



K12 SWP – Frequently Asked Questions

The following questions were gathered during the 2021/22 K12 SWP – Bidders’ Conference webinar. Questions submitted via the K12 SWP help desk will be addressed in a revised FAQ document and posted to the K12 SWP web page on Friday, October 1, 2021. If you have a question not covered by this document, please email K12SWP@cccco.edu.

Eligibility Requirements & Positive Considerations

1. If we are currently a lead LEA for the 2020-2021 K12 SWP award, are we eligible to apply for an additional award as a lead LEA under the 2021-2022 RFA?

Yes, you are eligible to apply as the lead LEA under the 2021-2022 RFA, but will not be eligible for New LEA positive consideration points. If the application introduces programs that create new pathways, the application will be eligible for those positive consideration points.

2. Can a new CTE program be introduced by an existing applicant and qualify for the Positive Consideration points?

Yes. As long as it aligns in partnership with a Community College/District and must be in a High-Wage Sector.

3. Can a Charter School network that has three high schools that fall under the network, qualify for the Positive Consideration points if only one of the high schools is a previous awardee of K12 SWP funds? Would the other 2 high schools be considered “new applicants”?

Yes, the 2 new high schools on the application are considered new and would qualify for the additional points.

4. If an LEA was included as a partner school in a previous round but did not receive funding directly (only services), are they considered a new applicant for the Positive Considerations?

Yes, you are considered a new applicant if you are requesting funds this round.

5. How is the 10 points for new programs fair to existing applicants?

This has no impact on existing applicants. In an effort to encourage applicants who have not applied in the past rounds and to also encourage existing applicants to develop new CTE pathways/programs, these incentive points are being given.

6. Is the language specific to these new “Positive Considerations” included in the legislation? How were the 2 new “Positive Considerations” identified?

Yes, Positive Considerations are included in the legislation. The Chancellor’s Office developed the two positive considerations through an iterative process with the field. After each round, the Chancellor’s Office requested and received feedback from the Selection Committees and all applicants, and these two considerations were highlighted in that feedback.

Partners

- 1. If an LEA was a partner agency in a prior year, but did not receive K12 SWP funds (only services), should it still identify as a past partner agency in the Pathway Identification section?**

No, if your LEA was not awarded funds in previous rounds, you are not required to identify as a Partner Agency in the Pathway Identification section.

- 2. Are Collaborative Partners eligible to receive funds?**

Collaborative Partners can only receive services and not funding. Collaborative Partners include businesses and industry organizations, workforce development agencies, government offices, and philanthropies, among others. Only Partner Agencies who's ADA was used in the application are eligible to receive K12 SWP funds.

- 3. Is it acceptable for the Partner Agency signature requirement to be a digital signature?**

Yes. Digital signatures will be accepted.

Average Daily Attendance

- 1. Is the split along applicants ADA new this year?**

No. These funding distributions were used in previous rounds as well.

- 2. Does the ADA consider District or Site Numbers?**

NOVA calculates the ADA of the LEA applying. Under legislation those LEAs can consist of Districts, Regional Occupation Center or Program (ROC/P), Charter Schools, or County Offices of Education (COE).

Financial Match

- 1. Why is the requirement for a 2:1 LEA match when the Strong Workforce Program does not require a match from the Community Colleges?**

This requirement is in legislation and we do not have the authority to change that, per Education Code, Sections 88828, (c)(1)(A)(B).

- 2. What is in-kind match?**

In-kind match can be classified as non-monetary donations, staff time, facilities, and use of equipment. In-kind match is not allowed per the legislation for this program.

- 3. Has there been any advancement in conversations relating to match from the Community Colleges? Some applicants are able to get match from their Community College(s) while other applicants are not able to get match from their Community College(s).**

LEAs are encouraged to have planning conversations with their local Community College partners to obtain match for these grants. The ability to provide SWP match dollars to an SWP K12 proposal is a local decision. Therefore, LEAs are encouraged to establish partnerships in advance of funding cycles to have the ability to access SWP dollars.

4. Which school year does the match need to come from?

Match funds need to come from the same year as the K12 SWP funding.

Reporting

1. During the presentation, it was mentioned that quarterly reporting was going to be required, but in the RFA it is stated that 5 Progress and Expenditure Reports via the NOVA system, 3 Annual Course Data Reports via Cal-PASS Plus, and 1 Final Expenditure and Outcome Report via the NOVA system would be required?

The slides did not reflect the new reporting deadlines. Progress and Expenditure reporting will be on a bi-annual timeline.

General Questions

1. Do we have to wait until Spring/Fall 2022 to create the new pathways or are pathways new this fall fundable for their second semester?

The performance period for the Round 4 K12 Strong Workforce Program begins in January 2022 and these grant funds cannot be allocated for an activity until the performance period begins.

2. Do the new pathways have to be new to the LEA or can they be new to a specific site?

“New” can be new to the school and/or district, but must align in partnership with a Community College/District and must be in a high-wage sector.

3. With it being a requirement in the RFA, how should ROC/Ps proceed without being penalized since they are unable to access Cal-PASS Plus?

ROC/Ps will not be penalized. ROC/Ps are required to identify the district that will report the required data into Cal-PASS Plus.

4. Can funds be used for TK-12?

K12 Strong Workforce Program funds can only be used to improve, expand, or develop new CTE pathways/programs for grades 7-12.

5. If we plan on working on all 4 strategies, do we just list one, or can we list all 4?

Yes, you may list all 4 strategies.

6. When we enter the strategies, do we put the strategies we are using the funds for, or the strategies for our program in the 2021-22 school year? For example, if we are adding a pathway, but we are using other funds for that, should we mention that?

You are not required to list the pathway if you are using other funds. You are encouraged to share how the K12 Strong Workforce Program is leveraging other resources.