

**RFP #GC20-009 - New York State Integration Project –
Professional Learning Community (NYSIP-PLC) Grant
Phase III, 2020–2023**

Questions and Answers

- 1. The RFP identifies as an unallowable cost “anything for school level programs or activities for schools not identified as in need of improvement.” Our district’s plan, developed through participation in Phase I and Phase II, is designed to encourage greater integration by strengthening programs and services in schools with high concentrations of targeted students (i.e., students of color, ELL/MLLs, etc.). Several low-performing schools with the very highest concentrations were required to close last year, and reopen in the fall of 2019. As ‘new’ schools, they are no longer identified as being in need of improvement, yet they serve the same population of children with extraordinary need. Can some of the NYSIP Phase III funds be used to support these schools?**

A: No, as indicated on page 35 of the Request for Proposals, NYSIP-PLC Phase III funds may not be used for school level programs or activities for schools not identified as in need of improvement. Awarded funds may only be used to support activities in schools identified as Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and/or Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) based on 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 determinations.

- 2. Are districts allowed to use funds to pay for contracted services for training and coaching of staff on implementation of integration strategies and relevant activities as they relate to changes in school and classroom composition and the application of culturally responsive-sustaining practices in order to improve student achievement?**

A: Yes, districts are allowed to use NYSIP-PLC Phase III grant funds for those purposes. Such activities should be clearly detailed and supported within the application narrative.