

## **FY19 Early Childhood Request for Proposals**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **General RFP questions**

Question: How can a program obtain feedback from their 2017 grants?

Answer: Please email [earlychi@isbe.net](mailto:earlychi@isbe.net), to request evaluator comments.

Question: Can a program write for both Preschool for All and Preschool for All Expansion RFP's?

Answer: Yes

#### **Budget**

Question: What is the cap for General Administrative costs?

Answer: The budget shall specify that no more than 5 percent of the total grant award shall be used for administrative and general expenses not directly attributed to program activities, except that a higher limit not to exceed 10 percent may be negotiated with an applicant that has provided evidence that the excess administrative expenses are beyond its control and that it has exhausted all available and reasonable remedies to comply with the limitation.

Question: Where will the new Indirect Rate for non-LEAs be posted? (the movement from 3.14% to 12.15%, allowing programs to use up to the higher rate)

Answer: The RFP's were modified to describe the allowable rates. The indirect cost rate information is available at <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Indirect-Cost-Rate-Plan.aspx>

Question: Is there an average cost per child the state is recommending?

Answer: No. Budget requests should be made for what the program needs to run a high quality program.

#### **Preschool for All**

Question: Are there any requirements pertaining to PFA All-Day hours?

Answer: PFA programs can be half day or full day. According to the IL. School Code, a full day is considered 5 or more hours.

#### **Inclusion**

- Question: If I am a childcare center, how do I receive special education funds?  
Answer: Local Education Agencies (LEA)/school districts are the only entities to receive special education funds. It is the school district's responsibility to provide special education services to a child within the district.
- Question: What licensure is needed to provide special education services to an early childhood student?  
Answer: Educators must have the early childhood special education approval to provide IEP services in the early childhood setting. Please see early childhood licensure document <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Early-Childhood-Licensure.pdf> for more information.
- Question: How can we show that we service children with IEPs that are not included in PFA counts?  
Answer: If a student is enrolled in the PFA classroom, this will be reflected in SIS reporting.
- Question: Are community-based programs penalized in the RFP process for school districts bussing students to the district to receive their special education services?  
Answer: Serving students with special needs is a recommended, but not required, practice within the RFP. Please utilize an MOU with school districts to determine roles and responsibilities. An example can be found at <http://www.excelerateillinoisproviders.com/resources/resources-by-standard?id=52>
- Question: Does the PFA grant allow funding for special education services or personnel, other than dually endorsed teacher?  
Answer: The PFA grant cannot fund a special education teacher or related services specialists. Itinerant or co-teacher models will need to be funded through IDEA or local funding.
- Question: If PFA classrooms can reduce size of the classroom, should they write for expected class size or 20 students?  
Answer: The RFP proposal should be written towards the number of students per classroom the grant is intending to enroll.