

City of Seattle | DEEL | 2015 Seattle Preschool Program (SPP)

SPP Provider RFI Questions

#	Question	Answer	Date Submitted
1	Can the SPP classroom have Step-Ahead, ECEAP, and SPP students enrolled in the classroom since Proposer's goal is to have a mixed group of students enrolled in each classroom?	Yes. All of the children in the classroom would be considered part of SPP.	4/23/2015
2	Would we (Proposer) still receive funding for Step Ahead slots and ECEAP? Or would the rate be different?	Providers will be reimbursed the standard SPP rate for all children in the classroom. For ECEAP eligible children, the reimbursement will be higher in order to meet additional program requirements.	4/23/2015
3	Will you do partial awards because 5 of our preschool classrooms are in the catchment areas? Should we apply for all 5 or in case you decide to go with 2 or 3, should we just apply individually?	Yes, partial awards are a possibility. If you're applying for multiple sites, we will be scoring each site individually, but you can submit one joint application for all 5.	4/23/2015
4	Under the evaluation criteria you have that there are additional points awarded for providing extended daycare, but if the SPP is for 6 hours what happens during those extended hours? I am asking about funding for the extended hours.	The SPP funding is for the 6 hour day. You as a provider can still access additional funds for wrap around care (some people call this before and after care or summer care) for example, Working Connections, City of Seattle childcare subsidies, or some of you may charge a private pay rate and collect private pay for the wrap around time, but not the 6 hour day.	4/28/2015
5	Families are going to pay their tuition to you, on a sliding scale based on their income. Someone who's at 400% of the federal poverty level wouldn't pay as much as someone who's at 800% based on the sliding scale. Will you share with providers who are providing wraparound care or summer care where on the sliding scale a particular family is?	The Family Enrollment Application is being developed right now, and yes, we will be asking for income information from families. We will share what we can with providers, to make sure that you can access whatever additional funds that you need for the wrap around care, or subsidies or additional private pay. The City will not be collecting the wrap around funding, just the tuition for the 6 hour preschool day.	4/28/2015
6	Of these 14 classrooms, do you have a set preference of how many classrooms would be SPP vs. Pathway?	The 14 classrooms are all SPP. Pathway is additional funding for roughly 65 slots and with our current structure that would be about 8 classrooms.	4/28/2015
7	How many of those 14 classrooms would be through Seattle Public Schools (SPS) vs. through community based providers?	We are directly negotiating with SPS but do not know specifically how many classrooms they will be providing.	4/28/2015

8	If some families are interested in SPP right now, do we direct them to you?	Yes, direct them to Rachel Schulkin (Rachel.shulkin@seattle.gov, 684-3942). We recognize it's a short timeline and many of you have already been enrolling children for next school year. We do have a provision for grandfathering. Essentially, for this first year, if you're already enrolled by the time we contract with you, we're not going to ask to displace children. More information about this is in our Implementation Plan.	4/28/2015
9	On page 16, on the tie breaker reference information that is related to SPS enrollment, how can we find this information?	This is public information available on the District's website. The individual school annual reports, as well as the District Profile, contain this information.	4/28/2015
10	With the \$10,200 average, is that the minimum and then it works its way up based on the Exhibit B that we submit to Brad Kessler? Do we get extra money if we are able to show all of the documentation on Exhibit B?	That is the average rate based on meeting all requirements of the SPP. For example, if your two classrooms already have teachers meeting the education requirements, then that is what the reimbursement rate will be. Exhibit B will help us help you understand how it gets adjusted up or down. If you have teachers who do not meet the education requirements, then we adjust the rate slightly down. As your teachers meet the education requirements, we will recalculate and your reimbursement increases. But the average rate is based on the minimum SPP requirements. If you have other revenues, like ECEAP or Head Start, then you will get reimbursed more, because we consider only a portion of your ECEAP and Head Start as supporting SPP. Funds for family engagement and serving children who need additional support(s) are also included in this average, but are not included in your baseline reimbursement (they are available on an as-needed basis through planning with your SPP coach).	4/28/2015
11	Will there be an RFI for those additional funds?	No, there will be an application process for those additional funds. We haven't developed the final process yet, but it will not be a competitive one. It's based on the needs of your classroom.	4/28/2015
12	If the teacher does not have a BA in Early Childhood (EC) but does have a MA in EC, that still counts, right?	Yes, that counts as meeting the BA requirement. You've exceeded it by having a Masters.	4/28/2015
13	How will vacancies be handled during the school year? Suppose a family is in our classroom, a SPP classroom, and then they move out of the area. How will that space be filled?	We will be launching an application process for families. We're developing the process right now and it will have a waitlist. We will be assigning students off of this waitlist.	4/28/2015

14	If I am awarded a contract for 20 slots, and the City is in charge of fully enrolling my classroom, but they fail to enroll the 20 slots, will I still receive my full contract amount that's based on 20 slots?	Yes, you will receive your full contracted amount if DEEL is unable to fully enroll children into your classroom.	4/28/2015
15	Is there a different deadline for Exhibit B?	No, Exhibit B is required to be attached to your SPP application. If you're only applying for Pathway then you do not need Exhibit B. You may submit Exhibit B at any time prior to May 7 to Brad Kessler to calculate your expected reimbursement amount.	4/28/2015
16	With Step Ahead / ECEAP we have a deadline of March 31st for enrollment and then after that we don't get any extra performance pay. Is it going to be the same with SPP; if a child leaves, let's say, after April 1st?	We haven't determined what the performance measures are yet. We're not sure if enrollment will be part of them, we will get back to you by the time contracting takes place.	4/28/2015
17	Since the SPP classrooms can have ECEAP students, especially for ones who currently have them, does that mean we need to specifically find ECEAP students that live in the City of Seattle because right now with ECEAP you can either live or work within the City? And what will happen to those children that are already enrolled?	If you're already enrolled by the time we contract with you for this first year, we will accept all of the children in your classroom . We are in the process of developing an MOU with the Department of Early Learning (DEL) to figure out some of these questions around eligibility and enrollment of ECEAP with our SPP. We do want to encourage participation of our ECEAP and Head Start providers, because we recognize that in order to get our goal of a mixed income classroom we need to have partners' participation.	4/28/2015
18	So can you talk a little, if you know yet, about the logistics, about how billing DSHS will work for us? Right now we have a child who has a full-day award through DSHS that covers both their wrap-around and their school day time, now we're going to need to collect from DSHS for the wrap-around part and collect from SPP for the full-day part and then will you, with the DEL, work that out? Have you worked this out with DSHS, Working Connections? Is it possible we would receive more for that DSHS child as part of the SPP classroom then we would if the child were not part of SPP?	The Exhibit B worksheet has some questions about your non-City revenue and DSHS. We don't have a direct relationship with Working Connections, so we're not collecting anything or applying on your behalf to DSHS. You would still have a direct relationship with Working Connections on behalf of your families. The only way to really know if you'll collect more is to work with Brad Kessler on the reimbursement rate because everybody's program is different.	4/28/2015
19	DSHS has a policy where they would count SPP subsidy by the City as income for the family, which would affect their child care subsidy. We also need to let our families know as well	We will clarify what the policy is and make sure we have the answer written online .	4/28/2015

20	There's no deadline written online about how late you can submit questions, so we can submit questions up to 11:59 p.m. on May 4th, correct?	Yes.	4/28/2015
21	If applying for multiple sites, but you're still waiting for licensing on another site – do we need to fill out a separate application?	We encourage you to do that. Fill out another application to make it clear.	4/28/2015
22	If I have a partnership with a family child care provider who lives in one of the service areas, in a low-performing school, and I am a center-based program that's also located in a low-performing school, could I put in an application to utilize that family child care as the second location?	No, not under this RFI. There will be a pilot developed specifically for family childcare that will be coming out in Winter 2016. If you're thinking about partnering with family childcare providers, wait for the pilot to apply, because that would be the most appropriate time. This RFI is for center-based providers.	4/28/2015
23	Given the same scenario (as above) if that provider were a center-based provider, would that be acceptable?	Yes, you can partner with a small center-based program. The license needs to be for center-based care for both partners. On the application, under section 3, legal status, there's a questions about being a fiscal sponsor. If two center-based providers are going to apply together, we can only contract with one of you. One of you will have to be the fiscal sponsor of the other entity. For purposes of the application you'll need the attachments from both providers including the license. We'll need the information for both providers, but one of you will be the fiscal sponsor of the other.	4/28/2015
24	Should we decide internally to submit 5 classrooms for your consideration and then ask you to just select the two that you most want? Some of what we're going to do also depends on what SPS ends up contracting with the City because we're school based. We don't want to apply for all 5 and then kind of be bound to do all 5 because we're not sure we're ready to make that jump. We might only be wanting to do 2 or 3 classrooms instead of all 5 of ours.	It's an agency decision. We can make partial awards so if you apply for 5, we may just select 2.	4/28/2015
25	If we apply for 5 and you should select all 5, are we then obligated to do all 5?	No, because we will be doing contract negotiations. There is a minimum of 2 classrooms though. The City may reevaluate the award if "providing more classrooms for the program" (which is a tie-breaker) as taken into consideration in the award.	4/28/2015

26	For the SPP Exhibit A, question 6, will there be partial points awarded (12 points total) if we offer wrap around care for our 5 year olds and CCR children through out the school year, and offer summer hours (exceeding 180 days) but do not provide wrap around hours for our 3 and 4 year olds during the school year because of licensing issues? If so, how do we address this in the application since question 6 is a yes or no question	No, there are no partial points. In order to earn points in this section you must provide wrap around care for the preschool children you are serving. If you do not do this then you must answer the question as "no".	5/4/2015
27	We have two assistant teachers who are in the process of completing their CDA and will have completed it by the time awards are announced. May we put CDA in progress in the composition of agency staff section?	Yes, please answer this question to reflect your current situation; CDA in progress with anticipated completion date.	5/4/2015
28	In the 16 page RFI information release, on page 7, the narrative submission guidelines state responses must be double sided, however, on the application online it asks to "submit text here" in the box provided. Which guideline is correct? If the page 7 guideline correct what is to be double sided, each question or each narrative? Example, narrative one on the front side and narrative two on the second, or are they to be on the same page?	Either approach to providing the narratives is acceptable. If a Proposer fills in the text box directly in the application then there is no need to do so separately as instructed in the RFI.	5/4/2015
29	We provide more than 180 hours in a year, as we are a year-round program. Our hours are Monday thru Thursday 9 am to 3 pm (before -school starts at 8 am and after-school runs until 5:30 pm, Friday 9 am to 12 pm (before-school at 8 am). On Friday afternoons we have full staff reflective practice and prep/plan time. Is there any room for an alternative schedule so long as we provide the 180 hours?	If you are applying for SPP, the schedule is 6 hours a day, 5 days a week, 180 days/year. This is what is approved in the SPP Action Plan. If you are applying for the SPP Pathway, there is some flexibility for accommodating alternative schedules. However, you can only be on the Pathway for up to 2 years at which time you will be expected to adopt the SPP schedule previously mentioned.	4/30/2015