

Independent Evaluation of the Statewide System of Support; Geographic Lead Agencies RFP

Questions and Clarifications

July 21, 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 Independent Evaluation of the Statewide System of Support: Geographic Lead Agencies (the "RFP"), issued on July 10, 2026. CCEE staff has endeavored to respond as thoroughly as possible and cited relevant language from the RFP 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.

Evaluation Scope and Existing Materials

QUESTION: Can CCEE share prior Geographic Lead Agency evaluation plans, instruments, reports, dashboards, presentations, or data collection protocols?

RESPONSE: CCEE provides publicly available information through the Geographic Leads webpage <https://ccee-ca.org/geographic-lead-agencies/>.

Annual evaluation plans are available at our webpage <https://ccee-ca.org/statewide-evaluation/>. Instruments, reports, dashboards, presentations, or data collection protocols are not routinely published.

QUESTION: Who conducted the previous Geographic Lead Agency evaluation(s), and are those reports publicly available?

RESPONSE: The Geographic Lead Agency evaluation(s) reports are publicly available and are posted on our website <https://ccee-ca.org/statewide-evaluation/>.

QUESTION: To what extent has CCEE already identified evaluation questions, indicators, targets, or required reporting metrics?

RESPONSE: CCEE, in partnership with CDE and SBE, along with input from current geographic leads, will identify evaluation questions, indicators, targets, and reporting metrics.

QUESTION: Are there logic models, theories of change, strategic plans, or implementation documents that can be shared?

RESPONSE: At this time, materials shared for this initiative are limited to those found on the Geographic Lead Agency webpage <https://ccee-ca.org/geographic-lead-agencies/>.

Additional planning and implementation documents are developed and used within existing governance and partner processes as appropriate.

Sample Size and Data Access

QUESTION: What data systems and administrative datasets will be available to the evaluator (e.g., California School Dashboard, differentiated assistance data, technical assistance participation records, regional needs assessments)?

RESPONSE: The selected evaluator will work collaboratively with CCEE to identify and access data appropriate to the approved evaluation design. Available information may include publicly available statewide datasets, program participation information, and other administrative or implementation data, as appropriate and subject to applicable data-sharing agreements, privacy requirements, and project needs. Specific data sources will be determined during the evaluation planning process.

QUESTION: Will the evaluator receive direct access to Geographic Lead Agency data, or will CCEE staff facilitate data extraction and transfers?

RESPONSE: CCEE will work with the evaluator to facilitate access to relevant data and information, consistent with applicable data governance practices, privacy requirements, and any necessary data-sharing agreements.

QUESTION: Approximately how many Geographic Lead Agency staff, county office staff, LEA staff, and state partners are anticipated participants in evaluation activities annually?

RESPONSE: Participation in evaluation activities will vary based on the approved evaluation design and methods. It is anticipated that evaluation activities may include Geographic Lead Agency staff, county office of education staff, LEA representatives, and state agency partners. CCEE will work with the selected evaluator to identify appropriate participant groups and sample sizes to ensure meaningful representation across California's seven Geographic Lead regions.

Budget and Contract Structure

QUESTION: Can CCEE provide an anticipated annual budget range or not-to-exceed amount for evaluation services?

RESPONSE: Please refer to the RFP, Section VII, H. for information regarding the contract amount and budget requirements. Proposers should develop their cost proposal in accordance with the specifications outlined in the RFP.

QUESTION: Should proposers assume equal annual funding levels across all years, or might future-year budgets vary based on available appropriations?

RESPONSE: Proposers should base their cost proposals on the information provided in the RFP. Funding for future years is subject to the availability of appropriations and any applicable contract terms.

Stakeholder Engagement and Travel

QUESTION: What are CCEE's expectations regarding in-person meetings, site visits, and attendance at Geographic Lead Agency convenings?

RESPONSE: In person meetings, site visits, and attendance activities will be determined collaboratively and at the request of CCEE, throughout the contract period based on evaluation needs and project priorities.

QUESTION: How frequently do Geographic Lead Agencies meet collectively, and which meetings would the evaluator be expected to attend?

RESPONSE: The frequency and scope of these activities will be determined collaboratively and at the request of CCEE, throughout the contract period based on evaluation needs and project priorities.

Reporting and Deliverables

QUESTION: What are the anticipated audiences for the annual and final reports (CCEE leadership, CDE, State Board, Legislature, Geographic Lead Agencies, county offices, public audience)?

RESPONSE: Evaluation reports are intended to inform CCEE and other educational partners with an interest in the implementation and continuous improvement of the Geographic Lead program. The intended audiences and any dissemination of evaluation findings will be determined by CCEE in accordance with project needs and applicable requirements.

See publicly released evaluation on this webpage, <https://ccee-ca.org/statewide-evaluation/>.

QUESTION: What are the timelines and expectations for grant reporting between the Geographic Leads and the CCEE/CDE?

RESPONSE: Please refer to the RFP for information regarding reporting requirements and timelines. Evaluation reports are expected to be completed at the conclusion of each fiscal year and will address the scope of work completed during that evaluation period, ending June 30.

Additional reporting expectations will be established in collaboration with the selected evaluator, as appropriate.

Data Systems

QUESTION: Is data collected through an existing system? If so, what systems are currently used?

RESPONSE: Geographic Lead Agencies and CCEE utilize a variety of existing systems and processes to support program implementation and administration. Information relevant to the evaluation will be identified collaboratively with the selected evaluator based on the approved evaluation design and project needs.

QUESTION: To what extent are Data Sharing Agreements already in place between CCEE, the CDE, and the Geographic Lead Agencies that will be evaluated? What types of data are included in these DSAs?

RESPONSE: Any data-sharing arrangements necessary to support the evaluation will be established in accordance with applicable laws, privacy requirements, and CCEE policies. The need for, and scope of, any data-sharing agreements will depend on the approved evaluation design and data requirements and will be determined collaboratively with the selected evaluator during project planning.