State of Arizona
Department of Education
Office of John Huppenthal
Superintendent of Public Instruction

February 10, 2012

21st Century Community Learning Center Grant RFP for Cycle 11, 2012-2013

Dear Prospective Applicant:

21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant funding is available for academic out-of-school time programs through the Arizona Department of Education (ADE). The purpose of the 21st Century Community-Learning Center (21stCCLC) Grant is to establish school site learning centers that provide students with standards-based academic enrichment classes and opportunities with focused assistance in math, reading and writing during out-of-school time. The 21st Century Community Learning Center offers a safe, engaging environment that complements the regular school day. Successful programs improve student outcomes and are integrated with the Arizona School Improvement Plan or the school's academic goals.

This grant provides funding for students to receive academic intervention opportunities in core academic subjects such as reading, writing and mathematics. Programs are required to utilize strategies proven to be effective based on scientifically-based research. Funding may also be used to provide standards-based enrichment programs, including but not limited to *STEM*: Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, art, music, youth development, entrepreneurship, drug and violence prevention, and adult education that empowers families to boost their children's academic achievement.

Entities eligible to apply for this discretionary funding include any public or private organization, such as: Local Education Agencies (LEA'S), City or county government agencies, community-based organizations (CBO'S), non-profit organizations (NPO'S), faith-based organizations (FBO'S), Institution of higher education, For profit corporations, or a consortium of two or more such agencies, organizations, or entities. Entities must serve students who attend schools where at least 40% of the students qualify for free/reduced meals. Any agency which is not a school must partner with the school serving the students targeted for assistance.

The application will be available online March 5, 2012, on the ADE Grant Management Enterprise under Fund Alerts. Completed applications must be submitted online no later than 5:00:00 pm, May 7, 2012.

Grant application trainings will be available on our website at: http://www.azed.gov/century-learning-centers/application-information/. It is highly recommended that a financial specialist also reviews the training with the grant writing representative. All materials will be available on March 5, 2012, and can be found on the ADE Grant Management Enterprise under Fund Alerts. Go to Funding Alert View, scroll to the bottom of the page to "View Download Files" click there and you will have access to all downloadable documents in the Funding Alert Download Files.

We are proud of the impact the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant has had in Arizona schools and communities across the state and we are confident this program will continue to make a positive difference in the learning experiences of Arizona's students.

For more information, see the 21st CCLC website, http://www.azed.gov/century-learning-centers/application-information/. For questions, please contact our office at 602-364-2349 or 21stCCLC@azed.gov

Thank you,

Cindy Trejo

Cindy Trejo

Director, 21st Century Community Learning Centers