



Arkansas 21st Century Community Learning Centers

Prescreening Process for Approved External Organizations

The Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) is required under Section 4203(a)(11) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Title IV, Part B, 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC), to prescreen external organizations that could provide assistance with the implementation of 21st CCLC programs and make a list of prescreened external organizations available to entities participating in the 21st CCLC program.

External organization is defined under Section 4201(b)(4) of the ESSA as a nonprofit organization with a record of success in running or working with before and after school (or summer recess) programs and activities; or in the case of a community where there is no such organization, a nonprofit organization in the community that enters into a written agreement or partnership with an organization with a record of success to receive mentoring and guidance in running or working with before and after school (or summer recess) programs and activities.

Organizations must meet the following criteria to be included on the approved external organization list:

1. Operate as a nonprofit in good standing in Arkansas;
2. Currently not on the suspension or debarment list for the federal government (<https://www.sam.gov>); and
3. Have a minimum of five years of experience operating or delivering services to out-of-school time programs in Arkansas.

An organization that meets all of the above requirements, is eligible to complete the External Organization Profile (EOP). The EOP can be accessed at the Arkansas Department of Education 21st CCLC website.

Submitting an EOP or being listed as a prescreened organization will not result in funding from the ADE. The completion of the application will not result in a contract with ADE. Inclusion of an organization on the list is not an endorsement of the organization, nor is it a certification or guarantee of the quality of service provided by the organization. This solicitation has no bearing on any contracts or funding with the ADE or other state agencies. Listed organizations are not prohibited from entering contractual agreement with 21st CCLC or other federally funded grantees or contractors.