

**Early Childhood Policy and Advocacy Fund (ECPAF)
Intermediary Request for Proposal (RFP)
Questions and Answers**

Date Posted: December 9, 2021

Please note that:

- The final date to submit questions and requests for additional information was **December 6, 2021.**
- To respond to this RFP, please complete and submit your proposal and all required documents to First 5 LA **no later than 5:00 PM PT on December 14, 2021.**

- 1. Proposer Question:** Which department or departments at First 5 will be the lead for ECPAF, and which First 5 LA staff members will be partnering with the intermediary?

Response: The ECPAF contract will be managed by First 5 LA’s Office of Government Affairs and Public Policy (OGAPP). Throughout the project, OGAPP will seek support, as needed, from other First 5 LA internal Teams, including but not limited to Early Care and Education and Communities Teams.

- 2.** Are you able to provide some information about how much time First 5 staff will be able to make themselves available for processes such as co-design, ongoing check-ins, grantmaking approvals, etc.?

Response: Once executed, the contract will have an assigned Agreement Owner who work with the selected Contractor to manage the progress towards tasks and outcomes listed in the RFP via various contract management activities, including but not limited to, check-ins (email, phone or virtual meetings), invoice reviews, progress reports, and deliverable reviews.

- 3. Proposer Question:** Do you envision grantees will be primarily multi-issue organizations that already have a whole-child approach (e.g. working on Early Care and Education, Early Childhood Health, racial justice, etc. concurrently)? Or a combination of single-issue and multi-issue organizations?

Response: Our initial thinking is to fund organizations that already take a Whole-Child Whole Family (WCWF) approach, bringing together diverse advocacy voices whose work occurs and operates at the intersection of systems and to incentivize organizations that do not currently utilize a WCWF approach to take a more holistic view of their work. For example, a primary objective of ECPAF is to strengthen the capacity of organizations to incorporate and advocate for a WCWF framework.

- 4. Proposer Question:** What is First 5 LA’s vision at this point around convening and relationship-building among grantees? What outcomes are you looking for?

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Response: Our belief is that convenings would help promote peer learning by offering a space for grantees to share perspectives, promote best practices and discuss their work related to ECPAF. As referenced in Section III (Project Overview), subsection D. (Desired objectives and outcomes), desired outcomes include increasing connections, collaboration, and cross-organizational learnings amongst grantees. Convenings will also be important toward building long lasting and holistic movements to support early childhood; promote early childhood as a “special population”; and support grantees to view their work through a WCWF lens. Specific metrics to determine the success of convenings have not yet been determined, but we will do so in collaboration with the selected intermediary.

5. **Proposer Question:** In terms of Required Documents (Section IX), can you say more about what you are looking for from the Primary Project Objectives and Primary Outcomes Narrative?

Response: Proposers are required to provide a thorough description of how they would achieve all ECPAF primary objectives and outcomes (See Section III, subsection D for more information about First 5 LA’s Desired Objectives and Outcomes). We are asking proposers to provide their best thinking on how they envision co-designing, developing, implementing, and carrying out ECPAF in a manner that secures and achieves all project’s objectives and outcomes.

6. **Proposer Question:** What is the likely number of grantees? What size are the grants anticipated to be?

Response: We’re open to potentially higher or lower amounts for grants depending on impact, sustainability priorities, and how the co-design phase unfolds.

As a potential reference point, First 5 LA is looking at \$3 million for regranteeing in the ECPAF’s first program year, but we are open to a potentially higher or lower amount depending on impact, sustainability priorities, and how the co-design phase unfolds. Overall, the specific funding levels and total budget will be determined through the co-design process.