

Evaluation and Support of the Statewide Literacy and Mathematics Networks RFP
Questions and Clarifications
April 3, 2026

Below are the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence's ("CCEE") responses to questions and requests for clarification received from prospective Respondents regarding the [Request for Proposals](#) for Evaluation and Support of the Statewide Literacy and Mathematics Networks (the "RFP"), issued on March 13, 2026.. CCEE staff has endeavored to respond as thoroughly as possible, and cited relevant language from the Addendum where appropriate. Questions and requests for clarification that are similar or on the same topic have been grouped together for ease of navigation and response. Questions that were submitted are not necessarily provided verbatim as submitted, and may have been edited for clarity, but have not been altered in substance. CCEE will presume that all Respondents have read and understood all of the responses provided herein upon submittal of any Proposal.

Eligibility To Apply

QUESTION 1 Who is eligible to apply to the RFP?

RESPONSE: The CCEE is seeking proposals from qualified research and evaluation organizations, including but not limited to, sole proprietorships, partnerships, public or private agencies, and/or nonprofit organizations with expertise in education research, evaluation methods, education policy, and/or evidence-based math and literacy instruction. Respondents must demonstrate their capacity and overall approach to fulfilling the activities outlined in Section IV of the RFP.

QUESTION 2 Is the CCEE seeking proposals covering both the Literacy and Mathematics Networks, or will it award separate contracts to different respondents for each network?

RESPONSE: The CCEE is seeking proposals to support the implementation, continuous improvement, and evaluation of both the statewide Literacy and Mathematics Networks. Respondents are encouraged to submit a single proposal to support both Networks; however, respondents are not precluded from submitting a proposal to support only one of the Networks (Literacy or Math).

QUESTION 3 Is a Respondent allowed to apply to both the RFP and the "[Request For Proposals For Creation of a User-Friendly Clearinghouse for Evidence-Based Literacy and Mathematics Resources?](#)"

RESPONSE: A Respondent may apply to both the Evaluation and Support of the Statewide Literacy and Mathematics Networks Request For Proposals and the Request for Proposals for the Creation of a User-Friendly Clearinghouse for Evidence-Based Literacy and Mathematics Resources. Respondents must demonstrate their capacity and overall approach to fulfilling the activities outlined in Section IV of both requests for proposals. Respondents wishing to apply to both RFPs should ensure that two separate proposals are developed and submitted according to the specifications outlined in each RFP.

Network Support

QUESTION 4 How long have the Literacy and Mathematics Networks been in place?

RESPONSE: The Budget Act of 2025, and specifically Section 90 of Assembly Bill 121 (Chapter 8, Statutes of 2025), was approved on June 27, 2025, and authorized both the Statewide Literacy Network and the Statewide Mathematics Network.

QUESTION 5 Can CCEE provide further details on the expected role for Respondents to assist in supporting facilitation of conversations, activities, and collaboration among leads?

RESPONSE: CCEE is seeking proposals to provide support to the CCEE in convening statewide literacy and mathematics leads to document and disseminate best practices in math and literacy, studying and disseminating information about high performing LEAs in English Language Arts/English Language Development (ELA/ELD) and mathematics, and evaluating the activities and outcomes of these statewide Networks. The selected Respondent will work closely with Network participants to achieve these objectives and collaboration may include facilitating conversations pertinent to the evaluation during Network convenings. The CCEE will continue to lead the organization and facilitation of network meetings in partnership with the selected Respondent.

QUESTION 6 How many times a year will the networks convene?

RESPONSE: The CCEE anticipates that each network will convene at least two times in person and two times virtually each calendar year. However, the frequency of both in person and virtual convenings may fluctuate depending on the progress and needs of the Networks. In person meetings may take place across the state. Participation in the network convenings may include co-learning with network participants, presenting platform updates, facilitating feedback sessions, and for evaluation purposes. The CCEE will collaborate with the selected Respondent(s) to determine participation and timing of network convenings to support the project. Respondents should refer to Sections IV. A. iii-v. of the RFP for more information on expectations for the selected project team/s to engage with the Networks.

QUESTION 7 What is the composition of the networks?

RESPONSE: The CCEE convenes existing state and federally funded literacy and mathematics leads, the California Department of Education, and the State Board of Education as part of these networks. Due to the evolving nature of literacy and mathematics needs across the state, the number of members and composition of each network is anticipated to shift to address those needs.

QUESTION 8 Will Respondents have access to existing CCEE data, network participation records, or prior evaluation findings to inform evaluation plans?

RESPONSE: The CCEE will share existing data, including network participation records with the selected respondent. Data sharing will commence after contracts are finalized with the selected respondent.

QUESTION 9 What is the anticipated coordination between the selected respondent of the Evaluation and Support of the Statewide Literacy and Mathematics Networks Request For Proposals and the selected respondent of the [Creation of a User-Friendly Clearinghouse for Evidence-Based Literacy and Mathematics Resources Request for Proposals](#)?

RESPONSE: Selected respondents for both RFPs will be required to work collaboratively to evaluate the impact of the Statewide Literacy and Mathematics Networks, as needed, to accomplish legislative goals. For example, because creation of a clearinghouse for evidence-based math and literacy resources is a legislatively-mandated goal for each Network, evaluating the activities and outcomes of the Networks will require some level of collaboration and information/data sharing. The CCEE will help coordinate collaborative efforts between the selected respondents.

Research, Documentation, and Information Dissemination on High Performing LEAs

QUESTION 10 How many site visits, case studies, and other related deliverables are expected each year?

RESPONSE: At this time, the CCEE does not have an estimated number of site visits and case studies planned across the networks. The number of site visits and case studies may vary based on network priorities.

QUESTION 11 How does the CCEE define local educational agencies (LEAs), in the context of the RFP?

RESPONSE: In the context of this RFP, the CCEE defines LEAs as schools, school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools serving students in preschool through grade 12.

QUESTION 12 How is the CCEE defining criteria for high-performing LEAs?

RESPONSE: The selected respondent will work closely with the CCEE and each Network to determine an agreeable working definition and criteria for determining which LEAs qualify as "high-performing."

QUESTION 13 Do the identified high-performing LEAs need to be working with (currently or recently) the Lead Agencies from the Networks?

RESPONSE: High performing LEAs may include LEAs that have not received support from the literacy and mathematics leads participating in the Networks.

QUESTION 14 Can the CCEE clarify expectations around dissemination of information

including preferences for multimedia resources?

RESPONSE: Respondents are invited to propose a variety of mediums to disseminate information. The goal of information dissemination is to reach as many interested individuals as possible to increase awareness of high-performing LEAs and best practices in literacy and math. As the RFP states, this may be achieved by developing user-friendly briefs, reports, case studies, and multimedia resources to disseminate findings statewide. Multimedia resources may be leveraged to combine visuals, audio, and interactive elements to make messages more engaging, accessible, and easier to understand.

Budget

QUESTION 15 What are allowable indirect costs for the RFP?

RESPONSE: CCEE does not allow for Respondents to charge for indirect costs as a line item.

QUESTION 16 Is there an anticipated budget range for the RFP?

RESPONSE: Respondents are invited to propose a budget that includes fair and reasonable cost estimates to fulfill all activities and deliverables outlined in Section IV of the RFP. In developing a proposed budget, Respondents should be mindful of the total funds allocated for each Network. These funds are available through June 30, 2030, and will be used to support any and all costs associated with achieving the Networks' goals, including but not limited to the work outlined in this RFP. The proposed budget must include an annual detailed breakdown of the proposed fees and costs for the activities described in the Proposal to meet specified goals. The total annual fees and costs must be stated as a "not-to-exceed" amount. Respondents' cost estimates may be a factor in awarding the contract.

QUESTION 17 Should the four-year budget be presented as four separate annual not-to-exceed amounts, or as a cumulative not-to-exceed amount?

RESPONSE: The proposed budget must include an annual detailed breakdown of the proposed fees and costs for the activities described in the Proposal to meet specified goals. The total annual fees and costs must be stated as a "not-to-exceed" amount. Accordingly, the four-year budget should include not-to-exceed amounts for each year. The total proposed project budget would equal the sum of the annual not-to-exceed amounts. Due to the year-to-year nature of the CCEE's funding, while Proposals may include multi-year project budget, any contract with the selected Respondent(s) will need to be written such that it is for a single fiscal year with the ability to extend it to the next fiscal year at the exclusive option of the CCEE.

QUESTION 18 Does the point value associated with each section of the rubric align to the proportion of the budget each of those activities should take up?

RESPONSE: The rubric was designed to evaluate each proposal in relation to the requirements outlined in the RFP using the criteria outlined in the rubric. Depending on the Respondent's approach to fulfilling the requirements in the RFP, alignment to budgetary proportions may or may not be present, but is not required.

QUESTION 19 Will CCEE accept in-kind contributions from a public agency respondent as part of the proposed budget narrative? Should in-kind contributions be shown separately or within the not-to-exceed amount?

RESPONSE: CCEE's ability to consider in-kind contributions is subject to CCEE/Administrative Agent approval. Respondents from public agencies wishing to include in-kind contributions in the proposed budget should clearly delineate the valuation and nature of the contribution (e.g., professional services, property, etc.) separate from the not-to-exceed amount. The benefit and purpose of the in-kind contribution to the work solicited through this RFP should also be clarified in the narrative. Therefore, if a Respondent from a public agency includes in-kind contributions in the budget proposal as a separate item, the Respondent must affirm that, if it is determined that the CCEE is unable to accept the in-kind contribution, the Respondent's ability to fulfill all activities and deliverables in the RFP will not be compromised.

Requirements for Submittal

QUESTION 20 Are Respondents able to submit letters of support from subcontractors?

RESPONSE: Section VI. H. requires that Respondents provide a list of clients (including name, address, email address, and telephone number of contact person, as well as a bullet description of the work performed) for whom Respondent has performed similar services. References shall not exceed half a page and will count toward the 20-page proposal narrative limit.

Respondents may submit additional letters of support as attachments to the proposal narrative. Attached letters of support submitted with the proposal will not count toward the 20-page limit.

QUESTION 21 Is there a preferred place for the Respondent's signature in the RFP application?

RESPONSE: The CCEE does not have a preferred place for signature in the application for the RFP as long as it is easily identifiable.