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MEMORANDUM NO. 2015-076

TO: School District Superintendents

School Principals

FROM: Karen Bierhaus, 21st CCLC Program Consultant

Accountability Division

DATE: July 13, 2015

SUBJECT: 21CCLC Cohort 11 Applicant Forms

21CCLC INTENT TO APPLY DEADLINE APPROACHING

Approximately \$700,000 will be available to support afterschool programming under the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21CCLC) federal grant program. Applicants are requested to submit an intent to apply no later than Monday, July 27, 2015. The Intent to Apply form is attached and will be available on the Wyoming Department of Education website.

The application will be available on the Grants Management System (GMS) in early August. A guide is available on the 21CCLC web page to provide potential applicants an outline of the information needed to complete it. Grant applications will need to be submitted through GMS within three weeks of the application release. The due date will be announced within the application and via email to all who file an Intent to Apply form.

The purpose of the 21CCLC program is to expand community learning centers that provide academic and enrichment opportunities during those times when school is not in session. Centers can be located in elementary or secondary schools, or other similarly accessible community facilities. Centers provide a range of high-quality services to support student learning and development.

Those services must include support and enrichment designed with clear academic outcomes. These may include tutoring, project-based learning with multiple academic contexts, mentoring, homework assistance, music, arts, sports, cultural activities, and service learning opportunities. All 21CCLC programs must also serve the families of

the program participants. The required family engagement plan must explain how programs intend to engage the families of 21CLCC participants for the purpose of increasing parent/family engagement in learning and developing resilience through positive home/school relationships.

Any public or private organization is eligible to apply for a 21CCLC grant. Examples of agencies and organizations eligible under the 21CCLC program include public schools and school districts, charter schools, private schools, non-profit agencies, city and county government agencies, faith-based organizations (including religious private schools), institutions of higher education, for-profit corporations, and others.

The statute requires eligible organizations applying for funds to collaborate with the schools that participating children attend. This statute also allows a consortium of two or more agencies, organizations or entities to apply.

Consistent with federal legislation, the Wyoming Department of Education must give priority to applications that primarily serve students who attend schools that are eligible as Schoolwide Title I programs, and/or have 40 percent or more of the student population eligible to receive free or reduced price lunches.

Additionally, priority will be given to projects that will serve children in schools designated as in need of improvement. Applications are required to show collaboration between the applicant (school district or organization) and local partners. Community-based organizations or public/private organizations are required to have a partnership with the school district they serve in order to facilitate alignment to the school day, data collection and reporting.

Eligible schools must have at least 25% of their student populations qualifying for the free and reduced price lunch program. To be considered "served", a program must commit to enroll at least 10% of the school population in the program proposed in the application. Other priorities are outlined within the application guide and project guidelines.

If you have any questions about the 21st Century Community Learning Center grant or application guide, please contact Karen Bierhaus at (307) 857-9284 or karen.bierhaus@wyo.gov.

Attachments: Intent to Apply Form