Interdistrict Magnet School Capital Improvement Grant Questions from 11.06.25 Bidder's Conference

Bidder's Conference Recording

Q: Can you submit a capital improvement project application for property that is not owned?

A: Yes, if you have an agreement and whoever you are leasing the building from allows you to make renovations, then this would be allowable.

Q: Are moving costs to prepare for the upgrades allowable?

A: No, moving costs are not allowable. The only costs allowed are those related to the physical structure itself.

Q: Are switches for Wi-Fi (that are embedded in the ceiling) allowable?

A: Yes, they are allowable since they are fixed to the building.

Q: Are energy efficient projects, like a combined heating and power unit, boilers, or HVAC systems allowable?

A: Yes, they are allowable since they would be permanently fixed to the building.

Q: Is flooring replacement allowable?

A: If the floor is being pulled up and is being redone, like resurfacing a gym floor, then yes. But if you are just purchasing a runner that is not fixed, then no.

Q: Are salaries of temporary project managers allowable?

A: If you are paying for salaries for contracted services, then yes. Salaries under "Other purchased services" are allowable. However, the salaries of RESC/district employees are not allowable.

Q: Can you provide feedback on what was missing in the original applications to make sure we can address it in this application?

A: We are looking for a level of detail related to each project and the context of each site. To ensure applicants are providing that detail, we have reworked the application questions to more specifically ask for each of these details related to each project. Question #3, the rationale, asks for the applicant to provide this level of detail for each project they are submitting. If you have additional questions about your application, please reach out.

Q: If we are changing age groups in a building and must redo the outdoor space and playground area because we are no longer going to have kindergarteners, is this allowable?

A: Yes, that is allowable because that would be a fixture on the land.

Q: Will applicants know what projects are approved before the Office of Strategic Planning and Partnerships (OSPP) goes to the Bond Commission in January?

A: Yes, applicants will be made aware of the approved sites and projects before the OSPP goes to the Bond Commission, but those will be pending Bond Commission approval.

Once the Bond Commission approves, then the awards will be finalized.

Q: We had to do a boiler repair earlier this summer because it was urgent. Would this be allowable under this grant?

A: Yes, if it was within the grant period, which began on July 1, 2025, it would be allowable. If awarded, then funds could be utilized for this purpose.

Q: Can you please clarify any CHRO requirements?

A: If the grantee follows all guidelines, CHRO requirements should be met. For more information on these requirements, the CHRO has a contract compliance technical assistance online session scheduled for November 12th from 10-12pm. Please use this link to register for this session.

Q: Would painting school walls be considered an allowable cost?

A: Painting walls would be allowed if it was part of a renovation or construction project. If it is just to update the existing wall paint, then no, it would not be allowable because it is considered a maintenance cost.