



Requirements for Illinois 21st CCLC Programs

Program Goals and Objectives

- Program activities and services are designed to improve student academic achievement, particularly in core learning areas, and to assist students in meeting Illinois Learning Standards (ILS) and local standards.
- Program is designed to reach targeted students and their families (i.e., secures the regular participation of those students and their families).
- Program supports college and career readiness skills for all students engaged in the program.
- Program promotes parent involvement, family literacy, and related educational development activities.

Responsiveness

- Program addresses needs in a culturally competent and developmentally appropriate manner to improve the academic performance of students.
- Program meets the needs of working families and students.
- Program ensures that families are able to participate regardless of fees, if charged.
- Program addresses the needs of homeless, neglected, delinquent, and migrant students and their families.

Program Management

- Program management plan and timeline outline how program goals and objectives will be achieved within established timeframe and budget parameters.
- Program has processes for recruitment and retention of students, especially for those students most in need of program services.
- Program incorporates innovative and promising practices to support the enhancement of students' academic, social, and career skills.
- Program supplements rather than supplants programs already being provided to improve student achievement.
- Programming efforts contribute to accomplishing program goals and objectives relative to performance measures and indicators.
- Program activities and services meet principles of effectiveness:
 - Identification of needs based on assessing objective data
 - Use of performance measures aimed at ensuring high-quality enrichment opportunities
 - Use of scientifically based research to provide evidence that the program or activity will help students meet the Illinois Learning Standards and local academic achievement standards.

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Program Staff

- Program staff receive professional development to assure their success in providing educational and related activities and in service to the continuous improvement and sustainability of the program.
- Detailed job descriptions are in place for all positions related to the project.
- Program has in place a plan for using volunteers, if applicable.

Program Partnerships

- For jointly run programs (i.e., partnerships between LEAs and non-LEAs), a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) delineating the roles of each co-applicant is in effect.
- Program partners are committed to sustain the project after the grant has expired.
- Program partners and subcontractors work as a team to ensure that project goals and objectives are accomplished.

Communication

- Program information is disseminated to the community in a manner that is easily understandable and accessible.
- Program has in place a plan for school-day connections and collaboration.

Accessibility

- Program operates in a safe and easily accessible environment meeting local standards and codes for public facilities.
- Program policy is in place regarding how participating students will travel safely to and from the center and home.
- Transportation costs for clearly and appropriately related project activities may be covered for program participants.