Dear «Contact_Person»:

«Entity_Name» currently receives federal funding as part of the fiscal year 2015 cohort of grantees for the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) program. This letter is to inform you that «Entity_Name»’s Cohort 15 grant cycle(s) will conclude at the end of FY 2024, which is year 10 of your grant.

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) renewed funding for Cohort 15 in FY 2020, which provided grantees up to an additional five years in grant funding (FY 2020-24), contingent upon the grantee’s performance during the previous cycle and the availability of 21st CCLC funds. The federal 21st CCLC program regulations allow a one-time only grant renewal. Therefore, a second renewal opportunity is not available to Cohort 15 grants. The grant years available for this cohort was 10, and you have been funded for all 10 years.

The end of this funding cycle is required by federal program guidelines, as this cohort has been funded at the maximum number of allowable years. It is not connected to the end of funding for the FY 19 cohort or ISBE’s inadequate forecasting.

As you prepare for the conclusion of your grant, over the next 14 months, we stand committed to working with you on your sustainability plans to continue programming as desired. Sustainability plans were included as part of each grantee’s 21st CCLC grant proposal, and staff at ISBE can provide technical assistance, guidance, and support as you revisit those plans. As noted in the grant application, sustainability plans account for the resources available within the community and explain how grantees plan to maintain and continue the size and scope of funded programs. This plan includes any other sources of funding (e.g., grants received, donations, in-kind services, and fundraising efforts) to continue the program.

ISBE stands ready to provide technical assistance and thought partnership with respect to sustainability after the conclusion of your grant.

We hope that this notification provides ample time to plan for the conclusion of the grant cycle. Should you have questions, please email us at 21stcclc@isbe.net.

Sincerely,
Kim Barnes-Cummins
Director of Wellness
Illinois State Board of Education