

Meeting Questions and Answers

Charter School Facilities Program Webinar January 13, 2014

Q. *Do non-classroom based programs (i.e. independent study programs) qualify for funding through the [Charter School Facilities Program \(CSFP\)](#)?*

No, only classroom based programs may apply for funding. Please refer to Education Code Section 47612.5 for the definition of classroom based instruction.

Q. *If a charter school wishes to apply for a K-8 school, do we check both Elementary and Middle boxes?*

No, check only the box in Section 2 of the [Application for Charter School Preliminary Apportionment \(Form SAB 50-09\)](#) of the highest grade level served. However, in Section 4 of the Form SAB 50-09 for new construction projects, you must enter the appropriate pupils for each grade level. For purposes of funding priority and the funding matrix, a project will be classified by the highest level served. For instance, an application requesting K-8 grants will be classified as a 7-8 school for purposes of funding priority. However, actual grant amounts will be based on the pupils as reflected in Section 4.

Q. *How much money is allocated for the charter school program?*

Approximately \$87.6 million in bond authority available. However, this number may increase prior to actual funding of the current filing round, depending on activity with existing CSFP projects. The State Allocation Board will be having a discussion at a future meeting in order to determine the amount of bond authority that will be available for the current CSFP filing round.

Q. *If the location where you will be building your project is next to a school with a high Free and Reduced Priced Lunch percentage, but where you are currently located does not, how can you reflect that on your application?*

Per School Facility Program (SFP) Regulation Section 1859.164.1(a), the applicant may use any of the following Free and Reduced Priced Lunch numbers on its application: The charter school itself, the local school district average, or any other school within the Charter School General Location. The Charter School General Location is a one to three mile radius

from the present or proposed location of the charter school. Any Free and Reduced Priced Lunch within this area may be used. To allow easy verification by the Office of Public School Construction, please include the district or school used in 11d of the Form SAB 50-09, along with the actual percentage used.

Q. *Can a school district apply for CSFP funding if they are leasing a previously vacant school campus to a charter school?*

Yes. You may apply for either rehabilitation of the existing buildings, if they qualify, or new construction on the site.

Q. *Can a school district apply for rehabilitation funding for a charter school that the district started and funds (dependent) on one of its own sites?*

Yes, provided the buildings qualify for rehabilitation.

Q. *Do the grants require a match by the charter school?*

Yes, all projects (both new construction and rehabilitation) are funded on a 50/50 basis. Fifty percent of the total project cost is provided by the SFP, and 50 percent is required to be matched by the applicant. The applicant is eligible to receive a 30 year loan from the SFP to cover some or the entire applicant's matching share. Please note that the California School Finance Authority's financial review will take into account the requested loan when determining the financial soundness of the charter school.