

Fiscal Year 2026 Early CHOICES
Frequently Asked Questions
Updated 3/27/25

1. Who are eligible applicants?
 - Public school districts, Regional Offices of Education (ROEs), Intermediate Service Centers (ISCs), special education joint agreements and cooperatives, not-for-profit entities, public universities, public university laboratory schools approved by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), charter schools, and area vocational centers with the necessary expertise pursuant to this NOFO/RFP and demonstrated experience in providing technical assistance (TA) and training in Illinois are eligible to apply.
2. When is the due date?
 - The application is due by 4 p.m. on April 11, 2025.
3. How is this grant submitted?
 - Completed proposals should be scanned into PDF with all supporting documents and required signatures and submitted via the ISBE Attachment Manager. Choose “Early Childhood RFP” from the dropdown menu in Receiver Information. Submit the application using the button at the bottom of the page. The submission confirmation page should be printed and retained as proof of submission. Please contact earlychi@isbe.net PRIOR to the close of the NOFO/RFP if the ISBE Attachment Manager isn’t accepting applications
4. Will applicants receive a receipt of submission when grants are submitted through the ISBE Attachment Manager?
 - The system shows a confirmation message on the screen. Applicants may print this for records.
5. If the FY26 RFP award is made after the beginning of the fiscal year, will the grant be retroactive to July 1, 2025? *Added 3/18/25*
 - Yes, the grant period is for July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026.
6. What is the correct RFP application due date? ISBE’s Funding Opportunities Page had a different date listed than the RFP. *Added 3/27/25*

- The application is due by 4 p.m. on April 11, 2025. The Funding Opportunities Page has been corrected.