

## AEFLA Bidder's Conference

I want to thank everybody for joining us on our AEFLA Bidders conference.

I realize a few more people are still coming in, and I would like to ask that you check your name on the registry on the Zoom window so we can make sure that we have an accurate understanding of who's here with us today.

So, it's not a phone number or just a partial name.

That would be very helpful.

We have a lot to cover.

I'm going to start promptly.

This recording will be housed upon completion.

Give us a day or two to get it prepped and ready for the Internet, and we'll have it posted online so you can go back and look at it as you are continuing through this process.

I want to thank you all for joining.

This is Kathy Olesen-Tracy.

For those who may not know me, I am the Senior Director for Adult Education and Literacy at the Illinois Community College Board, and I am joined by Rupa Sameer, the Director for Adult Education and Literacy, also at the Illinois Community College Board.

And we are supported by the Southern Illinois Professional Development Center, part of our PDN.

I want to thank everybody for helping pull this together so that we can get you the best information that is necessary so that you are aware of all processes.

Today we will be talking about the AEFLA competitive grant.

I will be reading these.

I know I don't tend to like to do that, but for future review and ADA compliance, I will be reading a bit of the information off of the slides.

This grant is from the Illinois Community College Board, CSFA number 684011625, CFDA number 84.002.

The grant period for this grant is July 1, 2026, with the original year plus a 1-year renewal.

So the grant will go from July 1, 2026, through June 30th, 2028.

Our estimated funding at this time for FY27 is approximately \$55 million.

Once we have final allocations from both our federal partners and our state, we will share that information with all applicants.

OK

The purpose of this grant is to solicit applications for federal and state adult education funds.

The purpose of adult education is to assist adults in becoming literate and obtaining the knowledge and skills necessary for employment and self-sufficiency.

We are working with adults who are parents or family members in obtaining education and skills that are necessary to become full partners in the educational development of their children and lead to sustainable improvements in the economic opportunities for their families.

We are working with adults in attaining a secondary school diploma and transitioning to postsecondary education and training, including through career pathways, and working with

immigrants and other individuals who are English language learners in improving their reading, writing, speaking, and comprehension skills in English, mathematics.

And we're also helping them acquire an understanding of the American system of government, individual freedoms, and the responsibilities of citizenship.

Through this competitive process, ICCB also seeks to strengthen the area planning councils through accountability and to also improve regional coordination and ensure adult education services are aligned with career pathways, workforce demands, credential attainment and measurable outcomes.

The first step in being an eligible applicant is demonstrated effectiveness.

To be eligible for funding under this Notice of funding opportunity, the applicant must meet demonstrated effectiveness per CFR per 34 CFR 463.24.

This is the law.

There's a form in the application packet called Demonstrated Effectiveness.

You must have a minimum three-year rolled up measurable skill gain rate of 25% and that illustrates effectiveness in improving reading, writing, mathematics and English language acquisition skills.

Applicants that failed to meet the Demonstrated effectiveness requirements will not be reviewed or scored.

I will speak to this multiple times through the bidder's conference, but we have one AEFLA program, but there are three funding streams and they will come to programs in two separate awards.

There will be the WIOA Title 2 AFLA award that consists of our federal basic allocation and 25% of our state basic funds.

That is a required state match.

That is the first bucket.

The second bucket is the non-state supported adult education programs.

That is 75% of our state basic funds plus your state performance funds.

Please be aware there are two funding opportunities, one umbrella program.

Title 2 funded programs with a minimum of two full years of data in the Illinois State Data System will be funded in accordance with the funding formula outlined in the Illinois Adult Education and Literacy Provider Manual.

This includes programs eligible for the WIOA Title 2 funding, the non-state match funding, and performance funding.

Programs without 2 full years of historical data in our state data system are considered new programs and will be funded using a cost per student calculation methodology until at least one full year of performance data has been collected and validated in our state data system.

New programs are eligible for the WIOA Title 2 funding and the Non-State Match funding.

And remember, funding determinations remain subject to availability of state and federal appropriations.

Eligible applicants for WIOA funding include, per Section 203 of WIOA, local educational agencies, community-based organizations, volunteer literacy organizations, institutions of higher education, public or private nonprofit agencies, public housing authorities, nonprofit institutes that are not described above and have the ability to provide adult education and literacy activities.

Consortia of eligible providers.

I will note if you are applying as a consortia, all consortia members and their roles, responsibilities must be identified.

Consortia and Partnerships Consortia and partnerships are within the area.

Planning councils are encouraged.

Applicants proposing consortia must identify a lead agency responsible for the fiscal, programmatic and data accountability on behalf of all of the consortia partners.

The funding includes AEFLA 231.

This funding for both the WIOA Title 2 and non-state match will be used to fulfill the requirements under WIOA 231 with the exception of those identified as state only activities.

Programs with funding will be expected to provide adult education and literacy instruction which includes ABE, ASE, English as a second language English language acquisition.

We are to provide either bridge or workplace literacy programming.

Your Bridge programming are instructional strategies to provide learners with on ramps to postsecondary education training and integrated career and preparation system programming.

Workplace adult education programs are partnerships with employers.

We will provide English language acquisition instruction and provide integrated career and academic preparation system instruction, federally referred to as IETS.

Within the same application process.

You may answer and address questions specific to AEFLA.

Section 225.

Corrections Education for providers serving corrections education the WIOA a title 2 and non-state match funds shall be used to cover costs of educational program for criminal offenders in correctional institutions and for their institutionalized individuals, including academic programs for adult education and literacy, special education as determined by the eligible agency, secondary school credit, integrated education and training, career pathways, concurrent enrollment, peer tutoring and transition to reentry initiatives and other post release services with the goal of reducing recidivism.

The individuals eligible for service under this Notice of Funding include individuals who have attained 16 years of age, who is not enrolled or required to be enrolled in secondary school under state law and to is basic skills deficient, does not have a secondary school diploma recognized equivalent and has not achieved an equivalent level of education, or they are an English language learner.

The required services under this grant application include direct instruction leading to increase in education functioning levels to eligible adult learners with paid and qualified instructors.

Instructional services must be aligned and delivered in coordination with the Area Planning Council priorities to support regional alignment and learner transitions.

Requests for APC plans for funded providers should be directed to your APC.

For programs not currently funded, request your area's APC by contacting Rupa Sameer no later than April 17th.

It is required that programs are built on the Illinois Adult Education, ABE/ASE and ESL standards and the Illinois Career Cluster Framework to ensure students are college and workplace ready.

Integrated distance learning programs to address barriers to in class participation and include technology focused instruction to improve learning and the skills necessary for success of students in adult education and their transitions to post secondary education and employment.

To utilize evidence based practice and integrated teaching methodologies that may include multilingual approaches based on research.

To improve English language acquisition and prepare students for college and career readiness.

Ensure 100% of adult learners receive the required assessments within the ICCB Assessment Policy and ensure post testing rates meet the expected targets outlined in the performance section.

And we are to scale effective strategies including the required bridge programs and integrated career and academic preparation system or other approved integrated models that meet the required guidelines of the ICCB.

OK, there's gonna be time for questions.

I promise.

The required services also include the expansion on ICAPS offering industry focused curricula aligned with state and regional labor market information and developed in coordination with the Area Planning Council partners to ensure alignment with the regional workforce demand and pathway opportunities.

To utilize data from the State Management information system to improve instruction and services to ensure performance.

Accountability to prioritize training, transitioning students to post secondary training and degree attainment, industry recognized credential attainment and or employment.

To establish a partnership with core and regional partners, including those identified through the Area Planning Council, to ensure coordinated student support services that improve retention, persistence, and transitions to education, training and employment.

To participate in regular APC data review and planning activities including shared analysis of enrollment, persistence and outcome data to inform regional continuous improvement and coordinated service delivery.

As you can hear, what we are focusing on is high quality instruction, student outcomes, measurable student gains, integrated education and training programs, stackable credentials and sustainable employment.

We do not yet have our state fiscal year 27 performance targets, so we will use the state fiscal year 26 targets as a starting point.

As soon as we have updated targets, we will let everyone know.

So building off of what we did, we would look at employment second quarter after exit of 31.5%, employment fourth quarter after exit 30.5%, median earnings 6150 dollars, credential attainment 32%, MSG 41.5%.

We're moving into budget and finance.

This is important as many times as I say this guys, please hear this, hear this.

Applicants selected for funding will receive awards from both funding sources.

WIOA Title 2 Adult education and family literacy act.

This award consists of the Federal alpha funds authorized under Title 2 of WIOA together with the required 25% state match.

Funds awarded under this opportunity are subject to all applicable federal statutes and regulations, uniform administrative requirements, and state pass through entity requirements.

You can find that in two CFR Part 200 funds awarded under WEOWA Title 2 opportunity, including the required non federal match, must be used for allowable adult education and literacy activities consistent with 34 CFR .463 and two CFR Part 200. Non-matched state supported adult education programs.

This award consists of the State of Illinois appropriations for adult education and literacy activities that are not utilized towards a 25% state match.

State funds are governed by applicable Illinois statutes, administrative rules, grant agreement terms, and ICCB policy.

These funds are required to be used in coordination with the WIOA grant deliverables.

For the purpose of this submission, applicants are only submitting their non match state budget.

Upon release of state performance funding, applicants will receive and amend their budget to include performance funding.

To be clear, there are one umbrella and two opportunities under that umbrella.

You must complete both of the opportunities.

Under the WIOA Title 2 Funding opportunity.

There is a federal budget that you will submit. Under the non-match state supported adult education budget.

You will only submit the state basic funds.

Once we have funding for state performance, we will release that information so you we can update your budgets.

At that time. There is no concern about funding.

It is simply a step to avoid you having to make multiple budgets and redo multiple budgets.

So we're trying to eliminate some of that administrative burden.

So you will only submit that budget one time.

OK.

Again, I'm going to restate this for clarity.

Under one umbrella 2 Opportunities. Under the Federal WIOA opportunity you will submit a budget.

All federal laws and accounting principles adhere. On the state non match state you will submit your state basic budget.

Upon awards, we will release performance funding and then you will create one budget under that umbrella.

Again, no concerns about funding, simply trying to eliminate some administrative burden and making you write multiple budgets.

In the NOFO.

You might have seen there is a new piece of information, the Student Support Grant Exclusive tab.

As you're writing your budget, Student support must be categorized with appropriate narratives.

In the Grant exclusive budget, this includes stipends, childcare, transportation, and tuition. Student support under the grant exclusive tab are not included in the indirect base.

Institution owned items remain in the original budget tab.

OK, this is another really, really important piece of information.

The application deadline is Friday, May 1st, 2026 at 5:00 PM Central Standards time.

I'll say that again.

Application deadline Friday, May 1st, 2026 at 5:00 PM.

If you try to submit an application at 5:01 PM, Una Amplifund will not accept it and there is nothing I can do to move forward with your grant application.

You will be ineligible for funds.

You must submit by Friday, May 1st, 2026, at 5:00 PM.

Please do not wait till the last minute to submit your grant application.

We have seen this through multiple applications and people miss that deadline making them ineligible for funding.

All materials needed for the application are on the State of Illinois grant application site.

There are links, we will put these in the chat and they are on the grant NOFO.

So you can go directly to those.

And I'll again guys, I'm saying this multiple times because it's a different process than what we've used in previous competitions.

One umbrella program, 2 opportunities.

If you accidentally forget to submit in both, you will only receive funding for the opportunity you submitted documents.

I'm going to say that again. If you do not complete both opportunities and submit the required documents in both opportunities, you will only receive funding for the opportunity that has your complete grant package.

Please go to our website to access resources that will guide you through the process.

There's also a way to connect with Amplifund support shall you have technical problems.

Please do not wait until there is no time left to get your information in there.

OK?

Again, you must submit to both opportunities.

Guys, I'm saying this 100 times over.

I know that you are hearing me, but it is so important that we do not miss one of those opportunities or there is nothing I can do to fix this.

You must have both opportunities with the submitted forms by the deadline.

You will only be qualified for funding for the grant opportunities where you correctly submit all of the information.

If you miss one of these opportunities, we are only able to fund one of the two opportunities.

Applicants must complete the GATTA pre-qualification by submitting their FY2026 Internal Control Questionnaire, submit the programmatic risk assessment, and meet all deadlines and eligible criteria.

Let's talk about what's required and where it's submitted.

The required application components demonstrated effectiveness.

You're submitting the same document to both opportunities. The Uniform Grant application.

This is a form in the Euna/Amplifund.

You must submit for both opportunities, must complete the form and submit for both opportunities.

You must submit the appropriate budget with assigned CEO certificate.

With the appropriate grant opportunity.

You will complete a grant narrative and you will upload the same grant narrative document to both opportunities.

You will complete a scope of work and you will upload the same document to both opportunities.

You will submit the programmatic risk assessments we just spoke of.

And for your federal funds, you are required to fill out what we call the FFATA, the FFATA.

Guys, I'm going to say it one more time because I, I am so afraid somebody's going to miss one of the two grants and there's nothing we can do to fix that.

Submit all required documents to both opportunities.

You will only receive funding for the opportunity where you submit the completed package.

If you miss one of them, I cannot fix that.

So what are you writing to. In the grant narrative sections, you will speak to APC alignment and regional coordination.

You will speak to consortium coordination if applicable.

You will speak to performance strategies, retention and persistence, career pathways, your bridge, your ICAPS, and your workplace literacy programs.

And you will speak to data management and continuous improvement.

There is a merit-based review for all of these grants.

We have the scoring shared with you.

Your APC alignment is worth 20 points.

Performance strategy 15 points, Retention 10 points.

Career pathways 15 points.

Data and Continuous improvement 10 points.

Instructional Services 5 points.

Scope of Work 25 points. Budgets will be reviewed for appropriateness, but they will not be scored.

The merit-based review and appeal process. Appeals are limited to the evaluation process only.

Any appeal must be submitted within 14 days, and it must include your name, grant ID and reason for appeal.

We have a Frequently Asked Questions section.

This Bidders Conference recording will be posted there.

The FAQ will be updated weekly and posted on every Friday.

This is important.

The last day to submit questions for us to include on the FAQ is Friday, April 17th.

Shall you ask questions after April 17<sup>th</sup>,

We will not be able to answer them.

Please make sure you have logged into Amplifund.

Please make sure you have reached out to Amplifund to make sure that you can access all the features and functionality.

Please make sure you have reviewed all documents that you must upload.

All questions must be submitted by Friday, April 17th or we will not be able to answer them.

Throughout this process, shall you have questions or want clarification, please reach out to Rupa Sameer.

Shall you need access to an APC plan?

If you are not currently funded again, Miss Sameer will provide you with that information.

We will not be able to respond after April 17th.

OK.

That is everything that I have to share for you.

I would like to open this up for questions, points of clarification, and you may either type it in the chat, or you may unmute and speak.

So what questions you got.

For referencing data, it would be complete years if we use three years, right?

So would it be fiscal year 23 through 25 data that we're referring to? Correct.

The demonstrated effectiveness will tell you what years we're looking for.

Since FY26 is not completed, we will not be looking at this year's data.

We will ask that you complete FY22, FY23.

Wait FY23, FY24 and FY25 for your three-year data for demonstrated effectiveness.

Hi Kathy, I have a question.

So the NOFO cover page just says that it's July 1st 2026 through June 30th 2028, so 2 years as you mentioned.

Are we to put grant numbers in though amounts for one year or for two?

Because in past years you have put in the grant has only been stated as one year even when it's going to be a continuation the second year.

So if we're stating 2 years, how many years' worth of funding are we putting in?

You will only put in funding for state fiscal year 27, one year. Even though you're saying the grant goes for two.

The grant goes for two years.

It is a multi-year grant, but we are only asking for a single year budget.

We do not know what FY28 will look like with federal and state appropriation.

So we are looking at FY27 budgets.

Thank you.

Kathy, can I read you a question from the chat?

Yes. From Crystal Temple on the NOFO, it states who attained 17 years of age.

Could that be clarified.

Are you asking for eligible students, The age of eligible students, is that in reference to that?

I believe so.

It was at that time of your presentation.

OK, The compulsory age of instruction in the state of Illinois is 17.

You must attain, you know, attain.

You must stay in school till you're 17.

The law says 16, but that's with some caveats and special considerations like high school credit recovery.

So in a general rule, we are looking at students who are 17 years of age because they are not allowed to leave high school at age 16.

Compulsory age of education in the state of Illinois is 17.

Another from the chat.

Are grant recipients required to match on the FY27 AEFLA award funds?

No, you are not required to put a state match.

The state of Illinois covers that match with that 25% and that is why we are taking our 25% of our state allocation and moving it into the WIOA federal funds because we are required a 25% match and that is our federal WIOA funding plus a 25% state match.

The state is covering that.

I can chime in there briefly because this is a little bit different for this budget year is that you're budgeting what was the federal basic plus 25%. That's going to be from the state resources.

So that's not, that's the state's match to the federal government.

It's not programmatic match from your organization.

But this this does mean that your budget is what was federal basic plus a 25% add on from the state funds.

Can you provide some clarity?

I'm sorry, Bill, what? Are you saying that we need to make a different ask than what we've been?

Can you? When you're preparing your budget, you are going to estimate what you are looking for in the WIOA Title 2 funds.

As you prepare your budget, recognize how we have, how funded programs in the past have had allocations from state basic and a different allocation from federal basic.

Please use those reflections and deduct 25% of your state basic and move that bucket into your federal bucket. ,Right, because that's what we're doing.

We're taking 25% of the state funding to meet the state, to meet the federal match requirement.

We're moving that into one bucket.

So as you're building your budget, think about what that looks like and saying, "OK, my state budget is gonna be 25% less because that money is going to the federal bucket."

You're getting the same amount.

The allocations are coming out at the same amount of funding that they have in the past. We're just organizing them differently.

Is there a better way to explain that?

I think that was, I think that was clear. So, we're not using the term federal basic.

If you notice when we're, we're, we're talking about it to, you know, create your budget as kind of a base to use.

But we're calling this is now the WIOA grant opportunity, what we had called federal bait.

It's not going to be a federal basic grant or federal basic grant that we had known in the past.

It's what was federal basic plus a 25% of a state appropriation.

I'll stop there.

If anybody has other questions about that, we can go over it to more. O another question from the chat.

I have a question, sorry.

Regarding like the federal basic, let's say that we changed the name.

So, when we apply, do we apply with the amount from last year plus 25% more?

It's not less, it's just structured differently.

OK.

So the key here is our allocations are expected to be at level from prior year funding.

While we do not have our final appropriations currently, we anticipate it to be level funded as it was last year.

We're just the buckets are a little bit reorganized.

So, you will have your federal money, which is what allocations have always come out with.

And then 25% of the state money is being moved over to that bucket.

So, the WIOA bucket is federal plus 25%.

It's the same amount of money; it's just in two different buckets.

Does that make sense?

And Emily, Emily Anderson pointed out that the state side then would be, would, would be reduced by that amount.

That's shifting to the WIOA a match, right?

But the allocation amount is not different.

The buckets are different, right?

The overall total amount is the same, but the buckets are different.

And we've changed the names to keep things more clear, we hope.

All right.

Another question.

Remember, we are not scoring budgets.

We're reading them for appropriate spending and clarity in narratives.

We're not scoring the budgets. Once final allocations are out.

We will be able to provide you support and guidance for funded applicants when we have our final allocation.

So, there's room to adjust and fix, right?

We're looking for a budget that is appropriate in expenses.

That's what we're looking for.

Once final appropriations are put out to the field, we will work with you to adjust your budgets accordingly.

This is why we are not asking for the performance budget at this time. Because we don't want you to have to write 3 budgets and they have to redo all three.

So, we're only asking 2 for the application process.

All right, if our FY27 APC plan has already been approved, is there anything else we need to do by the April deadline, or are we good?

There is nothing you need to submit for your APC plans.

The process for writing this grant will rely heavily on what you submitted in your Area Planning Council.

For those applicants who are new to this process, shall you have questions about what your local area looks like?

Reach out to us and we will provide you with the local APC plan so you are informed and can build your application as you wish with the materials that are appropriate for your region.

There's a request in the chat to potentially share the deck that's being used, the slide deck that's being used today in the chat.

I will post this with the NOFO and the bidders conference.

So, it will go up within 48 hours, right?

I just need to make sure it's accessible before I post it.

For the budget on state basic, when we submit it, we just submit the basic part and then when we get the award we have to upload the same budget.

Applicants who are awarded funding in this competition will receive guidance in how to with a post allocation budget.

We will have final appropriations, we will have total allocation amounts, We will be able to share that. You will complete a post allocation budget, and you will have guidance and support at that time.

Do we use our FY26 amounts to build the budget for FY27?

If you have been prior funded in the past, yes, use that as a guidepost.

If you are a new applicant, think about a cost per student model and what it would cost you to serve each student and propose that and then we will again.

Once all applications are scored and allocations are posted, we will provide all the specific guidance in updating a post allocation budget.

OK.

Does the grant exclusive tab change apply to all budgets including performance when awarded?

Yes, well, Bill is yes, correct, yes.

So you're going to end up with two budgets for those applicants that are awarded, you'll have two budgets and for both of those budgets, one that's the WIOA a budget, one that's the non-state match, all the student supports should be in the grant exclusive tab.

Patty Rag, if you wouldn't mind putting a more detailed question in the chat, I can read that.

I think it was in relation to something that was said, but it could be from a few minutes ago.

On page 14 in the funding estimates section, the three sources total more than 62 million compared to about 52,000,000 for AEFLA in the past.

While these while these figures are an estimate, do these figures need to be corrected?

No, because we are working within estimates.

We do not have final federal allocations, nor do we have a final state budget.

So we are working within estimates.

While the current legislation federally indicates that level funding for each state has been approved, level funding for the workforce system has been approved and written into the law.

Now it has to go through a funding formula for each state.

So I do not know what our federal allocations look like at this time.

And while we have tentatively received level funding from the state, until that budget is finalized, I can't work, I can't give you tangible concrete dollar amounts.

So what we're looking at is what we think we might be getting.

Please use FY26 budgets as a guidepost if you have been priorly funded.

If you have not, use a cost per student model.

And again, once allocations are finalized, we will provide guidance and support to do a post allocation budget.

All right.

Will all of the new WIOA funding need to meet the federal administrative cap for expenditures?

Yes.

Will currently funded programs receive FY23 through 25 performance metrics for this competition as we did for the past competitive grant. Parentheses, credentials, wage, earnings, employment, etcetera?

No, there is a link in the NOFO that will take you to the data dashboard on our website and that is where you will get that data from.

That data dashboard has the three years of data for all measurable skill gains.

Credential attainments are not a part of the rolled-up target, nor is employment.

We are strictly looking at MSG rates.

While the demonstrated effectiveness may ask for additional clarifying points.

The demonstrated effectiveness is set by the 20

What is it?

25% measurable skill gain rolled up target for three years.

Shannon, I believe your question has been answered, but if you need it, the state performance question, if you need to come off unmute or if you need to unmute to further it, please do so.

It's been answered.

Thank you so much.

Yeah, Yep, Yep.

I just want to make sure I was clear so that we didn't do something wrong and you guys had to e-mail us back and tell us we did.

Here's the thing that we cannot.

Shall you guys have questions about your specific like did we do this right?

We're not going to be able to provide that level of answer.

OK, right.

We can answer global questions, We can answer process questions right through the FAQ process.

So really this is the time to ask any specific programmatic questions.

You have. The next question, I think.

Well, there's two that I think could be there's a request for a potential diagram or an example to be included in the FAQ in relation to the way to move that 25% match, I believe.

OK.

Let's say that you had \$100,000 in a prior allocation for federal money and \$100,000 in a prior allocation for your state basic.

When you're writing your budget this year, you would say that out of your total appropriation of 200,000 dollars, 125,000 would be federal, 75,000 would be state.

We're simply - same amount of money, different buckets.

OK

A related question, will the 25% match section be indicated on the federal budget page and should we indicate the amounts that will be, or should we directly incorporate the amount into the budget lines. Directly incorporated into the budget lines to you?

This is one budget you don't have to you; you just need to account for the fact that it's, it's not at the level of federal basic for those of you that were funded before, it's going to include some of what was the state award.

But otherwise it's still one budget; the same categories.

You don't you don't fill out the match portion.

You don't even have to think about the map.

The match is our responsibility to the feds. But we're just telling you, we've moved 25% of the state funds into one award with the federal, what was federal basic because of the federal matching requirements on the state.

But for you, it's just one budget for WIOA, one budget for non-match state.

And again, please, please, please keep in mind that the only thing we're looking for in the budget review is appropriateness of spending and that is not a scored category.

We recognize this is a shift in how things have been happening in the past.

Therefore, this is not something we are scoring and once allocations come out you will have all of the support necessary in updating your post allocation budget.

So, this is a planning right now of thinking what this looks like, but you will not be scored on your budget.

It is just simply reviewed for appropriateness and clarity of your budget.

We will adjust, with guidance, after the competition is completed and programs who are funded will receive their allocation.

All right.

What is the purpose of separating the student support categories?

Are those still eligible in both WIOA and State Basic?

They are eligible expenses in both WIOA and State Basic.

They are separated per state guidance.

I don't remember the CFR code, but there is state guidance that tells us this is how we are to manage budgets.

There's been a lot of confusion about where the student supports have gone and, and this will allow us to see them in one place and what kinds of different activities grantees across multiple programs.

This isn't, this is going to be across all the ICCBs grant programs, not just the adult Ed funding.

So it'll give us a nice picture of what kinds of student supports are throughout our grants.

All right.

When do you expect the FY27 allocations to be released? before July 1.

I'm not trying to be flippant with the change in administration and process changes from the federal government.

We anticipate getting an estimated award in April as we always have and traditionally in the last several years our final federal money comes out July 1.

But we do have a better understanding of what that anticipate anticipated award looks like mid-april.

At this point we will not be posting what the state allocation is.

We will be posting that once we have all of the grantees approved and we know the allocations and that will get posted in the award document.

I have a question, Kathy, this is Elizabeth.

So on the budget spreadsheet in Amplifund in the past under personnel for example, you had us put the description as federal basic so that you know, and on the other one it would say state basic, state performance.

Is that still how you want that done?

They are not federal basic or state basic at this time.

Yeah, they are WIOA Title 2.

And then that is one opportunity.

Remember that budget goes in the WIOA opportunity and then the second budget would go in the non-state match.

OK, so do you want those to be the titles or?

I was working on a different grant that the Digital Instruction one. And I was told that instead of putting the name there under Personnel, I should write Personnel and under Fringe I should write Fringe.

But in the past we'd always written the name of the grant.

So what?

How do you want this written in the Amplifund budget?

Do you want us to write WIOA Title II?

No.

Can I, can I jump in?

OK, Elizabeth, first of all, you're talking about the Amplifund built in budget, correct?

Yes, ma'am, I absolutely am.

Yes.

So, in the Amplifund built in budget, you're going to categorize like you, you will write personnel as personnel, Fringe benefits as fringe benefits.

Because what happens if that is, is that if you write something else in that, that misses your amendment sheet.

So, in the Amplifund budget, you're just going to write personnel, no narratives, no nothing. Fringe benefit as fringe benefit.

So just like for the, the, the digital instruction, which is different than what we had done in the past.

No, that's right.

It was a good point the funding stream part of the built in of the ample fund, built in budget that has that's going away cause we're basically just having two budgets now you're not doing, we're not doing federal basic, state basic state performance as different personnel lines where I would say personnel, federal basic, personnel state basic.

OK.

So, you just wanted to say personnel correct or?

OK, thank you very much.

Yep, that was a good question.

We and what the titles again are, are just the categories, just the basic categories.

So, personnel fringe, right.

So, I'm sorry of the two grants, so we've got WIOA title 2 and then the other one is non state match.

OK, thank you.

All right.

Another question from the chat.

We provide our students with codes for digital textbooks.

Will those be considered student support and need to be listed now under grant exclusive tab?

Can you repeat that please?

Yes.

We provide our students with codes for digital textbooks.

Will those be considered student support and need to be listed now under Grant exclusive tab?

No.

The Grant exclusive tab was explicit to things like childcare, transportation, tuition, and other types of support like that.

You're providing your students an instructional tool because it's an online textbook that would go under contractual services.

A similar topic question when student support for the grant exclusive is described, is that non staff costs, parentheses, stipends, tuition, childcare, transportation assistance.

Correct.

Those are non-staff costs.

OK, there's a comment in the chat that the dashboard link in the NOFO is giving an error 404 message, just as a FYI.

OK, I will post that in the FAQs as well.

That was checked before we posted it.

I'm not sure what happened, but we will absolutely post that.

It is a link off of our adult education, our ICCB website, the adult education division, but I will repost that in the FAQ so that you can click there easily.

All right.

Another question, is the 25% match a new requirement?

No, no, we used to require programs to build a budget and identify at the local level their 25%.

We have taken that burden on.

So programs do not have to meet that match.

And again, we're just simply, it is the same amount of money just in different buckets and that makes us more compliant with federal law and the 25% match, it is more transparent federally that that matches there for the WIOA funds.

All right,

Next question.

In the scope of work, are the listed key activities on the template just examples or do we use them as the key activities to follow?

Use those as the as the key activities to follow.

The scope of work is aligned with a narrative.

We're looking at your coordination of services within your APC, how you're going to recruit students, how you're going to bring educational functioning levels increased, what types of activities you're going to provide. when you're going to be providing them.

What we don't want to see is exactly the same text just cut and put pasted in each quarter, right?

You're, you're going to be doing some kind of outreach planning at the first part of the year.

You're going to lead outreach initiatives, you're going to evaluate what those look like.

You're going to do another round of them.

We wanna see that flow throughout the year so that we know that we have solid outreach activities, that our instruction is frequently a, a not meeting frequently enough that you're gonna get education functioning level gains.

When are you gonna run your IET programs?

When do you plan on having students enrolled in them?

So, it cannot be the same text copied in all four quarters.

You want to see your project activities throughout the year in these core areas with data integrity, with APC alignment with student focused outcomes.

That's what we're looking for.

All right.

Another question to clarify for state, we only include what we are looking for from State basic and not include performance monies or do we combine these in the state basic ask? Right now we're only asking for you to do what you think the state basic, the non-match looks like.

Once we have full allocations, we will provide the allocation for performance funding for programs that have one full year of data in our data system and then we will release that with our allocations.

So, you will know what your performance money looks like, your state money and that non match state looks like and then what the WIOA what money looks like, We will release that with the final allocation.

All right.

If we fund student support through our district and not the grant funds, is there another place you would like us to document what we what supports we provide?

Bill, you're on mute, but I think I'm going to defer to you.

So no, we would not need that.

Certainly, in your in your budget, if you want to discuss that in your narrative, that would be helpful.

But we won't be accounting for those monies through your grant period, since they're not the grant funds.

All right, that is the last question on the chat as of now.

OK guys, I will do my best to get this transcribed.

So you have a full compliant bidders conference posted on our website.

We will make sure that the URL for the.

Data for you to pull for your demonstrated effectiveness is updated and that frequently asked questions.

So you can get there directly from that link.

And I will close with the final statement.

The grant is due May 1st, 5:00 PM.

There is nothing I can do if you try to submit at 5:01.

Please submit early.

Please do not wait until the last day.

Additionally, I will say this again, you must submit all of the correct documents with each opportunity.

You will not be funded if one of those opportunities does not have all of the correct documents.

Even though it is one up grant program with two opportunities, you will only receive funding for the one that you've complete successfully.

Make sure you have labeled your files correctly and you have uploaded all of the correct files.

We have seen people make mistakes and upload a budget and not a narrative.

Upload a narrative and not a scope of work.

You must make sure that you are uploading and completing every required piece in order to be eligible for both opportunities under the 1 grant package.

OK, with that in mind, thank you guys.

I hope to see all of your applications before May 1st at 5:00 PM.

Everything must be submitted in Amplifund.