

ND CLIMBS EPP & LEA Partnership Project Grant Q & A

This FAQ is based on questions the NDDPI has received regarding the EPP & LEA elementary and secondary project grants. If you have any questions not addressed in this document, please email Brenda Ehrmantraut at blehemantraut@nd.gov.

Eligible Entities

Q: Should a district submit both elementary and secondary applications or choose one or the other?

We encourage all eligible interested partners to apply. If a partnership has interest in both levels, then it is encouraged they apply for both grants. Each application will be judged in its own category; whether you apply for one or both grants will not impact the judging.

Q: Is there a preference on whether the partnership is with one school or a consortium of schools?

There is no preference. Eligible applicants can present their own vision of the team they will build to carry out this work.

Q: Could an eligible entity (LEA) work with more than one EPP?

Yes. Applicants could provide a vision for this in their application.

Budget

Q: For the budget form, do we plan out the entire \$175,000, or just the first year? Is it better to just map that out right away and do a revision (if needed) later, or should some go in unobligated to be planned out later?

Provide a categorical budget for the full amount you are requesting that shows a strong projection of how the funds will be used to support your project plans. Asking for an unobligated amount won't demonstrate your vision. Amendments will be allowed.

Q: Will carryover be allowed?

Under the current CLSD guidelines, carryover is allowed. In transparency, be aware that the CLSD project is slated to move from the US Department of Education to the Department of Labor this year. We are not sure what procedures that may impact, but it is possible that carryover processes could be impacted. We would, of course, notify all grantees of changes as soon as any official notices or guidelines are issued by the federal government.

Q: Since funds would come through the LEA, how would EPPs receive their funds?

This could happen through a contracting process.

Use of Funds

Q: Is this grant meant to work on recruiting new people to come work at the school and go into a teaching program?

This grant is not primarily a recruiting project, but that may be a side benefit. This project is to build collaboration between an educator preparation program and a school to improve the teacher preparation experience and build retention.

Q: Can this be a para-to-teacher pipeline?

That is not the focus of this grant. This grant focuses on the partnerships between the staff at the EPP and LEA.