



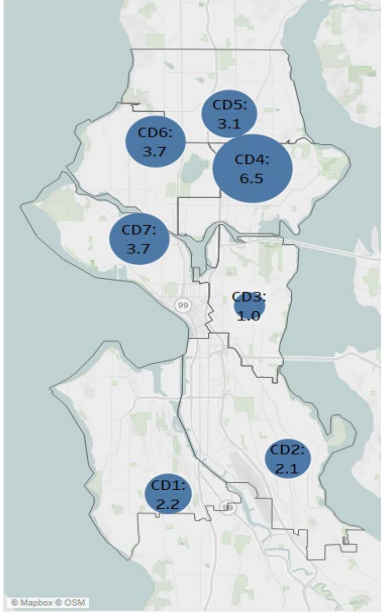
Request for Qualification (RFQ): Seattle Preschool Program
School Year 2021-22

Questions and Answers (Q&A)

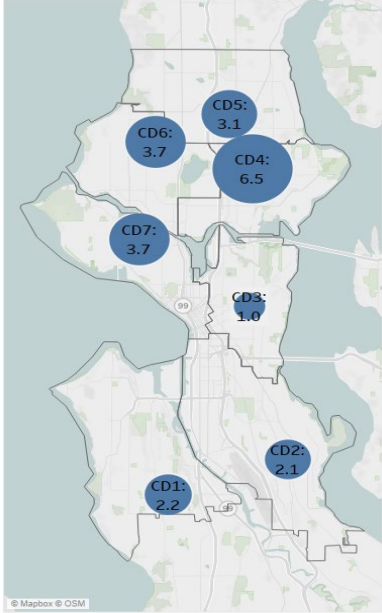
Updated: 12/21/2020

	Topic: Eligible Applicants		
1	<p>Question: Our school has 4 classrooms, so we should fill out the RFQ for all 4 classrooms, but there would be a potential that as a site we could be a provider for only 1 of those classrooms? Could you speak to that a little bit more? Or am I misunderstanding?</p>	<p>Answer: Correct, that is also the potential. Your organization could meet one of our priorities however, we may want to bring on 1 classroom for the school year and then look at how things go and look to the future. We have done that in the past to meet our selection priorities for the levy. This also true if you're applying for multiple sites. Some organizations will apply for multiple sites, so an organization who has multiple sites could have one site in an area that meets one of our priorities and the other site does not and so we would make some decisions regarding that.</p>	<p>Date Answered: 12/11/20</p>
2	<p>Question: Historically, SPP has been really saturated in the Southeast part of Seattle. Do you have a geographic focus right now?</p>	<p>Answer: We have posted a map indicating the number of applications we receive in comparison to the number of SPP seats we have by Council District (CD). As you can see we have high demand in CD 4,5,6, and 7.</p>	<p>Date Answered: 12/11/20</p>



		<p>Applications vs. All Seats 18-19, 19-20 and 20-21 combined</p>  <table border="1"> <caption>Map Data: Applications vs. All Seats by Community District</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Community District</th> <th>Ratio</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>CD1</td> <td>2.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CD2</td> <td>2.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CD3</td> <td>1.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CD4</td> <td>6.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CD5</td> <td>3.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CD6</td> <td>3.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CD7</td> <td>3.7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Community District	Ratio	CD1	2.2	CD2	2.1	CD3	1.6	CD4	6.5	CD5	3.1	CD6	3.7	CD7	3.7	
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3	<p>Question: Currently, Community School is closed due to the pandemic, will there be any strikes against us at this point? We are reopening in March and we are planning our big reopening now. Would there be any issue with us applying for it now with us being closed?</p>	<p>Answer: No. Many of our existing programs are physically closed and are offering only remote services. When you're thinking about your application, be thoughtful about your history of providing preschool services and how you've responded to COVID19 impacts. In attachment 6, explain how you would continue to respond to the pandemic if necessary.</p>	<p>Date Answered: 12/11/20</p>																
4	<p>Question: At the very beginning you said that there's funding right now for 6 classrooms and that DEEL has the option to potentially contract with folks who are already SPP providers or the school district. Do you have plans already for internal folks who are requesting more classrooms, what are the chances of taking on a</p>	<p>Answer: We're asking current providers to go through a parallel process with a submission deadline of January 7. Their deadline is the same as yours in terms of requesting for expansion of their existing programs. At that time, we will know how many total requests in order to make our selection decisions.</p>	<p>Date Answered: 12/11/20</p>																



<p>new provider at this time?</p> <p>Is that including the school district?</p> <p>So there is a potential if the school district is looking to put more preschool programs into their schools that those 6 classrooms could be all allotted to the school district itself?</p>	<p>Yes, and we discussed this on slide number 8.</p> <p>There's always that potential, but that is why we have selection priorities. We will have a process for how we prioritize where those 6 classrooms will be located. So any one organization, not just the school district could ask for all 6 classrooms but if they don't meet our the priorities then there's no guarantee that they will be selected for the upcoming school year. Please review selection priorities (page 5) of the SPP RFQ.</p>	
<p>5 Question: You mentioned selection is based on geographic priorities, how and when do we know what those priorities are?</p>	<p>Answer: There are three priorities and geography is one of them. Please review selection priorities (page 5) of the SPP RFQ. We have posted a map indicating the number of applications we receive in comparison to the number of SPP seats we have by Council District (CD). As you can see we have high demand in CD 4,5,6, and 7.</p> <p>Applications vs. All Seats 18-19, 19-20 and 20-21 combined</p>  <p>© Mapbox © OSM</p>	<p>Date Answered: 12/16/2020</p>
<p>6 Question: So, it shows demand, but not necessarily priority levels, because that is based on your wait list?</p>	<p>Answer: It is how we are defining demand. Please review the map provided. That is how we define wait lists; it is how many applications we are receiving that we cannot match to a seat in that area.</p>	<p>Date Answered: 12/16/2020</p>



	Topic: Process and Timeline		
1	Question: I'd like to have information about demand prior to writing the narrative, is that possible?	Answer: Yes.	Date Answered: 12/16/2020
2	Question: I'm assuming you want everything submitted at one time instead of piecemeal?	Answer: Yes. Please review Phase I: RFQ Application Submission, slide number 21 (page 7) to see the complete submission list.	Date Answered: 12/16/2020
3	Question: What year are we in the seven-year Levy?	Answer: Year three.	Date Answered: 12/16/2020
4	Question: Should we submit an application and should we be successful, and should we be notified in February, but the contract doesn't start until July. At what point do we start recruiting families?	<p>Answer: There are 2 ways for enrollment to happen, one is through DEEL centralized enrollment the other is through Agency selection. The providers who negotiate doing their own enrollment for specific programmatic reasons.</p> <p>The DEEL centralized enrollment, our application process opens every year on March 15. We start accepting applications in March and start selecting families and enrolling them throughout the spring and summer.</p> <p>For programs who are doing their own enrollment for programmatic reasons, they can decide on when to start recruiting and enrolling. I do know that programs have other programmatic requirements around enrollment and so leave it up to the program to continue to do that.</p> <p>The families do need to meet SPP eligibility requirements. We do have a provision for grandfathering as well for existing children and children who are rising from a toddler classroom into preschool.</p> <p>To learn more about SPP application process and program assignment, please see link: http://www.seattle.gov/education/for-parents/child-care-and-preschool/seattle-preschool-program</p>	Date Answered: 12/16/2020
5	Question: Is DEEL accepting new applications to Pathway?	Answer: Yes, Pathway will be a separate funding process.	Date Answered: 12/16/2020



6	<p>Question: In terms of how to write for COVID, this is all with the idea of September, right?</p>	<p>Answer: Correct, September 2021.</p>	<p>Date Answered: 12/16/2020</p>
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	Topic: Program Requirements		
1	<p>Question: So the school year schedule, we typically run on a full year, are there professional development requirements that teachers would have to be involved with that would keep them from being able to continue operating in a summer capacity, or could our nonprofit continue running in a summer capacity?</p>	<p>Answer: As far as summer, I believe most of our professional development starts in August as sort of preparation for the school year. We do offer things in the summer, but that are optional. We have posted the 2021 PD calendar for your reference. Additionally, you can go to our PD website for more information: https://www.qppdtraining.com/</p> <p>We do offer teacher release time funding during the school year that is outside of the SPP contract, so if your teachers are signed up for a class that is during the school day, we do provide reimbursement for you to pay for substitutes.</p>	<p>Date Answered: 12/11/20</p>
2	<p>Question: We all know how incredibly challenging it can be to find substitute teachers for early childhood programs. Is there any support for that from DEEL?</p>	<p>Answer: Outside of teacher release time funding, we do not have a substitute pool that we manage. We are partner with the Imagine Institute, the entity that also manages the substitute pool for the state. DEEL does not manage a substitute pull directly.</p>	<p>Date Answered: 12/11/20</p>
3	<p>Question: On the evaluation piece, is it Teaching Standards Gold?</p>	<p>Answer: I will start with what is required of teachers for programs. We use Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG), as our ongoing assessment.</p> <p>We also use Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) for developmental screenings. Providers are also required to ensure that students get the required health screenings which include height, weight, vision, hearing etc.</p> <p>Those are the programmatic assessments. Depending on which curriculum you go with, whether it's Creative Curriculum or High Scope, there are Curriculum Fidelity Tools</p>	<p>Date Answered: 12/11/20</p>



		<p>to ensure that you are implementing the curriculum in the way that it should be.</p> <p>We also have a 3rd party evaluation to evaluate our program’s impact using standardized evaluations. We have historically partnered with the University of Washington for this evaluation. Please also review the scope of work starting on page 3 that is required for SPP.</p>	
4	<p>Question: You mentioned High Scope and Creative Curriculum, at one point there was a curriculum waiver, if you do not use either one of those curriculum models, is that still a possibility?</p>	<p>Answer: A curriculum waiver process will be available for high-quality provider agencies. The waiver allows an agency to use an evidence-based curriculum other than HighScope® or Creative Curriculum® for Preschool, Sixth Edition. Waiver requests are to be submitted during the SPP RFQ application process and will be approved or declined prior to award. Agencies applying for a curriculum waiver must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a rating of Level 4 or above in Early Achievers • Use an evidence-based curriculum that includes a tool for assessing the fidelity of implementation • Have an intensive, agency-managed plan for instructional support. (QPPD will not provide training on waiver curriculums) 	<p>Date Answered: 12/11/20</p>
5	<p>Question: I'm wondering about that transition period for teachers that may need to ramp up their education to meet the qualifications, is there a time period that they would have available to do that in or do they have to have that credentials by the time the 21 school year started?</p>	<p>Answer: Our time period is 4 years from the start of your SPP contract or whenever you hire the teacher to teach in the SPP classroom.</p>	<p>Date Answered: 12/11/20</p>
6	<p>Question: In the 2020-2021 school year, how many classrooms or providers are actually running during this COVID time?</p> <p>Got it so, no funds from this current school year</p>	<p>Answer: All of our programs are currently running, whether it's in person or remotely. We do not have any programs that are closed for the school year. They are either operating in person, a hybrid model (which is a combination of in person and remote), or fully remote.</p> <p>The FEPP Levy has expansion built into it. So our budget ramps up each year in order to meet our expansion goals.</p>	<p>Date Answered: 12/11/20</p>



	would be rolling over to the next?		
7	Question: Is there any kind of support that DEEL offers for just general hiring, with the addition of the family support worker and the high qualifications of teachers is there a pool, or are there ways that DEEL help support their program in that?	Answer: Not at this time. We offer scholarships so that your current teachers can obtain their degree. But in terms of a direct human resources support, we do not offer that right now.	Date Answered: 12/11/20
8	Question: What current languages are we serving in our SPP programs in a Dual Language format?	Answer: In our Dual Language Programming we have Spanish, Vietnamese, Somali, Chinese, and French. The highest preponderance is Spanish next would be Vietnamese.	Date Answered: 12/16/20
9	Question: For the centralized enrollment option, does that include Head Start?	Answer: Yes, it can include Head Start if that is what is negotiated. However, our practice has been the last few years to release our centralized enrollment role if it is a Head Start program. Our enrollment process may not necessarily be able to meet all of the Head Start considerations. It can be negotiated.	Date Answered: 12/16/20
10	Question: Can a center have both Pathway and SPP at the same time or Pathway is for a center to get ready to do SPP? Can you do both?	Answer: Yes, we have had situations where that has happened.	Date Answered: 12/16/20
11	Question: 1 SPP classroom and 1 pathway classroom or something like that?	Answer: I would not necessarily say it's at the same center. An example, an organization that has multiple sites and perhaps one site is ready and meets the SPP requirements and then they have another site that is not quite ready.	Date Answered: 12/16/20
Topic: Budget			
1	Question: With this RFQ, is there going to be any sort of	Answer: We do have facility funds and other funds available to support programs but just being on the roster does not necessarily give you access to the funds. You can only access	Date Answered: 12/11/20



	funds for facility improvements?	these funds when you have an actual contract to provide SPP services.	
2	Question: Say we apply for the RFQ, we get approved, we do some capital build out during the summer, can we apply it for the facilities grant once it opens back up for the 21-22 school year but then the funds we spent to build out, can we retroactively use that to cover those expenses or does it have to be within that timeline of when it's awarded to spend the funds.	Answer: Currently, we do not retroactively pay back capital improvements made for future SPP contracts. School, center, and home-based agencies in contract with Pathway or SPP are eligible to apply for the SPP Facilities Funds RFI.	Date Answered: 12/11/20