

INDUCTION & MENTORING GRANT Q & A

Q. Can the total of 10 beginning teachers include both first and second year teachers?

A. Yes. Each beginning teacher must have, at the time he or she begins the program, less than two years' teaching experience and hold a Professional Educator License (PEL) endorsed for Early Childhood, Elementary, Secondary, Special (K-12), or Special (preschool-age 21). An individual seeking a Professional Educator License and holding an Educator License with Stipulations (ELS) endorsed for provisional educator (ELS PEDU) in Early Childhood, Elementary, Secondary, Special (K-12), or Special (preschool-age 21) also may participate if he or she has less than two years' teaching experience {Part 65 Administrative Rules {65.130} (c).

<http://www.isbe.net/rules/archive/pdfs/65ARK.pdf>

Q. Is there a way for an entity in the private sector to be able to mentor teachers and receive a grant?

A. A district may choose mentors in a manner that best suits its context and needs, as long as the process meets the mentor selection, assignment, and training and on-going development requirements as outlined in Part 65.150 (d). Eligible applicants specifically include school districts, public university laboratory schools approved by the Illinois State Board of Education, charter schools, cooperatives and other joint agreements with a governing body or board of control (e.g., area vocational centers, special education cooperatives), schools operated by a regional office of education, Intermediate Service Center or State agency.

An eligible applicant may also be a partnership of eligible entities, provided that:

- 1) an administrative agent is designated and the application is signed by the authorized official of each entity that is a participant; and
- 2) the school district or other eligible entity only participates in one proposal for a specific program.

Entities in the private sector may **not** receive any grant monies directly.

Q. We have a mentoring program under Title II, so, does the program have to be new to prevent supplanting?

A. The program must be new and cannot supplement any existing induction and mentoring program that a district currently has in place. It may, however, be utilized to expand a current program.

Q. With the time constraints of the first year of the grant, should the program be cut in half?

A. No. Grantees should budget the full \$1200 per new teacher for the year, but expend all monies by 6/30/2016.

Q. Is it of any benefit to partner with an organization that provides induction and mentoring?

A. No. Eligible entities are allowed to explore various resources to assist them in crafting a meaningful proposal. However, ISBE will not take into consideration any specific partnership or relationship that a district has established with any organization that provides resources.

Q. Is there a cap on how much to pay an external evaluator?

A. There is no requirement that entities utilize an external evaluator.