

**NORTH CHICAGO CUSD 187**  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL – CHARTER SCHOOL OPPORTUNITY**

**Q+A PAGE - December 5, 2011**

Q.1. Can we confirm that 10,307/pupil funding numbers as what the district will pay and that it won't be 75% of that figure?

A.1. \$10,307 is confirmed as the PCTC number that should be utilized in each applicant's proposed budget. In terms of the PCTC range set forth in the Illinois Charter Schools Law, each applicant should request the funding amount that they feel is necessary to sustain their operations and meet their educational goals. Once the operator is selected, ISBE will work with the District, the charter developer, and any business partners that have been identified to negotiate a PCTC rate and supplemental funding that is sustainable for the District but also meets the charter school's needs.

Note that if the District's PCTC changes in FY11 or any other year, funding may be adjusted to ensure that it stays within the statutory parameters.

Q.2. Who will be responsible for transportation?

A.2. District 187 will be responsible for transportation, subject to the negotiated agreement between the charter operator and the District.

Q.3. The RFP was short on submission instructions. It said to submit to the superintendent, but there was not guidance for how many copies were needed as well as what format would be preferred?

A.3. The applicant should submit one original and six copies (seven applications in all) to 2000 Lewis Avenue, North Chicago, IL 60064, Attn: Superintendent Milton Thompson, to ensure receipt no later than December 19, 2011. No electronic submissions including facsimiles will be accepted. Proposals may also be hand-delivered to that same address on or before December 19, 2011.

Q.4. Lines 29-31 of the financial schedule ask for details on State Funding for "Special Education – Private Facility, Extraordinary and Personnel." Our assumption is that Special Education refers to Specialized Services (Special Ed Instruction, Special Ed Aides, Social Workers). Does this also cover clinicians (school psychiatrists, OT/PT, nurse, etc.)?

- A.4. Yes, Special Education Personnel funding can cover clinicians. The intent of SpEd Personnel reimbursement is to provide state funding for a portion of the salaries of certified and non-certified personnel who spend time providing direct services to students with disabilities. Thus, if any clinician is required per a student's IEP, the District can seek approval for such clinician and then claim reimbursement. The State pays a maximum of \$9,000 for certified and \$3,500 for non-certified staff who are employed on a full time basis for the school year. Additional information is available at [http://www.isbe.net/funding/html/sped\\_personnel.htm](http://www.isbe.net/funding/html/sped_personnel.htm).

Please note, however, that because the North Chicago Charter School will be a district-authorized charter school, SpEd Personnel reimbursement claims must come from the District. Under the Illinois Charter Schools Law, the charter school will be entitled to receive from D-187, "the proportionate share of State and federal resources generated by students with disabilities or staff serving them . . ." 105 ILCS 5/27A-11(c). Whether the District provides the services and/or the staff at the District's own expense and keeps the funds, or whether this is handled by the charter school subject to reimbursement by the District, should be determined by the agreement negotiated between the charter school and the District.

- Q.5. In Chicago, Specialized Services funding is given to us as a reimbursement for approved Specialized Services personnel. How is specialized services funding allocated from the State? Is this per pupil funding that we qualify for? If so, what are the criteria for students (or services) that would qualify for this funding?

- A.5. Lines 29 ("Private Facility Tuition), 30 ("Extraordinary"), and 31 ("Personnel") all refer to mandated categoricals, a term ISBE uses to define 8 large programs that provide supplemental reimbursement to LEAs that are required to provide services under those programs. These programs are reflected in any ISBE budget chart (see, for e.g., the FY2012 Budget, available at [http://www.isbe.state.il.us/budget/FY12\\_budget.pdf](http://www.isbe.state.il.us/budget/FY12_budget.pdf)).

Again, the North Chicago Charter School will be a district-authorized charter school. **With very few exceptions, district-authorized charter schools receive any State and federal grant funds through their school district authorizer.** In any LEA application for state or federal funds, we expect that the application will include ALL eligibility information, including information specific to its charter school. The charter school should then receive a proportionate share of categorical resources generated by its student body, its staff, etc. in accordance with the approved grant application. Whether the District provides the services and/or staff at the District's own expense and keeps the funds, or whether this is handled by the charter subject to reimbursement by the District, should be determined by the agreement negotiated between the charter school and the District.

- Q.6. I didn't see a line item for SGSA funding. Is that included in a different line?
- A.6. Supplemental General State Aid ("SGSA") is not pulled out of a District's per capita student tuition calculation, so it will be part of the per capita amount provided by District 187 (i.e., no less than 75 percent or more than 125 percent of the District's PCTC multiplied by the number of students enrolled in the charter who are residents of D-187). In 2010, North Chicago's PCTC was \$10,307.
- Q.7. We understand that Title 1, Title 2 and Title 3 funding is a calculation based on % of students that qualify for Free & Reduced Meals. Can you give us that specific calculation? (Again, our current funding is allocated through CPS, so we don't utilize that specific calc to forecast the Title 1-3 funding that we currently receive)
- A.7 Please note again that as a District-authorized charter school, any Title I, II or III funds you receive will flow through the school district. The charter school will not be submitting an application to ISBE for such funding.

The calculation for Title I funding is based on the percentage of a school's student enrollment that qualifies as being low-income. North Chicago has selected children eligible for free and reduced-priced lunches under the National School Lunch Act as its poverty measure, although there are other options for poverty measures. In FY12, North Chicago received \$1,601,428 in Title I funds. North Chicago has targeted all of its schools as Title I eligible based on the percent of low income students served, and each of its schools operates a schoolwide program. In FY12, each of its schools received around \$260 per eligible student. Note that under the Charter Schools Law, a proportionate share of funds generated under federal or State categorical aid programs must be directed to charter schools serving students eligible for that aid. 105 ILCS 5/27A-11(c).

Title II funds are used to design and implement a wide variety of activities for teacher and principal professional development. In FY12, North Chicago received \$332,787 in Title II funds. Note that under the Charter Schools Law, a proportionate share of funds generated under federal or State categorical aid programs must be directed to charter schools serving students eligible for that aid. 105 ILCS 5/27A-11(c). Thus, for purposes of Title II, the charter school will be treated like the other schools within D-187 and may participate in Title II program activities on the same basis as personnel in any other school.

Title III is based on the number of students identified as English Language Learners and who received English Language support services. In FY12, the District received \$133,760 in Title III funds, and had a carryover of \$29,673 from the previous school year, for a total of \$163,433 in Title III funds. Generally each eligible student generates approximately \$150-\$190 dollars. Note that under the Charter Schools Law, a proportionate share of funds generated under federal or

State categorical aid programs must be directed to charter schools serving students eligible for that aid. 105 ILCS 5/27A-11(c).