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MEMORANDUM NO. 2014-082

то:	School District Superintendents School Principals
FROM:	Karen Bierhaus, 21st CCLC Program Consultant Standards and Accountability
DATE:	July 14, 2014
SUBJECT:	21st Century Community Learning Centers - Upcoming Cohort 10 Competition Application

21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS -UPCOMING COHORT 10 COMPETITION APPLICATION

Letter of intent to apply is due by July 29, 2014

CHEYENNE - Approximately \$2.2 million will be available to support afterschool programming under the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21 CCLC) federal grant program. *Applicants are requested to submit an intent to apply no later than Monday, July 29, 2014.* The intent to apply form is attached. This form allows applicants and the Wyoming Department of Education to do a preliminary review of projects and targeted populations to avoid overlap, but is not a prerequisite to submitting a grant application. The form will also be available on the Wyoming Department of Education website:

http://edu.wyoming.gov/beyond-the-classroom/grants/21cclc/

An application guide is available on the <u>21 CCLC webpage</u> and will provide potential applicants an outline of the information needed to complete the online application when it becomes available on the Grants Management System (GMS) in early August. The turnaround time for the Cohort 10 application is shorter than in the past as the process is paperless. Grants will be due within three weeks of the application release on GMS. When the application becomes available an email notification will be sent to those who submitted an intent to apply form. The purpose of the 21 CCLC program is to establish or expand community learning centers that provide academic and enrichment opportunities along with activities designed to complement the regular academic program of students during those times when school is not in session (before and after school, holidays, weekends or summer recess).

Centers can be located in elementary or secondary schools or other similarly accessible community facilities and provide a range of high-quality services to support student learning and development.

Those services must include academic support tutoring and academic enrichment, and may include mentoring, homework assistance, music, arts, sports, cultural activities and service learning opportunities. At the same time, centers must design programs to engage the families of 21 CLCC participants for the purpose of increasing parent/family engagement in learning and developing resiliency through positive home/school relationships.

Any public or private organization is eligible to apply for a 21 CCLC grant. Examples of agencies and organizations eligible under the 21 CCLC program include, but are not limited to: public schools/school districts, charter schools, private schools, non-profit agencies, city or county government agencies, faith-based organizations (including religious private schools), institutions of higher education, and for-profit corporations.

The statute requires eligible organizations applying for funds to collaborate with the schools that participating children attend. The 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 those applications that primarily serve students who attend schools that are eligible as Title I schoolwide programs, and/or 40 percent or more of the student population is eligible to receive free or reduced price lunch.

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 data collection and reporting.

Please also note that to be eligible, all schools to be served in the application must have a student population that has a free and reduced price lunch percentage at or above 25 percent. To be considered "served", a program must commit to enrolling at least 10 percent 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 and/or application guide, please contact Karen Bierhaus: (307) 857-9284 or <u>karen.bierhaus@wyo.gov</u>.

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