



California Secondary School Redesign Pilot FAQ

This FAQ consolidates questions from the September 18, 2025 webinar on the Secondary School Redesign Pilot Program. It is aligned with the RFP and slide deck content. For full details, applicants should consult the official RFP and scoring rubric.

1. Network Definition and Eligibility

Q: What is the minimum size of a network?

A: Two or more secondary schools (middle or high).

Q: Can a network be entirely within one district?

A: Yes. Must have shared mission/vision, governance, and active redesign work.

Q: Are single-school districts eligible?

A: They must partner with at least one other secondary school.

Q: Can networks mix grade configurations (7–12, K–8, K–12)?

A: Yes, but evidence must focus on secondary grades (6–8 and/or 9–12).

Q: Are charter networks eligible?

A: Yes.

Q: Are alternative ed, court/community schools, or CTE centers eligible?

A: Yes, if they meet criteria for network identity, governance, and redesign.

Q: Are private schools eligible?

A: No. Prop 98 funds are for public K–12 schools.

Q: Can networks cross districts?

A: Yes. Applicants must identify all participating LEAs/schools and describe governance.

2. Lead Entities and Governance

Q: Who can apply as the lead?

A: LEAs, COEs, nonprofits, intermediaries, and IHEs, provided they are actively leading redesign.

Q: Can fiscal sponsors apply?

A: The lead must be the entity leading redesign; fiscal sponsors can be partners.

Q: Can nonprofits or intermediaries lead?

A: Yes, if directly leading redesign with identified California schools.

Q: Can out-of-state organizations lead?

A: Yes, if partnered with and identifying California schools/LEAs.

3. Demonstration Site Requirements

Q: What must a demonstration site show?

A: Implementation of 4–5 redesign elements, with stability to host visits.

Q: Do all network schools need to be at the same stage?

A: No. Other schools may be earlier-stage as long as one is the demo site.

Q: Is there a minimum time-in-implementation?

A: No. Demo site should be stable/sustainable enough to host visits.

4. Network Scope and Size

Q: Is there an ideal size for networks?

A: No. Scale your application to your network's capacity.

Q: Can large networks apply?

A: Yes, but may focus on a subset of schools for this pilot.

Q: Can one application span multiple regions?

A: Yes, if governance and support are clear.

5. Funding and Allowable Uses

Q: What is the award size?

A: \$500,000–\$1,000,000 per network, over two years.

Q: How are funds distributed?

A: Annual allocations in 2025–26 and 2026–27.

Q: What are allowable uses?

A: Staff time, travel, convenings, scaling supports. No facilities/capital improvements.

Q: Can a network receive multiple grants?

A: No. Each network receives one award.

6. Application Process and Deadlines

Q: When is the Intent to Apply due?

A: September 30, 2025 (encouraged, not required).

Q: When is the application due?

A: October 17, 2025 by 4:00 PM PT, to rfp@ccee-ca.org.

Q: Is there a page limit?

A: 20 pages, single or double spaced acceptable.

Q: Do LEAs need to sign on?

A: Listing implies sign-on; no additional signatures required.

Q: Will resources be shared?

A: Yes. Slides, recording, and consolidated FAQ are posted on the website.

7. Redesign Elements and Program Commitments

Applicants must demonstrate redesign aligned to five elements:

- 1) Ensure every student is known and supported
- 2) Redesign learning for deeper knowledge and skills
- 3) Advance success and equity through student-centered learning and supports
- 4) Promote measurable growth in engagement and learning
- 5) Build sustainable structures to maintain impact

Grantees commit to advisory meetings, convenings, summer institutes, demonstration visits, and progress reporting.