

Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation
COVID-19 SCHOOL WELLNESS INITIATIVES

Frequently Asked Questions

6/16/2021

1. Are there guidelines for the MH provider if multiple schools want to collaborate?

Communities are welcome to determine the size of the partnerships for their proposal. A mental health provider may partner with one school, a group of schools, a whole district or several districts; as it makes sense for their geography. Mental health providers may also propose projects for more than one of the defined geographies.

2. Is it better to partner with multiple schools?

That depends on the goals of the project, the interventions selected and the audience for the intervention. There is no expectation from ILCHF related to the number of schools involved.

3. Is it better to have new or existing programs at schools?

The projects should bring either a new partnership between schools and mental health providers or expand on something that has been started.

4. One of our ideas is to create an advisory board for students/parents/teachers amongst the schools we provide services to. Is this within the scope of this grant opportunity?

If it related to supporting the wellness of these populations that would certainly be allowable.

5. Do we need a letter of support? What is needed to prove support/partnerships from the schools?

Yes. Attachment G in the RFP requires a letter of agreement from the leadership of the school partner that they will fully participate in the proposed project.

6. Is it anticipated that an additional round of funding will become available for northern counties in Illinois (Lake, McHenry, etc.) due to the high impact of the pandemic in these areas?

It is not anticipated that there will be additional rounds of funding to Lake or McHenry counties. Two counties, (Winnebago & Rock Island) in northern Illinois have been identified for funding.

7. Can you define mental health provider? Can hospitals, health clinics, etc. who are Medicaid-enrolled providers of mental health services as well as other services apply?

Mental health providers, for the sake of this RFP, must be non-profit organizations who are certified to bill Illinois Medicaid for mental health services. They do not need to be providers of solely mental health care.

8. May the approach utilized in the application provide for prevention, early intervention, and/or treatment level services to only one or two of the following children/youth, parents/caregivers, or school faculty/staff? In other words, can we provide the approach to only one or two of those groups of individuals rather than all 3?

The approach may involve one or more of the 3 levels of service, in any combination. The approach may also target any one or more of the proposed populations, in any combination.

9. To clarify regarding the evaluation piece, the lead applicant is not responsible for evaluating the program outcomes but for collecting data that will be used in the independent evaluation?

That is correct. ICLHF will be issuing an RFP to identify an independent evaluation team that will address both the Chicago and the Illinois CSWI initiatives. The lead applicant will be responsible for participating in a modest mixed-methods evaluation.

10. RFP Question C: should applicants include information on the theoretical framework of the model they plan to implement?

If there is a theoretical model that the project is implementing, it would be helpful to include the model and any supporting outcomes data.