.g. only the Enrichment option under Component 2: Expanded Learning Opportunities.</p>	<p>Answer(s): Opportunity and Access (O&A) investment recipients will provide programming and/or services for focus students through one of two components. If you are applying through the Expanded Learning Opportunities component you must choose one key element. If you are applying through the College and Career Readiness component, you may choose one or more key elements. Applicants are encouraged to select the component and key element(s) most reflective of the program or service they intend to provide and draft their RFI proposal accordingly.</p>	05/26/2020
28	<p>Question(s): I have a question about Section 5, Labor Harmony, of the application. Friends of the Children – Seattle is hoping to apply but we do not have any Labor Harmony Policies in place because it isn't relevant to the nonprofit industry. If we mark no on this section, will we still be able to receive funding?</p>	<p>Answer(s): The City values agencies that work to prevent labor disputes, which may lead to work stoppages or adversely impact the ability of FEPP Levy-funded programs to achieve intended outcomes. In Section 5, applicants are asked to indicate whether or not their agency is <u>committed</u> to avoiding labor disputes that disrupt services, through standardized policies and practices or through other means. If standard practices and/or policies to this end exist, applicants are asked to submit them.</p>	06/03/2020
29	<p>Question(s): This is a question on the application cover sheet. To my knowledge, we haven't received DEEL funding since I started at NH in late 2012 but I'm not sure about prior to that. I know that we used to have Step</p>	<p>Answer(s): Yes, Neighborhood House received Levy funding to provide Step Ahead (SA) preschool programming starting in 2014. Neighborhood House decided to end that contract in June 2017. Currently, Neighborhood House is receiving Levy transition year funding to provide summer learning</p>	06/03/2020

	Ahead preschool funding and I don't know if that was through DEEL.	opportunities for rising kindergarteners. Summer 2020 is the final year of this funding.	
30	<p>Question(s):</p> <p>A question re: O&A RFI. For Section 5: Labor Harmony, is it sufficient to just check one of the boxes (yes/no) at the top of the document, if we don't have anything else to add? Or, is a narrative response required?</p>	<p>Answer(s):</p> <p>The City values agencies that work to prevent labor disputes, which may lead to work stoppages or adversely impact the ability of FEPP Levy-funded programs to achieve intended outcomes. In Section 5, applicants are asked to indicate whether or not their agency is <u>committed</u> to avoiding labor disputes that disrupt services, through standardized policies and practices or through other means, by checking the appropriate box. If standard practices and/or policies to this end exist, applicants are asked to submit them. A narrative response is not required.</p>	06/03/2020
31	<p>Question(s):</p> <p>If a school is applying, must they propose a project that directly involves a partnership with a CBO? For example, can a school apply for an interventionist staff position, as long as the school also demonstrates strong partnerships and the proposed outcomes align with the RFI purpose and criteria?</p>	<p>Answer(s):</p> <p>Schools applying are not required to propose a program or service that involves a partnership with any other organization. If a school believes that the most effective means of achieving Levy outcomes is a school-based initiative without partnership, that will not preclude them from being awarded funding. Partnerships are strongly encouraged, however, and it is important for schools applying to make note of the funding priorities described on pages 9 and 23 of the RFI document as they draft their proposal.</p>	06/03/2020
32	<p>Question(s):</p> <p>Does AVID need to file a separate RFI so that if sites choose to use their DEEL monies to support AVID for their college and career readiness work they can access our systemic support? In the last round, I filed an RFI after the fact just so AVID could be used by sites with levy funds. That would be the same intent this time. We are not asking for separate monies. We currently have AVID schools that wish to continue and have mentioned using these dollars for AVID.</p> <p>Please clarify re: what I, as AVID Area Director for Washington need to provide to you. When XXXX was in charge of the middle schools with levy dollars she had me write an RFI so that AVID was on record as complying with the levy outcomes and support for fulfilling that outcome.</p>	<p>Answer(s):</p> <p>AVID does not need to file a separate RFI if school sites propose in their application that they plan to utilize AVID as a college and career readiness strategy to meet Opportunity & Access RFI outcomes and account for that in their budget.</p>	6/12/2020
33	<p>Question(s):</p> <p>Although several of the current sites offering AVID were on the eligible list for the School Based Funding portion of the levy monies, none of those three actually received the grant. They are specifically Jane Addams, McClure and Garfield. Might we write a partnership application for AVID for these sites if they are interested in doing that to continue their AVID work?</p>	<p>Answer(s):</p> <p>AVID may submit an application to work with schools that are not receiving FEPP Levy School-Based Investments.</p>	6/12/2020
34	<p>Question(s):</p>	<p>Answer(s):</p>	

	Is it correct that these should be included in the Personnel Expenditures portion of the budget worksheet, with the line items detailed in the "Description of expense"? Or is there another way we should detail program costs?	Personnel expenditures include salary, benefits, and/or hourly pay for staff directly employed by your organization. If the program costs are all covered under the hourly rate for providing the outlined services, then you are correct-- you would include them in Personnel Expenditures and use the description column to provide greater detail.	
35	Question(s): What tasks are considered "indirect" or "administrative" and therefore subject to the 15% cap?	Answer(s): Indirect or administrative costs are those related to expenses not directly associated to providing proposed services or programming. Some examples of those include, materials and supplies needed for your organization's day-to-day operations, advertising and marketing, communications, and facilities.	6/12/2020
36	Question(s): I would also like information on the opportunity for award renewal in years 2 and 3. We are looking at a deliberate, tiered approach to program expansion over the next 3 years. Is the renewal amount a maximum of the original budget request, or if performance expectations continue to be met and the program expands in years 2 and 3, is there potential for the funding amount to increase proportionally?	Answer(s): Annual contract reauthorization is conditioned upon achievement of contract outcomes. If performance expectations continue to be met in years 2 and 3, funding increases will most likely be limited to inflationary adjustments. O&A investments are scheduled for rebid in 2023, additional funds to account for expansion could be proposed at that time should you choose to reapply.	6/12/2020
37	Question(s): We are proposing O&A funding for a summer learning program. The existing academic indicators shown on page 4 are not a perfect match for what is possible in the summer. In the technical assistance session I was told that modifications to the indicators would be possible. Should I propose the modified versions of the indicators that work for our program in the RFI response? Or should I choose the 'stock' indicators and say that we will propose modifications later.	Answer(s): Use the indicators as listed and if you are awarded funding, we will address any possible modifications during the contract negotiation process.	6/12/2020
38	Question(s): Computing For All is applying for the DEEL grant to offer our college and career readiness program after school to high school students. We would like to know if stipends for students can be included in the grant funding.	Answer(s): DEEL awards funding based on strategies that are most likely to achieve the named outcomes. To the extent that your organization believes and can make the case that a particular strategy is the best means to achieve your selected outcome(s), you may include a wide variety of expenses in your proposal. This includes student stipends, though payment terms would be subject to City spending policies should your proposal be awarded funds.	6/12/2020
39	Question(s): My question is in regard to a .5FTE staff position that will be included in our proposal and budget. The proposed project is to expand a career readiness program that we (Arts Corps) run in partnership with Interagency Academies. We intend to hire a part time person to help manage this program and the corresponding data that will need to be tracked. However, this person will be hired as part of Interagency's Job Readiness Training staff and not as part of the Arts Corps' staff. Is this allowable and will it require a letter of explanation from Interagency?	Answer(s): DEEL recognizes that in partnership with a school community, a variety of funding approaches may be necessary. There is no prescribed way to staff a position to support your proposed program. Should your application be successful, we will address the details of funding during contract negotiations.	6/17/2020

40	<p>Can we use a different font than what you use for the questions, as long as it's easily readable? For example, Arial Narrow is a font we've used for applications before, and it allows us to include more information per page. We intend to follow your margins and of course your page limits, but your RFP says nothing about fonts.</p>	<p>Answer(s): Please utilize the formatting as well as the font provided in the submission template.</p>	6/17/2020
41	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are there recordings of the 2 TA sessions? If so, could you post links on the FAQs? 2. We are a CBO that supports students solely at 4 School Based Investment recipient high schools for multiple decades. Just wanted to ensure that we are still eligible to apply. 3. For the Key Element of College Knowledge and Advising...our focus is on providing increased awareness, exploration, counseling, and support around all postsecondary education pathways including apprenticeships, certificates, associates, and bachelors degrees. I noticed that the wording in the RFI heavily focuses on "college" (though definitely still mentions/acknowledges the other non-college post-secondary pathways – just regularly uses the word college). Many of the students we serve are realistically not bound for a 4 year college and encouraging them to pursue a BA may actually be inappropriate for many. Just wondering if we focus on encouraging exploration of all postsecondary pathways that is in-line with FEPP goals. Or, would is it more competitive to have a heavier focus specifically on college? 	<p>Answer(s):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There are no recordings other than for the Information Session. All materials available are posted onto our webpage. 2. Yes, you are eligible to apply. 3. Funded projects through O&A RFI will measure their impact through the following outcomes: 1) proficiency in English language arts, 2) proficiency in mathematics, 3) on-time high school graduation, and 4) college and career readiness. As long as your program proposal is able to address how one or more of those outcomes can be achieved, your application will be deemed competitive. 	6/17/2020
42	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The criteria measures whether or not we "propose activities that will be effective in meeting indicator and outcome targets." The type of program we run is complex and hard to list all of the activities that will lead to the academic indicator/outcome targets. We're struggling to know how to meet this scoring criteria in our Section 2. We can provide a 30'000 foot overview, but there's limited space to provide this answer. How detailed do we have to get? 2. We believe our lessons will meet a combination of these academic objectives, based on prior studies, but we also have no way of verifying the outcome indicators until we have an independent evaluator to verify this/look at our evaluation data for this project. Will that in any way impact our score? 	<p>Answer(s):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your response to section 2 should include a clear rationale for how your proposed services/programming/activities increase opportunity and access for focus students and how they will lead to outcome/indicator achievement. The entire response for section 2 should be no more than 4 pages so you will need to determine how best to meet these requirements in your response in relation to other criteria that should also be addressed. 2. Proposing services/programming/activities that have been evaluated by an independent evaluator to verify past outcomes is not a requirement for the RFI so that should not impact your score. However, your application should describe your organization's prior experience working with O&A focus student populations and include in your response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How your organization assesses the needs of the students and communities you serve ○ How data is utilized to inform services and/or programming, and ○ What results your organization has achieved 	6/17/2020

		(Please see Section 1: Experience and Demonstrated Ability on p. 16 of the RFI)	