

FY 20 Teacher Leader Grant

Q & A

Question	Answer
Are districts the only eligible applicants? Are IHEs able to apply or do they simply partner with awardees?	Institutions of higher education are not eligible to directly apply for either RFP; however, they may serve as partners for either grant. The teacher leadership problems of practice RFP provides an opportunity for the grant recipient to partner with another educational agency (including an institution of higher education.)
Could grant include a college collaborator?	Yes, Colleges may partner with LEAs, however, the LEA must be the author and submitter of grant.
There were 472 people who completed programs. Is that a low number?	Not high or low, but a number ISBE wants to increase given the importance of TLs to schools, hence why this RFP is being released.
All of our schools qualify for SIG 1003(a) funds. Is it required to partner with a local university or could we consider a partner from the IL-EMPOWER approved providers?	It is not required of any grant applicant to have a university or IL-Empower approved provider as a partner.
I provide technical assistance to LEAs and state departments of education. My colleagues and I are interested in partnering with a LEA. Is that possible? And is there anything we should be aware of as we explore this?	Yes, it is possible for you to partner with a LEA. However, the LEA needs to be the primary author of the RFP and will serve as the fiscal agent for funds received. Include any individuals who will be involved over the term of the grant in the staffing plan section.
Is a group of National Board Certified teachers eligible to apply for the grant?	Yes, if the teachers have support from each of their administrators for pursuing this opportunity. The group would also need to identify a primary district through which the funds will flow- this district will be the applicant. If each school falls under a different Evidence-Based Funding Tier, a rationale should be included with the application stating which award amount (\$75,000 or \$50,000) the group is pursuing and why.
Can the problem of practice be utilizing National Board Certified teachers in roles outside the classroom?	Yes; problem will need to be framed in a way that addressed program requirements, local needs assessment, and other requirements of the RFSP.
Is the money for these grants in doubt? I noticed that Pritzker's budget zeroes out the line items for both the TL grants and the Residency program.	No, it is not in question. We requested an appropriation for each area but assumed we would not get one. We will be using Title II funds for both grants.

