



ESCAMBIA CHILDREN'S TRUST

Our Children. Our Community. Our Future.

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County School District

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 3, 2023
TO: OST Applicants Selected for Interviews
FROM: Escambia Children's Trust
SUBJECT: New Board Policies

The Escambia Children's Trust (ECT) Board of Directors met today to discuss several policies related to the grant funding process and contract requirements for funded agencies. The Board made decisions regarding two policies that may be specifically pertinent to your pending application for funding under the Out-of-School Time Program Request for Proposals (RFP).

First, the Board considered whether to allow funded programs to request advance funding, as all ECT grants will be paid on a cost reimbursement basis. The Board members voted unanimously not to allow advances of funds to grantees as they had concerns about tracking and auditing. If your agency does not have the operating funds available to start the proposed project without advance funding and you wish to withdraw your application from consideration, please email us at info@escambiachildrenstrust.org to notify us of your position.

Second, in response to receiving several applications that contained requests for construction or renovations to real property, the Board considered the parameters for any resulting contracts. After significant contemplation of options and best practices among other government agencies, the Board ultimately voted not to fund any construction or renovation costs as part of direct services RFPs, which includes the OST solicitation. With regard to the current solicitation, the Board emphasized that the intent of the OST Program is to fund services to children in afterschool or summer programs. While construction and renovation costs are allowable under the ECT's enabling statute, the Board elected not to fund capital investments at this time and to focus instead on direct services. Therefore, all applicants that requested funding for construction or renovations in your OST Program application will be asked to resubmit a budget that does not include construction or renovation costs. Alternately, if you wish to withdraw your entire application, please notify us via email at info@escambiachildrenstrust.org.

We sincerely apologize for any confusion or inconvenience and thank you for your application to ECT. We look forward to working with you soon.