



Wellness and Student Care Department
100 North First Street, E-222
Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001

FY 2026
NITA M. LOWEY 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY
LEARNING CENTERS (CCLC) PROGRAM

EQUITABLE PARTICIPATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The equitable participation requirements in Subpart 1 of Part E of Title IX of the ESEA apply to the Title IV, Part B, 21ST CCLC program. Applications proposing to serve non-public school students need to consult with public schools within the catchment area of each site that align with the grades proposed to be served under the application. One form should be submitted for each site being served under the proposal. Public school participation requirements cannot be satisfied simply by inviting public schools to participate in programs and/or activities designed for non-public school students, teachers or other educational personnel. Consultation must occur before the state education agency (SEA) or grantee makes any decision that affects the opportunities of eligible public school children, families, teachers, and other educational personnel. Further, each grantee must provide the SEA with a written affirmation signed by officials of each participating public school that such consultation has occurred.

Local entities (Community Based Organizations [CBOs] and Faith Based Organizations [FBOs]) must engage in timely and meaningful consultation with appropriate local education agency (LEA) or LEA officials during the design and development of programs and continue the consultation throughout the implementation of these programs. Local entities must provide, on an equitable basis, special educational services or other benefits that address the needs under the program of children, families, teachers, and other educational personnel in public schools in areas served by the districts and local entities. Expenditures for educational services and other benefits for public school children, teachers, and other educational personnel must be equal, taking into account the number and educational needs of the children to be served, to the expenditures for participating private school children.

The law requires the consultations to address:

- How children's needs will be identified;
- What services will be provided;
- How, where, and by whom services will be offered;
- How services will be assessed and how results of the assessment will be used to improve those services;
- The size and scope of the equitable services to be provided to the eligible public school children, families, teachers, and other educational personnel and the amount of funds available for those services; and
- How and when the grantee will make decisions about the delivery of services, including a thorough consideration and analysis of views of non-public school officials on the provision of contract services through potential third-party providers.

The Equitable Participation of Public Schools Form only must be completed by applicants/grantees who are primarily serving or proposing to serve non-public school. All other applicants/grantees (e.g. LEAs, most CBOs, ROEs) may check the box stating "Public schools are the primary entities intended to be served" and sign the form in the Administrative Agents fields.

We hereby testify as indicated by the below signatures that appropriate consultation as described above has occurred.

- ☐ Yes, we wish to participate. ☐ No, we do not wish to participate. ☐ Yes, we wish to participate and request further consultation ☐ Public schools are the primary entities intended to be served

District Name and Number

Name of Public School

Type Name of Public School Administrator

Signature of Public School Administrator

Date

Name of Administrative Organization

Type Name of Administrative Agent

Signature of Administrative Agent

Date