

**From:** [Carney, Jeannine](#)  
**To:** [Carney, Jeannine](#)  
**Subject:** RE: ELC Reopening Schools Grantee Meeting Follow-Up  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 3, 2023 3:22:18 PM

---

---

**From:** Collens, Lauren (HEALTH) <Lauren.Collens@health.ny.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 25, 2022 2:48 PM  
**Subject:** ELC Reopening Schools Grantee Meeting Follow-Up

Good afternoon everyone,

As follow up to our meeting today (10/25) we are providing a few links and a summary of what was discussed so you can share that with any staff from your team that may have been unable to attend today.

- FDA COVID-19 OTC Tests page which provides details on age for use along with any expiration date extensions if applicable: <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-covid-19-and-medical-devices/home-otc-covid-19-diagnostic-tests>
- OCFS childcare regulated programs map (data are exportable): <https://data.ny.gov/Human-Services/Child-Care-Regulated-Programs-Map/s8uq-s4wq>
- CDC Website for ELC Reopening Schools (FAQs and Guidance on the funds can be found here): <https://www.cdc.gov/ncezid/dpei/elc/covid-response/index.html>

At the meeting we discussed a few of the recent updates to allowable costs for ELC Reopening Schools funding including:

- The addition of early care and education programs (ECE) as an allowable group for support under this funding. If your organization intends to serve ECEs please ensure it's done equitably.
  - Examples of ECEs include childcare centers, preschools, prekindergarten programs, and daycare centers. You can find additional detail regarding OCFS childcare regulated programs at the link noted above.
  - If you plan to serve ECEs and have not notified our team, please let your contract manager know to ensure proper alignment of budgets for vouchering as applicable.
  - Additionally, if you have questions regarding services for ECEs please reach out to your contract manager.
- Screening testing is no longer a required component for these funds; however, it remains a recommended strategy in some cases as outlined in the current CDC K-12 and ECE Operational Guidance ([Operational Guidance for K-12 Schools and Early Care and](#)

[Education Programs to Support Safe In-Person Learning | CDC](#)) and is an allowable expense using these funds in addition to costs for diagnostic testing.

- According to the CDC, newly added allowable costs are only reimbursable if the costs associated with these items were incurred on or after 8/11/2022 (ex: ECEs).
- **Questions regarding allowable costs** should be sent to your assigned contract manager as they can respond to your questions and advise on any applicable next steps (e.g., budget modifications, etc.)
- **Vouchering:** many grantees have not vouchered consistently. The funds are currently set to end on 7/31/2023. It's helpful to begin submitting vouchers and submit them on a consistent basis to ensure appropriate spend down of the funds.
  - When submitting vouchers please ensure you are utilizing the most current voucher template, or it will delay processing of the voucher.
  - Please only submit one month or up to a quarter timeframe at any one time on vouchers. Sending more than that makes it very difficult to process and may delay payment.
- **Reporting:** we reviewed the tool developed for you all to report school testing data related to ELC Reopening Schools. The tool should be submitted at the same time you submit your programmatic narrative report to your contract manager. The template is attached here. If you have any questions about the tool, please email us at [SchoolQuestionsCOVID@health.ny.gov](mailto:SchoolQuestionsCOVID@health.ny.gov). The first deadline for submission is 11/15/2022--we recognize that this may be short notice and you may need some additional time to submit; if you require additional time, please let your contract manager know. If for any given month there is no testing data to report please put a 0 in each applicable field.

Thank you!

-Lauren

**Lauren Medina Collens**

New York State Department of Health

Director

Office of School COVID Support

AIDS Institute

Corning Tower, ESP

Albany, NY 12237

[Lauren.Collens@health.ny.gov](mailto:Lauren.Collens@health.ny.gov)

*Pronouns: she/her/hers*