

**ITEMS FOR COUNCIL VOTE September 2, 2020**

September 2020 to June 2021 School Readiness Grant

1. **School Readiness September to June grant application waiver (page 2)**

Request the Council vote to approve the Waiver to reduce Full Day services to 41 weeks and School Day/Part Day services to 177 days. The hours/day for Full Day and School Day are more flexible, allowing time for programs to daily clean and sanitize.

1. **Process to re-allocate $160,632 in SR funds. Funds available due to closure of United Community**

Request the Council vote to:

1. Approve additional SR spaces requested by current SR providers, based on the current Council priorities for allocating SR spaces. (See page 3 for program list) Current priorities are: full day spaces, serving families from under-resourced neighborhoods.
2. Approve the issuance of a SR RFP to non-funded New Haven preschool programs using the criteria outlined in the OEC’s “FY21 September 2020 to June 2021 SR Guidance”. Will require issuance of a Public Notice
3. **Hire a consultant to support new programs applying for SR September to June grant funding. (see page 4 for Scope of Service)**

Request Council vote to set aside up to $7,000 and issue an RFP to seek out a consultant who can help potential SR program complete the grant application. Hiring is conditional and based on: council approval to seek new SR programs and there are new programs who are eligible and interested in completing an application.

**COMMUNITY WAIVER APPLICATION FOR SCHOOL READINESS SCHEDULE VARIANCES**

**In Hours, Days and Weeks of Operation**

*Per CGS Sec.10-16q (3) (d) A town or school readiness council may file a waiver application to the office on forms provided by the office for the purpose of seeking approval of a school readiness schedule that varies from the minimum hours and number of days provided for in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 10-16p or from the definition of a year-round program pursuant to subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section 10-16p. The office may approve any such waiver if the office finds that the proposed schedule meets the purposes set forth in the provisions of section 10-16o concerning the development of school readiness programs and maximizes available dollars to serve more children or address community needs.*

**COMMUNITY:** NEW HAVEN

**TERM OF WAIVER: September 2020 through June 2021**

**Check the boxes for the waiver(s) requested for the space types funded in this community:**

[x]  **Full Day/Full Year** request to operate 41 weeks for 6.5 to 10 hours per day

[x]  **School Day/School Year** request to operate 177 days for 3 to 6 hours per day

[x]  **Part-Day/Part-Year** request to operate 177 days 2 to 2.5 hours per day

[ ]  **Extended Day/Full Year** request to operate 41 weeks (*Priority districts only*)

**JUSTIFICATION**:

Programs offering full year space types are not able to operate for 50 weeks under this grant due to delay in the grant process as a result of the COVID-19 emergency. Programs offering full year space types were eligible to receive funding for the additional 9 weeks under the COVID-19 Emergency Summer Funding plan. The number of days programs are required to operate for school year and part-year space type requirements have been adjusted to align with the Connecticut State Department of Education modification of 2020-2021 School Year 180-day requirement.

 Submitted on behalf of the New Haven School Readiness Council

 (Community)

by Jennifer Heath on 9/2/2020

(Co-Chair) (Date)

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**Approved by:** Click or tap here to enter text. **Date:** Click or tap to enter a date.

 (OEC Representative)

***Communities shall be provided with a copy of this waiver upon review and approval by the OEC.***

***Please retain a copy for your records and provide a copy of the approved waiver to programs impacted by these changes.***

COUNCIL VOTE: Item #2 A

Vote re Current School Readiness Programs Requesting Additional SR Spaces

SR Provider Survey Results

Respondents: 17 of 29 sites, 15 of 19 sub-grantees

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Program | # SR enrolledvsSR capacity | Are you full-even with reduced class size of 16? | We can take more SR spaces now | We can take more SR spaces when class size increases to 20 |
| St Andrew | FD 28/47 | No |  |  |
| Yale NHHosp 2 | FD 27/27 | Yes |  | Yes (#?) |
| YMCA | FD 12/40 | No |  |  |
| St Aedan | FD 26/69 | No |  |  |
| Leila Day | 16/22 | No |  |  |
| Calvin Hill | 10/10 | Yes | 2SD |  |
| Gateway ELC | 20/40 | No |  |  |
| Morning Glory 2 | FD 17/30 | No |  |  |
| Creative ME | FD 12/16 |  | 2FD |  |
| Auntie Rose | FD 12/16 | No |  | 5FD |
| Catholic Charities 3 | FD 80/164 | No |  |  |
| Farnam | FD 31/44 | No | 4FD 10 Hybrid |  |
| Little Schoolhouse | FD 7/18 | No |  |  |
| Friends 2  | FD 54/54 |  | 7 FD |  |
| Montessori  | FD 12/31 | No |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

COUNCIL VOTE ITEM #3

Vote to approve up to $7k for a consultant(s) to help new programs interested in applying for SR FY21 funds understand the SR requirements and guide them through the RFP grant writing process.

Rationale:

Several New Haven programs have expressed interest in the School Readiness program and in past years have attended SR grant info sessions. Three such programs are again interested but have expressed concerns with the long grant application and its many narrative sections. While all are provided with related FAQ’s and checklists explaining each section, more support is needed than can be provided by the current SR director.

Process:

Develop and publish a RFP from consultants with experience in grant writing and knowledge of the School Readiness Program and its requirements.

Develop a Scope of Service for the consultant position

Review proposals, interview candidates and recommend qualified consultant for the position

Draft Scope of Service:

The NHECC is seeking a consultant to support New Haven preschool programs currently not receiving School Readiness but interested and eligible to apply for the September 2020 to June 2021 grant cycle. This is a short term project with the amount of hours necessary dependent upon the interest of new applicants, their grant writing experience and understanding of early childhood education and SR requirements.

The successful applicant will have

--Experience writing grants

--Working knowledge of the School Readiness Program, and the policies and requirements of the program as outlined by the CT Office of Early Childhood

--An ability to work closely with program directors, assess their needs for support and together create a plan to complete the application.

--Good communication and writing skills are essential. Flexible hours and transportation are required. ----Bilingual English-Spanish is preferred by not required.