

Bidder's Notice: July 13, 2022

New York State
Office of Children and Family Services
Division of Child Welfare and Community Services
Bureau of Program and Community Development

Grant Procurement

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP # 1080
Grants Gateway # CFS01-FOC-2022

Family Opportunity Centers

This notice is being issued to focus attention on important information regarding the Family Opportunity Centers RFP # 1080.

To be considered for funding:

- 1) Eligible applicants must be one of the following to receive **OCFS funding**:
 - community-based or faith-based not-for-profit organizations, or
 - public agencies. For the purposes of this RFP, "public agency" shall mean a local office, board, department, bureau, commission, division, agency, or other instrumentality of local government, or
 - public educational institutions (including school districts, Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), and individual elementary, middle, or high schools) serving students of any age and their families.

Applicants who meet the above requirements and the additional requirement below are eligible for **NYSED funding**:

- NYS school districts (not individual middle or high schools), that have a 2019-20 economically disadvantaged student rate above the State average (55.6%) and are proposing to start a FOC program to serve middle and junior high school students and their families for the purposes of supporting student mental health or school climate through activities including but not limited to school mental health centers and school and family engagement resources. However, a school district may be awarded a maximum of \$200,000 per year of NYSED funding even if the district's boundaries include more than one county.

Please note: State agencies and for-profit entities are not eligible to apply.

- 2) **For OCFS funds:** Applicant must propose to serve one or more of the fifty-seven counties outside of New York City for OCFS funds or **for NYSED Funds:** a school district that has a 2019-20 economically disadvantaged student rate above the State average (55.6%) for NYSED funds. See **RFP Section 2.3** for a full list of eligible counties for OCFS funds and **Attachment 9** for school districts eligible for NYSED funds.
- 3) Not-for Profit applicants must be prequalified, if not exempt, in the NYS Grants Gateway on the application deadline. (See **Section 3.2** for additional information)
- 4) To demonstrate alignment with local social service district strategies/priorities, applicants must collaborate with each LDSS the FOC proposes to serve to jointly identify service gaps and community needs. To comply with this requirement an LDSS Commitment Form must be completed by each LDSS for each county the applicant proposes to serve (using **Attachment 1**) and submitted with the application. These forms must be submitted in the “Pre-submission Uploads” section of your online application in the NYS Grants Gateway. If additional upload slots are required, the “Grantee Document Folder” may be used for subsequent LDSS Commitment Forms.
- 5) Applicants must submit Letters of Commitment from the local school district(s), and other local community partners, including domestic violence support services and substance abuse treatment providers they are proposing to partner with (using **Attachment 2**).

Please Note: The letters must specify areas of agreement and cooperation as well as the responsibilities of the partners, including sharing of space, service provisions, referral, and involvement in project development. Letters of Commitment are not letters of support.

- 6) Applicant must propose to implement a Family Opportunity Center that operates as explained in **Section 4.1 Desired Outcomes and Program Requirements**.
- 7) Applicant must agree to use funding to provide primary and/or secondary prevention services as described in this RFP only and will not fund child protective services, foster care services, mandated preventive services, or any other services otherwise available through the LDSS or school district.
- 8) Applicant must propose to implement an evidence-based model/curriculum rated as well-supported, supported, or promising in either the California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare (CEBC) or Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse (IV-E) as identified in **Attachment 6**. Applicants that propose to implement a model/curriculum that rated as promising in both clearinghouses must include an evaluation plan to assess the project’s efficacy in meeting the RFP’s desired outcomes.

- 9) Applicant must agree to enter participant-level data into the OCFS Prevention Database within established time frames and participate in all continuous quality improvement and evaluation activities directed and/or led by OCFS.
- 10) Applicants must agree to implement the Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening and Support.

Please note:

- Proposed budget should reflect a one-year period consisting of the first year of **March 1, 2023 to February 29, 2024** of your proposed project. New FOC projects may apply for up to the maximum award amount indicated for each county or school district proposed to be serve as listed in the FOC chart and discussion in **RFP Section 2.3**. School District applicants cannot receive more than \$200,000 per year of NYSED funding.
- A local match is not required; however, programs are encouraged to include additional financial and/or in-kind services (unpaid work).