

DEC #26-02 Access and Enrollment Early  
Care and Education Services for Homeless  
Children RFGA  
Questions & Answers

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<p>In "Section G. Target Population" it says "Families residing in San Francisco that meet the local definition of homelessness" but the quoted definition is not the San Francisco definition; we believe it's HUD's definition. San Francisco's definition also includes families with minor children living in single room occupancy housing or living overcrowded in housing with one or more additional households. Can you clarify what definition of homelessness is to be applied?</p>	<p>For purposes of this RFGA, DEC will be using the definition and information contained in the following <a href="#">link</a>.</p>
<p>In "Section G. Target Population" it says that the approximate number of eligible children to be served is 300. Can you clarify where that number comes from and also confirm that that is an annual estimate?</p>	<p>This is an annual estimated number based on previous and similar contracted services. The RFGA section has been updated to:</p> <p>“The approximate number of unduplicated eligible families to be served by one or more services is 350, and at least 130 children of those 350 families will be enrolled in an early care and education program using the ELFA network of providers.”</p>
<p>In the Services Requested section under "Description of Services and Objectives," it says "As part of the enhanced child care Service Coordination support, transition to in-county or out-of-county state-funded CC program will be facilitated for homeless families with children over 5 years old to continue the child’s eligibility until they are 13 years old.” In the current model, we provide services to siblings of children 0-5 who are enrolled until they are 13 years old, but this is only for as long as a child in the household is in ECE. It sounds like this is a change in which children in families who don't have any 0-5 children will still be served after their ECE services have ended until 13. Is that correct?</p>	<p>The RFGA section has been updated to:</p> <p>“As part of the enhanced child care Service Coordination support, transition to in-county or out-of-county state-funded child care program will be facilitated for homeless families with children over 5 years old to continue the child’s eligibility until they are 13 years old, as long as the family has a child between the ages of 0-5 years old who is currently receiving Early Learning For All (ELFA) ECE services.”</p>

<p>In the Services Requested section on page 19 it says that "the Grantee will develop a set of child care readiness instruments. . ." but later in the same bullet is says "The Choosing Child Care Readiness Instrument was developed in alignment with other A&amp;E grantees and follows best practices to assist families in choosing the best child care program." Please clarify if there is an existing instrument that the Grantee will be asked to adopt or if the Grantee is being tasked with developing an instrument.</p>	<p>The Grantee will be asked to adopt an existing child care readiness instrument and will be asked to make modifications according to the needs and considerations of families experiencing homelessness.</p>
<p>In the Services Requested section on page 21 it says "Responsiveness to families and programs occurs within 24 hours of being contacted. From the first contact to enrollment in a child care program, the targeted wait time is no more than five working days." Please clarify if the intention is for the family to get enrolled into the Access and Enrollment program operated under this contract by the Grantee within 5 days, or that the child would be enrolled in a child care program within 5 days.</p>	<p>The intention is for the child to be enrolled in a child care program within 5 working days.</p>
<p>At the top of page 22, the RFGA states "All support will be offered in Chinese, Spanish, and English." We always have both Spanish and English staff capacity, but we do not always have Chinese speakers on staff. Is the expectation that Chinese language capacity would be in-house or is using outside translation services on an as-needed basis acceptable?</p>	<p>Using outside translation services on an as-needed basis is acceptable. However, applicants must specify the reason, intention, and/or challenge if they are not securing language capacity in the Chinese language.</p>
<p>Is this RFGA intended to move away from the more intensive case management model used in previous contracts toward a lighter touch enrollment, referral, and monitoring model, or is ongoing case management after enrollment still expected?</p>	<p>This is a new initiative and not a continuation of funding. The primary focus of this RFGA is access to ECE and the alignment of initiatives with DEC's other early care investments and projects. The Grantee will operate within a wraparound, family-centered framework, recognizing that stable child care is closely linked to broader family well-being.</p> <p>Families will receive support with navigating services through coordinated referrals, follow-up to confirm service connection, and child care stabilization check-ins.</p> <p>Staff will maintain ongoing contact with families through monthly follow-ups as needed to support enrollment, continuity of care, and service stability.</p>

	Ongoing case management after enrollment is expected.
The budget template has 3 columns (Yr1-Yr3), are we expected to provide complete budgets for 3 years?	Yes, complete budgets are required. Please refer to the updated budget form available on our website, as it reflects the correct five-year format.
Under minimum qualifications, is it appropriate to list our current DEC contract?	Yes, you may list your current DEC contract under the minimum qualifications section to demonstrate relevant experience.