

Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers 504 Guidelines

Introduction

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) works to ensure that all educational environments, including Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC), are accessible, inclusive, and equitable. The purpose of the following guidelines is to enable grantees to join the DPI in such commitments and to remain in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 [29 U.S.C.794].

For more information on working with students with disabilities in your 21st CCLC, visit [You for Youth's \(Y4Y\) Inclusion in 21st CCLC Environments](#).

Guidelines

Grantees should first direct questions about the following guidelines, or about any local 21st CCLC policies for serving students with disabilities, to their organization's legal team.

Additional questions may be sent to the grantee's assigned [DPI consultant](#).

1. Are grantees responsible for addressing the needs of participants with disabilities?

Yes, as specified in the grant application documents, applicants shall comply with all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements. These requirements include, but are not limited to, applicable provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 [29 U.S.C.794].

Section 504 prohibits the exclusion of any person from program participation solely on the basis of his or her disability.

Section 504 requires that persons with disabilities be afforded the opportunity to participate on an equal basis with non-disabled persons in grant funded programs. Persons with disabilities may require individualized accommodations or supports in order to participate equally in programming. Required accommodations and supports are determined on a case-by-case basis considering the nature of the program and the individual's disability-related needs.

2. What are grantee obligations if they subcontract for services? Are they responsible for ensuring their subcontractors are complying with the provisions of Section 504?

Yes, grantees must ensure subcontractors comply with the provisions of Section 504.

- 3. *Is the grantee financially responsible for accommodations and supports that are determined necessary for a person with a disability to participate on an equal basis in the program?***

Yes, the grantee must provide necessary supports and accommodations unless doing so would fundamentally alter the nature of the program as described in the approved grant proposal.

- 4. *Must grantees implement the Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) of participants with disabilities?***

In most cases, grantees will make a separate individualized determination as to the accommodations and supports needed for participants with IEPs. In cases where a student's IEP team has identified supplementary aids and services necessary for participation in extracurricular activities, the child's local educational agency (LEA) will be responsible for ensuring the child's IEP is implemented.