

**RESILIENCY IN SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS (RISE):  
STRENGTHENING MTSS TIER 2 AND 3 RESPONSES**  
**Webinar Q&A**

1. Can an ESD apply for more than one county and/or submit more than one application?

Yes, and ESD, district or tribal center could apply for schools that cross counties and could also submit more than one application.

2. I am understanding that the school site needs to be 50% F and R. But it does say District at 50%. We have several districts that are 47% FR but they have like 4 school sites in that district that are over 50%. Burlington, Ferndale and Nooksack for example. Can we combine districts that are in the same county in an application?

All schools involved must be 50% or higher FRL. Districts that are less than 50% FRL can apply for the funding on behalf of these schools in their district or include schools meeting this criteria in another district. All of the schools within a proposal do not need to be contained within one district.

3. Can we pass through funding to schools for the School Lead? Asking because Mount Vernon is going to have to cut 3.5 million this year –

Yes. Note that the limit of the 15% administration costs refers to the entire budget whether the funding is passed through or not. In other words the administration or indirect/admin fees of the grantee and any subcontractors combined may not exceed 15% of the total grant budget.

4. And a follow up to that question... although we want the Leads to be assigned to one building – like a counselor/champion in house – is it possible to have a lead serve 2 buildings.

Yes.

5. Last but not least – If Mukilteo wants to do this – can we partner with Kaiser Permanente Behavioral Health in Everett?

That is not one I have an answer too and would need a little more info!

- Are there challenges to bringing on a CBO like Center for Human Services? CBO's that are FQHC's are reimbursed through Medicaid at a higher rate than a managed care plan and would have stronger sustainability.
- Do you have a partner at Kaiser Permanente Behavioral Health in Everett that you've discussed this with already?

6. Is SAPISP considered excluded from being funded?: "Project funds cannot be used for direct services e.g., delivery of treatment."? Is it possible to fund them for peer leadership and social norms campaign delivery?

Yes. Staff could be funded for peer leadership, training and social norms campaigns. Not for 1:1 or group intervention or treatment services. This grant focuses on Tier 2 & 3 so activities would need to be geared towards those tiers rather than universal supports.

7. Is there a way to review the RISE Index tool now? I see it is 'free in 2020' but it would be very helpful to review and approach school sites with a bit more in depth understanding on the tool itself - and how it measures progress.

I will have information on this at the webinar.

8. Can you speak more about staff wellness rating please – how would one measure (ratio of 1=10 page 13 application inclusions)

1-low: There are no formal activities or initiatives in place to address staff wellness. May have limited, isolated events (such as an annual benefits fair) with low participation or engagement. No leadership engagement and/or no dedicated staff or wellness committee to support activities. No budget for staff wellness.

3-middle: There are traditional health promotion activities (i.e. biometric screenings or health promotion classes), with limited focus on long-term risk reduction. Episodic activities with no long-term strategy; limited leadership engagement and limited, if any, dedicated staff. A wellness committee may be in place, with limited resources, time, or authority. Limited budget for staff wellness.

5-high: Comprehensive program addressing staff wellness in place with a long-term, data-driven strategy focused on risk reduction. Significant participation in wellness programs. Visibly supportive and actively engaged leadership. Dedicated staff lead (volunteer or paid) with an experience wellness committee in place. Significant staff wellness budget may exist.

9. This is a tight timeline for selecting school sights. Given the time frame, we can make approaches with what we know, however that creates some challenges by excluding others. We could create a criteria for selection, however the application requests site specific range of knowledge about MTSS status. Do you have any guidance for us along these lines? (If not I think I will send out a criteria list with a deadline and see who responds.)

I don't have any key criteria. I would recommend using the "Selection of Proposals" selection criteria as a guide. Some schools may have completed the SHAPE assessment, which provides information about level of readiness. It may benefit applicants to find out if schools/districts have completed to tool.

10. Currently OSSI schools have a great deal of coaching support related to MTSS. Has Kaiser coordinated with OSPI along these lines? Is this intended to complement, or could it run a risk of overlapping with their efforts? This question stems from trying to make an informed decision related to school participation selection

Yes, OSPI was very involved in helping us design this RFP. Both Dixie and Mona's teams were involved. It is intended to compliment and we will be having ongoing discussions on how to best help this happen.

11. What is the level of expectation for engaging in the Kaiser staff wellness initiatives? What is the range and nature of those initiatives and to what extent is HR involved - as a key player or a support?

The Kaiser staff wellness initiatives are a resource available to grantees. We will be designing the supports once we have selected our grantees to better address local needs. HR has typically been the key contact for our staff wellness work. Our work this year is to expand the responsibility of staff wellness to teams that include HR. Here are two websites you can refer to:

<https://thrivingschools.kaiserpermanente.org/school-employees/> or [www.kp.org/workforcehealth](http://www.kp.org/workforcehealth)

12. When you wrote we need a district level strategic plan...is that the district of the selected schools, or is that PSESD as the applicant?

It could be either/or or both. It would depend on the sustainability plan for the schools involved. If in post grant funding the ESD will have a key role in the sustainability of this work, I would recommend an ESD plan. It would be hard however for a school to sustain the work without having their district on board so not having a district connection could weaken an application.

13. We have the capacity to bill for Medicaid, but our BHO s not willing to offer us a contract at this time stating they have an adequate network. We meet all the other qualification. We bill most mental health currently through MCO's and plan to bill in the 2020 changes. Will this suffice?

Yes. This might be something the Behavioral Health Navigator will help navigate during the three year grant.

14. Are the grant funded mental health services limited to Medicaid eligible students?

No direct mental health services can be provided with the funding from this RFP. Funding is for systems change. It is anticipated that the Behavioral Health Navigator will build a robust system to increase access to BH services and supports for both Medicaid and non-Medicaid students. It is up to the individual sites/applicants to determine which student populations they are designing the infrastructure for.

15. Is it worthwhile to apply if you're a district with only two low income eligible buildings?

Please contact Jill Patnode to share more information if you are only a few buildings. Support from administration will be critical.

16. On slide 39 application components—when you ask us to identify staff population—are you suggesting we might opt to not focus on all staff but rather role or grade specific?

This is up to each individual applicant. What is the best fit for you school?

17. Is it a November 1 start date? January 1?

Announcements and contract negotiations will start in October. Feasibly could be an early to mid-November start date.

18. How does one demonstrate collaboration based on timeline—many sites will have their own plans in place and this will prescribe something similar in spirit but are different in scope?

The intent of this RFP is to serve multiple schools so timeline, workplans and SMART goals should be broad enough capture the flexibility needed among sites while still assuring progress on the outcomes. Sites may also consider "rolling out" the support system. For instance, enhancing/expanding services in schools with higher readiness in YR 1, then focusing on the remaining schools buildings in YR2.

Consider using slide 37 as a guide.

