

## Questions TCS for December 2, 2025

16. We understand that the stipend for participating in-service teachers is capped at \$1,500 per teacher. We would like to clarify whether this same cap applies if our target participants are undergraduate students enrolled in teacher education programs (i.e., preservice teachers). Specifically, would it be permissible to structure these funds as scholarships for preservice teachers and offer amounts exceeding the \$1,500 limit?

**Answer:** Yes, an expenditure in the form of scholarships may be used for preservice students; however, the amount cannot exceed the \$1500 limit per preservice teacher.

15. If we are offering professional development, can we charge tuition for that professional development and cover it from this grant? Would that tuition be separate from the \$500 stipend we can provide to teachers?

**Answer:** Yes, you may charge for professional development and use the grant funds to cover the cost of professional development. You may also offer a stipend of \$500 separate from the professional development. As a reminder, all grant costs are expected to be both reasonable and ordinary.

14. The RFA reads that, the “Administrative” Budget category is limited to a maximum of 5% of the total budget. Does this mean that Administrative Costs may be up to 5% of the Total Budget (for example, total budget is \$100,000, maximum Administrative costs are \$5,000), or that Administrative Costs may be up to 5% of non-Administrative Costs, aka Direct Costs on the project (for example, total budget is \$100,000, total Direct Costs are \$94,737, maximum Administrative Costs are 5% of the project’s Direct Costs, so \$5,263)?

**Answer:** The administrative budget is limited to a maximum of 5% of the total budget.

13. Do any of the budget categories allow for course development work, including faculty buy-out time needed to design these courses? Specifically, would faculty buy-out be allowable under the “coursework” or “support services” categories, and would it be considered an eligible budget expense?

**Answer:** The administrative cost portion of the budget (capped at 5%) is intended to allow the grant to provide stipend or supplement pay to the facilitator/principal investigator overseeing the project/program.

12. Can you please clarify if covering the tuition for the teachers is an allowable cost? Or are we just allowed to provide the teachers who participate in the program a stipend (\$1,500 for licensure/ endorsement or \$500 for professional development)?

**Answer:** Yes. Funds may be spent on coursework, materials, exams, teacher stipends, administrative costs, support services, and other purposes as determined by the chancellor to support the expansion of computer science education. Programs may choose to both reimburse tuition and provide a stipend.

11. We would like to confirm if a small stipend/supplemental pay is allowed for the facilitators/Principal Investigators overseeing the project/program?

**Answer:** The administrative cost portion of the budget (capped at 5%) is intended to allow the grant to provide stipend or supplement pay to the facilitator/principal investigator overseeing the project/program.

10. Are indirect costs allowable on the non-participant support costs (hiring tutors, etc.)? I didn't see anything on the RFA earlier this week.

**Answer:** Funds may be spent on coursework, materials, exams, teacher stipends, administrative costs, support services, and other purposes as determined by the chancellor to support the expansion of computer science education. Indirect costs are not incorporated. The administrative cost, which is capped at 5%, may be calculated from the entire budget for the program.

9. We are trying to figure out when we need to start documenting the mentorship process for Supplemental Teachers. Per what we read, Teachers earning the CS Supplemental Pathway must pass the OAE 54 and then have 2 years of mentorship. Our program is going to start helping document the mentorship, but we need to know when we should start documentation. Upon teachers' successful passing of the OAE 54, can we count before/during taking as part of the 2-year mentorship?

**Answer:** SBOE has confirmed that this is a local decision of the district.

8. What is the definition of Coursework?

**Answer:** Expenditures on learning activities delivered through classes, workshops, online modules, or other structured formats. This does not include preparation for the Ohio Assessment Exam for computer science, which should be included under "Exams(s)".

7. What is the maximum size for the PDF file attachment?

**Answer:** There is no limit. If you have any trouble, don't hesitate to get in touch with us through [teachcsgrants@higherred.ohio.gov](mailto:teachcsgrants@higherred.ohio.gov)

6. Are you able to provide some additional guidance on what the committee is seeking for the Effectiveness of recruitment and selection strategies criteria. Specifically, are you able to provide references to what the committee considers well-developed strategies versus innovative, evidence-based strategies for both recruitment and selection?

**Answer:** Well-developed strategies are strategies that the grantee has a plan to implement well and will recruit teachers effectively. Innovative and/or evidence-based strategies go beyond typical strategies to expand the reach of recruitment and pool of teachers engaged in the program, may deploy new approaches, and/or provide data or evidence to support the likely effectiveness of the selected strategy. November 20, 2025.

5. Are we able to provide stipends from this grant to teachers still working towards completing the licensure requirements from the previous grant?

**Answer:** No, stipends cannot be awarded to recipients of the previous Teach CS grant award. November 20, 2025.

4. Will it be allowable carryover stipend payments after the end of the grant for teachers starting the endorsement program in the spring of 2027?

**Answer:** Grant awardees will need to seek a no-cost extension and approval to allow and acknowledge remaining available funds for the use of stipends and any other costs allowed under the original agreement.

3. What are allowable support services? Does this include contracted or consultant services needed to support the project?

**Answer:** Allowable support services should include resources and materials to assist the student in completing your designated program. Such services could include tutoring or supplemental materials for the preparation and passing of the OAE-504 test.

2. Are there restrictions on what can be included when budgeting for administrative costs?

**Answer:** Administrative costs should be limited to five percent (5%) of the overall grant award. These funds are intended to provide for the costs of operating the program that are not otherwise incorporated, e.g., staff/faculty time for administration, financial aid, fiscal, and other services.

1. Is it permitted for a single institution to submit multiple applications?

**Answer:** In the spirit of collaboration and innovation, IHEs should submit a single application and may collaborate across divisions and academic departments to meet the needs of students and educators as the application supports increasing the number of Ohio teachers qualified to teach computer science in the classroom or expanding the knowledge of existing teachers.