# Connecting PSUs with Local 21st CCLC Grant Programs to Maximize Student Success

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
Office of Federal Programs

Susan Brigman, Section Chief ~ **21st CCLC** Hawhana Locklear, 21st CCLC Program Administrator





# North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Office of Federal Programs (OFP) ~ 21st CCLC State

Office of Federal Programs (OFP) ~ 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC State Team

#### **Leadership**

Alex Charles ~ Senior Director, FPMS
Susan Brigman, Section Chief ~ 21st CCLC

#### NCDPI 21st CCLC Program Administrators

Areli Perez: West and Northwest
Dr. Darren Hamilton: Southwest
Gina White: Piedmont-Triad
Kendall Cook: North Central
Hawhana Locklear: Sandhills
Wendy Buck: Northeast
Toya Kimbrough: Southeast

#### **NCDPI Fiscal Monitors**

Katrina Blount Ashton Moss Monica Pask

#### NCDPI Fiscal Analyst

William Kelley Eric Rainey

Program Coordinator
Melba Strickland



# How is the 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Grant Program Different from other Federal Programs?

Formula grants are awarded to State educational agencies, which in turn manage statewide <u>competitions</u> and award grants to eligible entities

#### **21st CCLC Eligible entities include**:

- Local educational agencies;
- Community-based organizations;
- City or County government agencies;
- Faith-based organizations;
- Bureau of Indian Education schools
- Institutions of higher education; and
- For-profit corporations.



# **Purpose of the 21st CCLC Grant:**

 Authorized under Title IV, Part B, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015. The purpose of the grant is to provide federal funds to establish or expand community learning centers that operate during out-of-school time (OST) hours with three specific purposes



# Purpose One:

 Provide opportunities during non-school hours for academic enrichment, including providing tutorial services to help students (particularly students in high poverty areas and those who attend low-performing schools) meet state and local student performance standards in core academic subjects such as reading and math.



# **Purpose Two:**

 Offer students a broad array of additional services, programs, and activities, that are designed to reinforce and complement the regular academic program of participating students.



Purpose Three:

• Offer families of students served by 21st CCLCs opportunities for active and meaningful engagement in their children's education, including opportunities for literacy and related educational development.





# **Program Highlight**

- The 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) program, The Dream Center Academy in Gastonia, North Carolina is designed to provide expanded academic enrichment opportunities for high school students attending low-performing schools. They have been in existence for seven years and are currently serving over 150 students. in On May 3, 2024, the Dream Center Academy hosted its first senior class graduation celebration at the Gaston Country Club. The event was sponsored by STAT Services of Gaston County. Students, parents, and community members attended this exciting event. Each student was recognized for their successful accomplishments in high school, for graduating on time and college and career ready, and for pursuing post-secondary education. Of its participants,
- 100 percent of seniors graduated college-career ready on May 24,2024
- 18 had been accepted to colleges/universities and two were accepted to trade school, and
- 85 percent would become first-generation college students.
- The local news featured the Dream Center Academy program this summer. The link to the story may be found here <u>NC Dream Center Academy</u>.



### **DCA Student Produced Video**



# **DCA Local News Highlight**

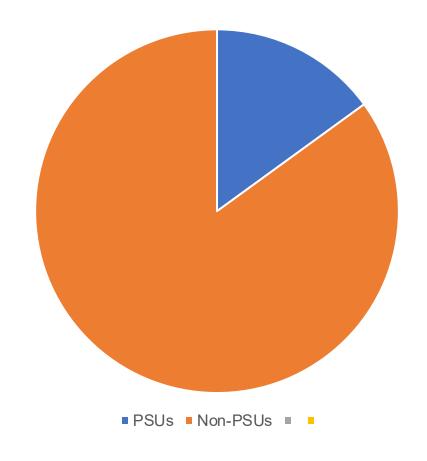


## **Benefits for All Students**

- Increase student attendance at school
- Improve student's academic performance
- Access tutorial services, homework support, and assistance with school projects
- Engage students with their peers through academic enrichment activities
- Increase student's overall mental health and well-being
- · Provide transportation for students to and from the program
- Connect families to teachers, programs, and services that are offered by the district and the community
- Provide additional opportunities for families to participate in the school



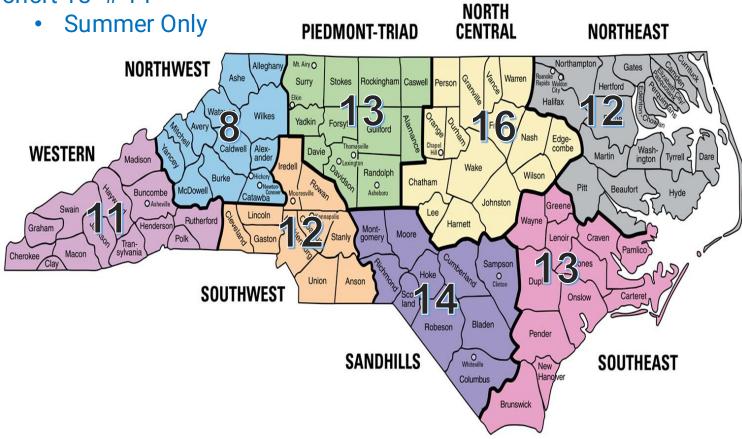
## **NC Current Grantee Profile**





# 21st CCLC Subgrantees (LEA and Non-LEA) by Region

Cohort 17- # 60 Cohort 18- # 25 Cohort 18- # 14



### **Basic 21st CCLC Grant Parameters**

Programs operate throughout the school year (during non-school hours) for a minimum of (300) student contact hours during **out-of-school time** prior to the end of the academic year for each year of the grant cycle.

- Programs must serve a minimum of 50 students.
- Students participating in public schools providing instructional programs for Kindergarten through 12th grade are eligible to participate. (LEAs can also offer Pre-K services)
- Fees cannot be collected for participation in the 21st CCLC program.

#### **Optional Summer Learning Programs**

#### **Applicants can propose to operate:**

- A) a standard summer learning program and/or
- B) a summer intensive program.
- Proposed summer learning programs must meet the requirements for one or both of the implementation models.
- If an applicant proposes to run a summer learning program(s), the applicant is required to run the proposed summer programs **each year** of the three (3) year grant cycle.



### **Standard Summer Program**

- Operate for at least five consecutive weeks for at least 4-days per week
- Offer at least 3-hours of core academic learning per day and
- Offer a variety of daily enrichment opportunities as outlined by the NCDPI 21st CCLC 2024-2027 Statewide Performance Goals and more specifically, Objectives 3.1 and 3.2.

#### **Summer Intensive Program**

NCDPI defines summer intensive programs as comprehensive, consecutive 2-3-week targeted interventions designed to eliminate skills gaps, accelerate learning, ease the social transition, and/or prepare participating students for success in the upcoming school year.

All proposed summer intensive programs must operate for at least 16 hours per week.

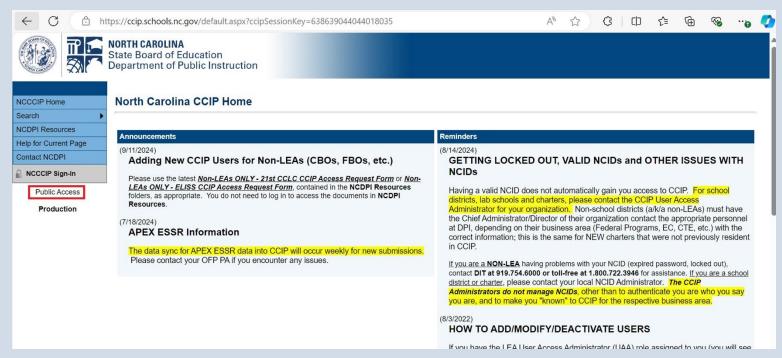
All proposed summer intensive programs must be designed to support students in <u>one</u> <u>or more</u> of the following focus areas:

- Kindergarten transition for rising kindergarteners (PreK students) (see notes section below).
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade to 6<sup>th</sup> grade transition for rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> grade transition for rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- Intensive tutoring previewing upcoming school year learning standards and/or credit recovery programs.
- Comprehensive mental health supports (e.g., hiring certified, professional mental health staff to support students in developing social and emotional skills).

All proposed summer intensive programs must demonstrate how the program will align to evidence-based, best practices for the allowable focus area(s).

### **Districts/Charters with 21st CCLC Programs**

#### Is there currently a 21st CCLC program in your district?





# Subgrantees

- A complete listing of current subgrantees can be found on NCDPI's 21st CCLC website.
- CCIPhttps://ccip.schools.nc.gov/default.aspx?ccipS essionKey=638948507538966832

## **District/School Collaboration Form**

AFFIRMATION OF NOTIFICATION, INVITATION & CONSULTATION FOR TITLE IV-B COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS WITH LEAS/CHARTER/LAB FEEDER SCHOOLS BY ANY 21st CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER (21st CCLC PROGRAM) LEA/Charter/Lab Feeder School Name: Phone: 21st CCLC ORGANIZATION NAME & UNIT #: SECTION A: The LEA/Charter/Lab feeder school representative checks one box.\* THE LEA/Charter/Lab feeder school hereby affirms: ☐ Their awareness of the organization's 21st CCLC Program and its efforts to recruit students from its school during the 2025-26 school year. ☐ Their willingness to collaborate with the organization's 21st CCLC Program during the 2025-26 school year. Their agreement to meet with the organization during the 2025-26 school year to discuss the 21st CCLC program and its impacts on students from the feeder school. OR A-2 THE LEA/Charter/Lab feeder school hereby asserts it does not affirm one or more of the three conditions listed above. Complaints or concerns regarding the organization's 21st CCLC Program may be filed with Susan Brigman, Section Chief ~ Specialty Programs at susan.brigman@dpi.nc.gov. A-3 The 21st CCLC subgrantee completing this form is an LEA/Charter/Lab School that is also a subgrantee and is not serving any other LEA/Charter/Lab feeder school (s). The subgrantee can proceed to Section E. **SECTION B:** 1- Only the LEA/Charter/Lab feeder school may check the boxes in this section. ACCEPT **DECLINE** ☐ The LEA/Charter/Lab feeder school hereby <u>accepts</u> The LEA/Charter/Lab feeder school hereby declines participation in Title IV-B collaborative efforts with the participation in Title IV-B collaborative efforts with the organization for the 2025-26 school year organization for the 2025-26 school year implementation of the organization's CCLC implementation of the organization's 21st CCLC Competitive Grant Program. Competitive Grant Program. SECTION C: The LEA/Charter/Lab feeder school representative provides a hand-written signature to affirm selections in A & B above. Signature of LEA/Charter/Lab feeder school Date Signed: Name of LEA/Charter/Lab feeder school Official: Official:



# NC 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Highlights and Partnerships

#### Wayfinder

- An online platform designed to help students build confidence, learn adaptability, and find purpose by exploring future ready skills needed to navigate a changing world.
- Book Harvest: Books on Break
  - Inaugural year of Books on Break with 21st Century Community Learning Centers. 7000 students across 47 counties had the opportunity to select ten brand-new books to read over the summer and keep, making the summer of 2025 a book-rich summer to help prevent summer slide.
- Age of Learning Reading Academy
  - Age of Learning is an education technology company that provides personalized, adaptive digital learning solutions, including My Reading Academy and My Math Academy, for students primarily in Pre-K through 2nd grade. These two research-based programs use engaging, game-based instruction to accelerate skill mastery in literacy and foundational math concepts.



# Program Spotlight (United Way of Pitt County)

United Way of Pitt County Early Grades Student Success Academy in Greenville won the NCDPI's 21st Century Community Learning Centers' (CCLC) Best Practice Spotlight Award. The organization was recognized for its efforts in partnering with a university medical residency program to address community health challenges and spark interest in STEM and medical careers. The award was presented during the 21st CCLC Foundations Conference July 29-31.

Additional honorees included: Ashe County Public Schools (not pictured), Living In Authority Ministries, Robeson County Parks and Recreation and Whiteville City Schools (not pictured). Polk County Schools received the Outstanding Contribution Award for their dedication to community recovery efforts during Hurricane Helene.

The Best Practice Spotlight Award recognizes 21st CCLC programs that deliver innovative, engaging activities exemplifying the program's goals of academic enrichment, real-world connections and community impact.



# **Program Spotlight**



#### **Questions?**

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