

**Early Childhood Education and Care Department**

**Questions and Responses to RFP 2021-0001**

**Financial and Audit Compliance**

Approximately how much does the Department anticipate expending in Federal Awards for FY21?	ECECD anticipates \$160M of federal expenditures for FY21.
Has the Department received COVID-19 funding?	ECECD has received CARES funding from DHHS and has received pass thru GEER funding from DFA.
How many federal programs does the Department operate?	Approximately 10 programs.
Is the Department open to entering into a contract prior to July 1 to allow interim work?	Yes
What is the Department's budget for audit fees?	\$211K
Because this will be the first year of the Department operating programs and expending federal funds, has the Department considered a lower evaluation criteria weight on cost, as the fee range could vary widely given the potential lack of full understanding of the scope involved with the programs now being administered by the Department, resulting in the lowest cost proposal to win based on cost? (ie 10% instead of 20%)	Scoring criteria will remain the same.
We want to be able to understand the ECECD's unique situation so that an appropriate proposed general audit work plan can be developed to meet your needs. Would it be possible to obtain an interim trial balance (or similar financial report) to aid in our understanding?	An interim FS report is in process and can be provided once completed.
Did the ECECD receive and spend federal funding in fiscal year 2020 or 2021? The FY 2021 budget request indicates that the Agency intended to apply for a \$5.4 million federal planning grant.	No Federal Funding in FY20. The agency received and expended Federal Funding in FY21. (see questions and responses above)
Was any CARES Act funding received?	Yes.
What revenue sources does the ECECD have (other than State Appropriations)? Ex: local grant funding, fee collections.	General Fund, Federal Funds, Inter Agency Transfers.

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Other than SHARE, what software/computer applications are used by the Administrative Service Division for accounting purposes? Ex: capital asset software, fee collection programs.	EPICS is used to process payments to providers.
How many locations does the ECECD and is there a significant amount of assets held at decentralized locations?	ECECD has offices in 29 cities. There are not significant assets held at the offices.
What is the ECECD's expectation of the auditor with respect to working in-person vs. remotely/electronically?	ECECD will work with the auditor to ensure that the work environment is safe for everyone involved.
Is the ECECD expecting any specific difficulties as part of its first audit?	No
What is the most important thing the ECECD is expecting of the auditor?	A quality audit, thorough testing, and understanding of State Government accounting.