

Meeting Questions and Answers

Charter School Facilities Program Webinar April 1, 2014

Q. *Is this a state or federal grant?*

The [Charter School Facilities Program](#) is a state grant program.

Q. *When I use the per pupil grant amounts for our population, I arrive at \$5.4 million. If we are chosen to receive the grant, will we get that amount, or half that amount?*

The per pupil grants listed are considered to be 50 percent of the total project cost, so the state grant will be \$5.4 million, and the total project cost would be \$10.8 million. The applicant must make a local contribution for the other 50 percent of the total project cost. If the applicant decides to request a full loan, they would be eligible to receive an additional \$5.4 million which would be repaid to the state.

Q. *If we are requesting site development funds, and have an estimate from the district's school construction company for rough grading and site preparation, is that sufficient documentation? The slide mentioned "approved site development and off-site plans." What sort of approval is needed?*

To request specific site development costs, an applicant must have Division of the State Architect (DSA) approved plans and include itemized site development costs. Without DSA approved plans, an applicant can request either \$70,000 per acre in the project or it may request "historical" costs, which would be based upon a previously funded School Facility Program project within the Charter School General Location. "Historical" site development would be awarded on a per acre basis, as well.

Q. *If we find a school within three miles of the proposed site, but it is in a neighboring district (not the district in which we will be located), can we use the neighboring district total Free and Reduced Lunch Percentage (FRLP)?*

No, you may only use the district average FRLP for the district in which you will be located. However, you may use the FRLP of the school itself, even if it lies in a neighboring district, as long as it is located within the three mile radius of the Charter School General Location.

Q. *If the 50 percent local match will be entirely provided by the applicant and there is no loan request, does the charter school still need to submit the documentation for the financial soundness review?*

Yes, you are still subject to a financial soundness review for the grant amount to be provided.