



Dream Fund Q & A

Updated 12/8/2021

1. **Will a TAEP recipient's ability to successfully execute this program have any influence on future TAEP awards?**
 - a. No, your decision to participate in the Dream Fund will not affect future TAEP awards.
2. **Will the application deadline be extended?**
 - a. The program deadline is not being extended at this time.
3. **Can you clarify the length of the Dream Fund program and when training/consulting should be completed?**
 - a. The Dream Fund period of performance will extend until March 31, 2023. However, at that point, all funds would need to be distributed to small businesses or returned to the State. Centers will likely need to complete training prior to March 31 in order to distribute funds to qualifying businesses.
4. **What is meant by Administrative Costs?**
 - a. The administrative fee is meant to cover administrative costs associated with managing the grant program and distributing funds. The 10% administrative fee does not cover outreach, marketing, or technical assistance. In addition, please note that contracting out the administrative process is an acceptable use of the 10% administrative funds allocation. The administrative fee will be applied per TAEP agreement.
5. **How can a Dream grant administrator confirm a company has not applied for or received a grant with a different grant administrator?**
 - a. It is recommended that centers create a self-certification process with strong legal language as part of their controls for fraud, waste and abuse. In addition, we recommend that centers check names and registrations of businesses with local agencies, counties, the Secretary of State, etc. Our office is also looking into additional ways we can support this issue.
6. **Can you clarify the maximum grant amount one can bid for?**
 - a. There is no maximum grant amount per center and you are welcome to apply for an amount of funding that your center can administer in the time frame. The total amount that will be awarded across the network will be \$35MM. If you apply for over \$3MM, your administrative fee would be capped at \$300,000. Please note that CalOSBA reserves the right to adjust funding requests as needed.
7. **Since grants awarded to the Dream fund participants/clients can be used towards business formation, does this mean that a participating entrepreneur doesn't necessarily need to have registered their business or obtain a business license when they first enter/enroll into the program, so long as it's done prior to receiving the grant (assuming they meet other criteria and complete the curriculum)?**
 - a. A business participating in the Dream Fund should be a new or startup business. The business does not need to have registered their business or obtained a business license when they first enter the program. We would expect that the business would receive technical



assistance and training around business formation and that business formation would occur prior to the business receiving the grant.

8. **Are the centers required to distribute exactly \$10,000 to each eligible small business or do they have flexibility to distribute a lower dollar amount (ex: \$7,500 per business) to a larger number of small businesses.**
 - a. Centers may determine the dollar amount to be disbursed. The maximum that may be disbursed is \$10,000 to each business.