

**Family and Community Engagement Program (FCEP)
2021-2025
A New York State My Brother's Keeper Initiative**

Questions and Answers

1. Are elementary school district eligible to apply for the FCEP grant? I asked, due to the eligibility criteria that states, "four-year August graduation rate of less than 90% at least once during the 2015-16 through 2018-19 school years."

Yes

2. I am writing on behalf of a non-profit agency. We recently discovered this grant and just wanted to clarify who is eligible to apply.

Only New York State public school districts are eligible to apply. Partnership agreements are required as part of the application. The partners are the applicant school district or BOCES and any tribal government, local (town or village government), Chamber of Commerce, business, community-based organizations, and institutions of higher education taking an active role in the implementation of the program.

3. Regarding the data to be used to determine eligibility, should the ELL and FRPL% data be the 2018-19 school year data? On page 2, in the REMEMBER note, it states 2015-19 school year data.

Districts can use eligibility data from any school -year from 2015-16 through 2018-19 school years.

4. My question is, can a community-based organization obtain funding for this worthy endeavor?

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5. Are there programs to help create a successful application?

The RFP provides the following resources; The New York State Education Department My Brother's Keeper Guidance Document: Emerging Practices for Schools and Communities, as well as the Dual-Capacity Building Framework as

outlined by the U.S. Department of Education (<https://www.dualcapacity.org/>) to serve as the model for implementation. (Page 8-9)

6. Can a non-educational organization win such a grant?

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7. Can Community Based Organizations that provide services in transfer schools apply for this grant?

Only New York State public school districts can apply. Partnership agreements are required as part of the application.

8. I am currently looking at the MBK application to see if my district applies. For clarification, if I look at the requirements for a single school district applying, it appears that we would qualify. Is this only for students of color or any student in a school district that fits the requirements as outlined in 1a below:

1. New York State public school districts which meet the following criteria may submit individual applications:

a) School districts must have a Free & Reduced-Price Lunch (FRPL) eligibility rate greater than 55% of district enrollment, an English Language Learner (ELL) enrollment rate greater than 1%, and a four-year August graduation rate of less than 90% at least once during the 2015-16 through 2018-19 school years.

New York State public school districts which meet the criteria may submit individual applications. The My Brother's Keeper initiative is a targeted initiative to improve outcomes for boys and young men of color but eligibility is not limited to boys and young men of color.

9. Do the activities of the grant need to take place in every school in a district applying for the funding or can the activities take place in the designated community schools in the district?

Applicants can determine which individual schools in their districts receive services.

10. The due date for this application is indicated on the application as February 1st and on the NYSED website as February 21st. What is the actual due date?

*The due date is February 1, 2021. Please the following link for more details.
<http://www.nysed.gov/mbk/my-brothers-keeper-family-and-community-engagement-program-fcep>*

11. On page 2 of the document it states "Public charter schools, non-public schools and home-school groups or associations are not eligible to apply for these funds." Is this specific to New York City school or all New York State schools?

All of New York State.

12. Can Community Based Organizations that provide services in transfer schools?

Only New York State public school districts are eligible to apply. Partnership agreements are required as part of the application. The partners are the applicant school district or BOCES and any tribal government, local (town or village government), Chamber of Commerce, business, community-based organizations, and institutions of higher education taking an active role in the implementation of the program.

13. Given that the program aims to maximize partnerships with community-based not-for-profits, which are not eligible for MWBE designation, could payments to these organizations be excluded from the discretionary non-personal service budget?

Yes

14. Are special act school districts eligible as public schools, or ineligible as part of the non-district unit supervisory group?

New York State special act districts are eligible for the grant.

15. In determining eligibility through graduation rates, may special act school districts include Article 81 and Article 89 students in this calculation, or only one group or the other (e.g. 0011 or 0055 as per SIRS)?

Only the following SIRS student codes are included in the graduation rates.

0011 - Enrollment in building or grade

5544 - Transferred in under the ESEA Title I School in Improvement Status

7000 - Transferred in under the ESEA Persistently Dangerous School

7011 - Transferred in under the ESEA Victim of Serious Violent Incident

16. A non-profit that empowers technologists of color, we would like to know if the application process is still open for the grant opportunity below.

Family and Community Engagement Program (FCEP), 2021-2025 A New York State My Brother's Keeper Initiative

The application is open until February 1, 2021. Only New York State public school districts can apply but partnership agreements are required as part of the application.

17. Is it possible for a school district foundation to apply for this funding to manage this program in partnership with the school district?

Only New York State public school districts are eligible to apply. Partnership agreements are required as part of the application. The partners are the applicant school district or BOCES and any tribal government, local (town or village government), Chamber of Commerce, business, community-based organizations, and institutions of higher education taking an active role in the implementation of the program.

18. This application applies to boys and young men of color only? we cannot include girls and young women?

No gender restrictions are written in the grant. The My Brother's Keeper initiative is a targeted initiative to improve outcomes for boys and young men of color but it is not limited to boys and young men of color.

19. Can the local charter schools be included as part of our consortium?

No, public charter schools, non-public schools and home-school groups or associations are not eligible to apply for these funds. All other consortium members (BOCES Component Districts) must be eligible for the grant as defined by the procurement criteria.

20. If we already have a MBK grant, can we apply for this one?

Yes

21. What is a NYS Vendor ID number? Do public schools have NYS vendor ID numbers?

The Vendor ID is a ten-digit identifier issued by New York State when the vendor, municipality, or other payee is registered on the Statewide Vendor File. Public school districts have a vendor ID.

22. Is the budget narrative for the first year only or should it cover all four years?

Applicants must submit an FS-10 budget and narrative with this application for the initial 12-month project period.

23. The RFP indicates that the FS-10 should reflect the initial 12-month period. Does the State expect a 4-year Budget Narrative or just for the initial 12-month period?

Applicants must submit an FS-10 budget and narrative with this application for the initial 12-month project period

24. Is the cost for a contracted third-party evaluator an allowable cost for the project?

Yes

25. Can you clarify the difference between the Mandatory Partnership Agreement and the Consortium Partnership Agreement? Are both required for the application?

Partnership Agreements are mandatory for all applications. A consortium agreement is only required if applying as a consortium.

Partnership agreements are required as part of the application. The partners are the applicant school district or BOCES and any tribal government, local (town or village government), Chamber of Commerce, business, community-based organizations, and institutions of higher education taking an active role in the implementation of the program.

If applying as a consortium, a Consortium Partnership agreement is required which requires consortium partners to sign an agreement with the fiscal agent that specifically outlines all services each partner agrees to provide.

If applying as a consortium, both Partnership Agreement and Consortium Agreements are required.

26. Are the Mayor or equivalent municipality elected official, local business/CBO, and Institution of post secondary education all mandatory required partners?

*Applications must include a Partnership Agreement signed by all partners (minimum of Superintendent, and **at least one** Mayor or equivalent municipality elected official, a local business/community-based organization or postsecondary institution senior administrator) to be reviewed for consideration.*

27. Does the Executive Summary count towards the 10 page Proposal Narrative page count?

Yes

28. Can you clarify the difference between the Organizational Chart requested in section C. 4. ii. and F.2.?

Section C. 4. ii. in Organizational Background: A Family and Community Engagement Program organizational chart including all program-related personnel. (This chart shows the organizational structure of the FCEP staff.)

Section F.2 in Project Staffing and Management: Provide an organizational chart which indicates the management structure of the program within the district. (This chart shows the management structure at the district level.)

29. On page 2-3 of the RFP cover sheet and in the sample Partnership agreement, there are several partners listed. Are all of the listed partners required or can the partnerships include only those that are relevant to the project?

*Applications must include a Partnership Agreement signed by all partners (minimum of Superintendent, and **at least one** Mayor or equivalent municipality elected official, a local business/community-based organization or postsecondary institution senior administrator) to be reviewed for consideration.*

30. When calculating the needs based points for the application, are all the required years averaged to create a score or is the score the latest data year?

All years are required. The Need Based Score Calculations will be determined by the chart on page 46 of the RFP. Scores will be averaged together to formulate a need base score.

31. Must all grades (K-12) be included in the first year of the proposed program or can the program start with a smaller grade range that is scaled up in subsequent years?

You can add more grades in subsequent years.

32. Can the salary for the FCEP Director's supervisor be included in the 25% match?

No, FCEP funds cannot be used to pay for the salary or stipend of the FCEP Director's Supervisor or someone designated as a Principal Investigator for the grant, and therefore should not be included in the match.

33. Are the charts required to use the 12pt. font?

Charts/tables are not required to adhere to this standard.

34. Attachment 4: Instructions for the attachment say make as many copies as needed and then say one page per goal. Which is correct? Can you use more than one page per goal?

Make as many copies of the forms as needed.

35. There is no column for Objectives on attachment 4. Should we add a column for Objectives? Or should we combine Objectives with Strategies?

Combine objectives with strategies

36. Some of our IHE partners have requested a 6 -week time period to have partnership agreements approved. This includes a legal review. Given the timelines on this application, the fact that IHEs have been on break for at least the last two weeks and will continue their break into January, we would like to request an extension to allow us time to work with our IHE partners.

No extensions are being granted at this time.

37. Will you accept an application that target girls and boys of color for the 2021 FCEP?

The My Brother's Keeper initiative is a targeted initiative to improve outcomes for boys and young men of color but it is not limited to boys and young men of color.

38. Does a district have to be partnered with a BOCES and a community organization?

New York State public school districts which meet the criteria may submit individual applications.

-OR-

New York State public school districts which meet the above criteria may apply as a consortium of up to 4 School districts and submit a single application with their member BOCES.

Partnership agreements are required as part of the application. The partners are the applicant school district or BOCES and any tribal government, local (town or village government), Chamber of Commerce, business, community-based organizations, and institutions of higher education taking an active role in the implementation of the program

39. Must a district meet all four years of free/reduced lunch at 55% or more? What if two years are 53% and 48%?

Districts can use eligibility data from any school -year from 2015-16 through 2018-19 school years.

40. Must a district provide PD to all staff and support of the implement of the Dr. K. Mapp Dual capacity Framework districtwide over all four years or each year?

Professional development (PD) will be provided throughout the life of the project to develop the interpersonal and relationship building skills of school personnel.

41. Our district doesn't support the use of thumb drives so I will have to get creative with transferring the files.

The application should include one electronic copy of the complete application on CD or flash drive.

42. I do not have the following information. The "Agency Code". Contract #, and Project Codes they are requesting for the Budget Summary section of the FS-10.

The agency code is the 12-digit BEDS code number assigned by the SED P-12/IRS program office or the Inst ID code populated in for all other institutions.

This grant doesn't have assigned Contract #'s.

The project code is assigned once grants are awarded.