

Summer Learning RFI

Q&A

(As of 10/21/2016)

Funding Questions

Can you tell us which organizations are already funded?

You can view the list of currently funded summer grantees here: <http://www.seattle.gov/education/k-12-schools/summer-learning>

Is funding open to new grantees?

Yes. Funding is open to new and existing grantees.

Please clarify if the available funding amount listed will be spread out over three years or if the amounts are per year.

The available funding of \$94,546 for elementary summer programs and \$477,531 for middle school summer programs is the amount available this cycle. Programs that are awarded funding this cycle will receive annual funding for the duration of the Levy. For example, if a program is awarded \$20,000 this cycle, that program will receive \$20,000 in Summers 2017, 2018 and 2019. We will open another funding cycle next Fall.

Are we eligible to apply just for funding if we are only offering enrichment programming?

No. All Levy-funded summer programs must provide both academic and enrichment programming, with a minimum of 120 total program hours and 10 hours per week of academic instruction. Unfortunately, applicants cannot apply for funding for enrichment programming only. One potential strategy would be to partner with a school or organization that could provide academic instruction.

Are currently funded grantees eligible to compete for additional funds?

Yes. Currently funded grantees are eligible to apply for additional funds to expand existing programs or start new programs.

Can currently funded grantees apply to expand existing services?

Yes. Currently funded grantees are eligible to apply for additional funds to expand existing programs or start new programs.

Can currently funded grantees apply for a different program?

Yes. Currently funded grantees are eligible to apply for additional funds to expand existing programs or start new programs.

Program Questions

Can programs apply for middle school funding to serve current 8th graders / rising 9th graders?

Yes. These programs should offer programming focused on the middle school to high school transition, and connect students to Summer Bridge, Orientation or Link Crew opportunities at their future high school.

Will preference be given to programs that plan to serve larger numbers of students versus a smaller number of students?

No. We fund organizations that serve both large and small numbers of students.

Do you have a target for the number of students served?

No. Our currently funded programs serve anywhere from 20 to 400 students.

Academic Instruction is one of the required program components. From the list of Levy Areas of Concentration, can we provide any combination of academic instruction?

Yes. Summer learning programs offered by schools and organizations must include structured academic classes with an explicit emphasis on building students' skills in one or more of the Levy Areas of Concentration listed below.

- Reading/Writing
- Math
- Math combined with Science
- English Language Acquisition
- Social-Emotional, Physical, Language, Cognitive, and Mathematics domains in Teaching Strategies GOLD (for students entering kindergarten)

We are thinking about programs specifically for African American students that will consist of a smaller number of students, more in-depth experience and includes a cultural immersion piece. Will this qualify as an enrichment program?

Yes. Enrichment programming can take a variety of forms, including a specialized focus on certain underserved populations. Enrichment activities provide engaging opportunities for students to build important academic skills and to foster other skills that support learning such as collaboration and creative problem solving. These activities may include (but are not limited to):

- Science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM)
- Visual and performing arts
- College/career readiness
- PreK to elementary transition
- Elementary to middle school transition
- Middle school to high school transition

Do you look at a program's focus in determining grantees?

Yes. We will look at a variety of factors including program focus.

If a provider is planning on providing multiple programs, would they submit one application or a separate application for each program?

It depends. Providers planning multiple programs must submit a separate application for each program, especially if those programs cross grade spans (elementary or middle school). However, providers planning to offer the same program across multiple sites may submit one application.

Who will identify the schools (DEEL or Providers)?

Providers will identify the schools and student populations that they intend to serve.

Do you have a definition of a substantial partnership?

Schools or organizations are considered a substantial partner if they deliver key program elements such as academic instruction or enrichment programming.

We will be partnering with a community-based organization in a consultative matter that focuses on students of color, education, PD, and other platforms. Would that be considered a substantial partnership and would this strengthen our application?

- 1) Schools or organizations are considered a substantial partner if they deliver key program elements such as academic instruction or enrichment programming.
- 2) Whether or not this relationship would strengthen the application can only be determined after evaluating the proposed relationship in the context of the entire application.

What kind of metrics are you going to use to measure the success of the program?

Annual funding is dependent on meeting student outcome targets and contract obligations. Student outcome targets include (but are not limited to): enrollment, program attendance, and gains on academic assessments.

Are you supporting capital expenses?

Small capital expenses only. On occasion, a provider may need to purchase minor equipment such as computers, monitors, etc. All expenses must be approved in advance, and purchased items must be used during the summer program to benefit students.

Evaluation Questions

How is preference determined? Is there a certain number of points?

Preference will be determined multiple ways. In the RFI Rating Criteria, additional points may be awarded to programs that propose to provide Gender-specific programming to Black students and/or serve regions of the District not currently served by Levy summer programming. However, these programs must describe experience in providing high-quality: 1) instructional and enrichment programming, 2) management and staff, 3) student and parental involvement, and 4) partnerships for these populations. In addition, these programs must also demonstrate previous experience working with and achieving results for these populations.

Looking at the different regions is there a weighted way you are looking at priority in the south end?

No.