

2019 Career Connected Learning Program (CCL), Request for Proposals (RFP)

FAQs

The following is a list of questions about the RFP received by staff of the Hawaii Community Foundation from potential applicants, and the responses provided. Content has been edited for clarity and identifying information has been removed. Sometimes we received the same question multiple times; where the questions were identical, we are only listing the question and response once. This list will be updated periodically with new questions and responses.

Question	Response
I saw that grant funds will be awarded by mid-April, 2019. When would grant funds need to be expended by?	Within one year from the date of the grant award.
We have a current CCL grant. Our original proposal was for a 2-year grant. Do we need to reapply under this new 2019 RFP?	<p>All current grants are for one year and end on April 5, 2019, as reflected in the Grant Award Letter. Most of the funding for the CCL grant program is committed by our donors in one-year increments, so the grant awards are made for one-year terms. We can't commit to a 2<sup>nd</sup> year of funding before we know that the funds are available. At the same time, we recognize that most of our CCL grantees are running multi-year STEM learning programs because that long-term commitment is needed to produce the kinds of results we all are seeking. Our intention is to continue providing annual grants to programs that continue to meet the grant guidelines and demonstrate successful results, subject to annual availability of funds. So, the last RFP gave applicants the option to include a 2<sup>nd</sup> program year in their proposals so that we could assess the longer-term plans as part of the proposal review process.</p> <p>With that in mind, if the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the proposal your organization submitted last time is still an accurate description of what it plans to do in 2019, you can simply copy and paste that part of the last proposal into the new one to save time and effort, and update any details as needed. Please note, however, that some questions in the new application are different than last year's because some parts of the RFP have been updated. Specifically, Questions 1, 3, 4 and 5 are brand new, and Questions 6 and 8 have changed depending on the age group being served. Questions 2, 7, 9 and 10 have not changed. (All question numbers this time are different than last time because new questions have been added).</p>

	<p>You will see that the new RFP once again offers the opportunity to include a 2<sup>nd</sup> year in the proposal – in this case, for 2020. The comments in this response apply equally to those proposals.</p>
<p>Our program serves kids in both application categories (K-8 and 9<sup>th</sup> grade to early career) in an integrated way. How should we apply?</p>	<p>The intent behind the new RFP’s division into 2 application categories (K-8 and 9+) was that an applicant would choose one or the other and submit a single application in only one category. If your program provides services to both age groups, we suggest applying in the category where the greater share of the grant funds will be spent. State clearly that your proposed program serves students in the other age group. We will consider grant funding for such proposals, but only if they clearly demonstrate integration of the program’s goals, methods, and services across both age/grade segments and how the program will measure distinctive results for both. Program budgets must provide separate revenue and expenses for each category.</p>
<p>Our current CCL grant doesn’t end until April 2019. Are we eligible to apply for the new RFP? Do we have to submit an interim or final report for the current grant before applying for the new grant?</p>	<p>Yes, you can apply for the next grant during the current grant term. We have the same timing overlap every year with current grantees, so we understand and expect that applications for the new grant will occur while the current grant is still being implemented. It is not necessary to provide an interim or final report for the current 2018 grant before applying for the new 2019 grant. You can include information about the current grant in the new application if you wish.</p>
<p>We hope to spend all of our current CCL grant funds by the end of the grant term in April, 2019, but if we are unable to do so and need to request an extension of our grant term, can we submit a proposal under the new RFP?</p>	<p>If an extension of the current grant is needed, please notify us of any extension request a month before the end of the grant (i.e., by March 5, 2019). If you do have to file for an extension, that does not preclude an application for the 2019 grant. The timing of the annual CCL grant cycle is such that we expect some overlap between the start of the new application process and the end of the current year grant. If the new 2019 grant is awarded, depending on the circumstances we may withhold payment of the 2019 grant funds until the end of the extended 2018 grant and submission of an acceptable final report.</p>
<p>From HCF staff:  This is a clarification of the kinds of internship programs the RFP is encouraging.</p>	<p>The RFP encourages the use of existing tools, resources and standards to achieve CCL program goals, including: <i>“5. Connecting high school and college students and emerging workers to existing employer-driven internship programs” (RFP, Page 2)</i></p> <p>Community stakeholders and previous CCL grantees have shown us that internship connections are often created out of close relationships between the school/nonprofit staff and supportive</p>

	<p>employers in their communities. The unintended result can sometimes be a single employer receiving multiple requests for internships and mentoring from different organizations in the same community, which exceeds their capacity to take interns. Also, students who happen to have access to these relationship-based internships will benefit, but students who lack such access lose out, regardless of interest or ability.</p> <p>On the other hand, we have seen examples of employers or intermediaries collaborating to create a single information platform where a community's internship opportunities are published in one place and made accessible equally to all schools and organizations serving students who might be interested. It can include joint training of employer staff about effective mentoring. The advantage of this approach is finding better matches between employer needs and intern skills and interests, less duplication of effort, improved intern experiences, and increased sector collaboration.</p> <p>For this RFP, proposals that involve internships and mentoring created through network collaboration and shared information will be viewed more favorably because they build community capacity and increase equitable access to work-based learning. At the same time, we recognize that these kinds of network collaborations take time to build in any community, so proposals for internship and mentoring that are not based on network collaboration will be considered as well depending on the local context.</p>
<p>Will mainland travel expenses for teacher professional development training be considered?</p>	<p>In general, no. The cost of this kind of travel and the demand for it are so high that if it was allowed, a significant portion of total CCL grant funds would be devoted just to travel. This may not be viewed as an effective use of limited funds in most cases. If this kind of travel is proposed, the context, rationale, and value in achieving the goals of the RFP need to be clearly explained.</p>