



**EVERY CHILD COUNTS COMMUNITY GRANTS INITIATIVE 2003-05
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs) FROM 12/19/02 PARTNERSHIP GRANTS INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

Types of Requests

1. Q: Under which funding priority should a mental health program that is not doing work in the child care setting apply?

A: Mental health programs not qualifying for the Partnership Grants Programs may submit a proposal under the Innovative Services funding priority of the grants program. If the mental health services include and involve parents to a significant degree, they may be submitted under the Parenting priority area.

2. Q: Can I apply for a Partnership Grant that has both school readiness and mental health components?

A: Partnership applicants should apply under **either** neighborhood-based school readiness or early childhood mental health, whichever is the predominant service being provided. However, a school readiness partnership proposal may have elements of early childhood mental health services.

3. Q: One of the strategies listed for school readiness partnership grants includes the implementation of a Saturday preschool. Can you speak to what exactly you are looking for?

A: We have found and heard from several agencies that families who do not have children participating in a traditional childcare setting are interested in having their children attend a Saturday preschool to gain a structured school readiness experience. It is important that you research the feasibility and need for such a program or any program you apply for, before you submit a proposal.

Technical Assistance Requirement for Partnership Grantees

1. Q: If funded, at what level is an agency expected to commit to ECC regarding technical assistance and training?

A: An agency is expected to commit to 20 hours/week of training for the first 2 months and one day a month for the term of the grant. In addition, partnership grantees are required to fulfill baseline requirements established for all grantees which include attendance at mandatory trainings and cooperation with tobacco compliance issues during the grant term.

2. Q: How many representatives are expected to attend the intensive training?

A: It is our expectation that one person participate per agency, however, we are open to having more than one person participate in the training if that is deemed appropriate and beneficial to the program.

3. Q: During the 2 month intensive training period, are you expecting any direct service development?

A: We are expecting minimal direct service development during that time. We are well aware of the start-up time involved in implementing a new program and will provide technical assistance around that.

4. Q: For grantees who have a continuing program, will a 2 month break be incorporated into the program?

A: The intensity of the training will be shaped by which agencies are funded to participate. The technical assistance also involves one-on-one meetings and site visits, so 3 days per week would not necessarily be devoted to the off-site classroom training component of the partnership grants program.

5. Q: Will the intensive training include all of the new grantees?

A: No, only Partnership grantees are required to attend.

6. Q: In regards to tracking common performance measures if funded, is it possible to see what the ECC accountability framework looks like?

A: The accountability framework is posted on our website. We will be reviewing it to see if there are outcomes that need to be added that may be relevant to the Partnership grantees. Once agencies are funded, we will come together as a group to determine the outcomes and performance measures that can be commonly tracked.

Funding and Review Process

1. Q: ECC has identified 3 funding priorities. How many agencies will you fund under each of the different priorities?

A: We expect to fund approximately 15 parenting programs, 5 innovative services programs and 10 partnership grants.

2. Q: What is ECC's philosophy on serving low-incidence populations? My agency serves the deaf and hard of hearing and I'm wondering how competitive my proposal will be.

A: ECC is committed to serving the general population of special needs children. In past grant years, we have funded several programs focused on low-incidence populations.

3. Q: The RFP states that ECC will seek to fund approximately 5 grants in each of the Partnership program areas. Is there a specific number of families that ECC seeks to impact with this funding?

A: ECC has not identified a specific number of families that will be impacted by this funding. It is our philosophy that as many families as possible should be served but other factors are considered.

4. Q: Who will review the proposals?

A: ECC grants staff and directors as well as a community-based review panel consisting of parents, experts in children's issues and involved citizens with experience in grant making will review all proposals.

Additional Questions

1. Q: How does ECC define the parameters of East Oakland?

A: With respect to the neighborhood-based school readiness grants, East Oakland is defined as the area immediately surrounding the target elementary schools identified by ECC in the Eastmont area based on their Academic Performance Index scores and the related needs of the surrounding communities. These schools are Parker Elementary, Markham Elementary, and Webster Academy. For specific mapping of this area, visit the Oakland Unified School District website at <http://mapstacker.ousd.k12.ca.us/MapStacker.htm> and type in a school's name where prompted to get the boundary map for each school.

2. Q: How does ECC define the parameters of South Hayward?

A: With respect to the neighborhood-based school readiness grants, South Hayward includes the Harder-Tennyson area as well as the neighborhoods surrounding John Muir Elementary located on Soto Road near Winton Avenue and Burbank Elementary located on B Street near Mission Avenue.