

**City of Seattle | Department of Education and Early Learning**

**SPP Provider Facilities Fund RFI (updated: 9/13/17)**

#	Question	Answer
1	When are decisions made on the funding awards?	Decisions are expected towards the end of May, 2017.
2	If awarded, when are funds available?	Once funds are awarded, DEEL and the awardee will negotiate a contract that will have project milestones. The contract milestones will dictate when cash is awarded.
3	Will the awarded funds be for reimbursement or to pay project expenses as they occur?	The funds are intended to be awarded as the project reaches milestones. The milestones will be negotiated after an applicant receives an award.
4	Can you explain the prevailing wage requirement?	Construction projects funded totally or partially with DEEL funds must comply with applicable labor standards requirements. The City also requires payment of prevailing wages under Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Chapter 39.12. Prevailing wages will apply to the project funded by the City, as determined by the grant agreement. Agencies should consider this requirement when developing cost estimates or obtaining pricing for construction work. This requirement is not applicable if the project activities you are proposing to fund with these funds does not contain a construction component.
5	What changes has the program undergone since 2016?	The program polices are the same as in 2016. The only change is the dates of the two funding rounds.
6	Why were some projects not funded last year?	A review committee reviews all of the applications and makes recommendations based on project feasibility and scoring criteria.
7	What are activities that are fundable under this program?	See page 7 of the RFI. Design and construction activities are eligible.
8	Do separate projects need separate applications? Can you receive funding for multiple projects in the same year?	Yes, each project needs a separate application.
9	If you apply for \$249,000, do you need a funding match?	No, the match is only required for requests of \$250,000 or greater.
10	Are there requirements in the number of classrooms the funding needs to improve?	No.
11	For the community center sites that are being awarded through SPP, can we apply for funds to improve those spaces?	No, since the providers will be under short term leases. A leased space requires a minimum of five year lease agreement for a funding request.

12	What types of sites are eligible to receive funding in this program?	Any site is eligible as long as it is in the City of Seattle and commits to being part of the Seattle Preschool Program.
13	Can we use non-licensed contractors to do the improvements?	The work itself will need to pass minimum regulatory standards and commercial prevailing wages are required.
14	Can the funding awards fund work retroactively?	No.
15	Do dual language programs receive priority?	No.
16	If we want to improve or build a program, do we have to divide our funding request based if the playground will be used by non pre-K classrooms?	No, but the committee will take that into account when determining how much of the funding request to recommend awarding.
17	Is building a loft considered a furnishing?	No.
18	Will other Parks sites be offered in future years? What about the Miller Annex site?	Yes, we expect more sites to be available for 2018-19. The Miller Annex site will be awarded through a request for proposal this fall, it is likely to be renovated by early fall of 2017.
19	What are the requirement for a project that improves space currently being leased?	A provider is required to have a certain number of years on their current lease to request funds through this program. The policies are on page 15 of the RFI: Minimum lease terms include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For awards between \$10,000 and \$50,000, a minimum of a five (5) years remaining on the current lease with the property owner.</li> <li>• For award above \$50,000, a minimum of seven (7) years remaining on the current lease with the property owner.</li> <li>• For award above \$250,000, a minimum of ten (10) years remaining on the current lease with the</li> </ul>
20	It is very proving very difficult to get real time cost estimates for our project. Everyone is booked, and if we want to start in September we would pay prevailing wage. Can we submit a budget for build out based on estimates?	We understand that getting professional estimates can be a challenge. We do recommend you do that if possible, but you are permitted to submit your budget with your own estimation. You should still support you assumptions in your budget as much as possible.
21	Could these funds be used to cover a portion of exterior painting of the building?	Yes, although it would be pro-rated if the whole building is painted and not used solely for SPP preschool.
22	We had a question regarding p. 4, #8 in the application: do all applications require a zoning analysis by a licensed architect in order to be valid?	No, any supportive documentation is permissible to include to provide information on feasibility for the project, but it is not required.

23	<p>We'd like to apply for funds through this RFI to address these action items. We note that the RFI requires applicants to be "in good standing with DEEL and not on a corrective action plan." Does the compliance agreement from DEL constitute a corrective action plan and make us ineligible, or are we still eligible to apply?</p>	<p>You are still eligible to apply for funds. Maintaining or obtaining licensure through the use of these funds is an eligible activity.</p>
24	<p>From RFI: Soft costs or any project cost that is not construction (which may include design, project management and permitting costs) directly related to the development of a facility which will be eligible for use as a SPP classroom. ?  Question: <i>Can design be included? What are the parameters for design? Less than 10% of project total like project management?</i></p>	<p>Design can be included as an eligible cost. We do not have a specific policy, but DEEL will review the percentage to make sure they are within industry standards, acknowledging that smaller projects may have higher percentage design fees than larger projects.</p>
	<p>Please see the SPP Implementation Plan for additional priorities:  <a href="http://www.seattle.gov/education/child-care-and-preschool/seattle-preschool-program/documents">http://www.seattle.gov/education/child-care-and-preschool/seattle-preschool-program/documents</a>  <i>In the RFI it says the above, but the link goes nowhere. Are there other priorities not listed in the RFI?</i></p>	<p>We apologize, the website is currently undergoing a transition and link is broken. We are working to resolve the issue. The additional priorities reference are connected to the geographic location of your project. These priorities are listed in the rating criteria on table 2 of the RFI.</p>