21st Century Community Learning Centers
Self-Nominated External Organizations

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015
Required under Section 4203(a)(11) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Title IV, Part B, 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC), to provide a list of prescreened external organizations. The term “external organization” is defined under Section 4201(b)(4) of ESSA, as a nonprofit organization with a record of success in running or working with before and after school (or summer recess) programs and activities; or in the case of a community where there is no such organization, a nonprofit organization in the community that enters into a written agreement or partnership with an organization with a record of success to receive mentoring and guidance in running or working with before and after school (or summer recess) programs and activities.

The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) is implementing a statewide opportunity for nonprofit organizations in Kentucky to submit an external organization profile application to be vetted and included on a list of prescreened eligible providers with specific expertise in one or more of the following resource areas pertaining to afterschool programming: quality programming and allowable activities; youth development and empowerment; human relationships and development; health, wellness, safety, and nutrition; literacy education; cultural competency and inclusion; parent and community engagement; program management and administration; sustainability planning; workforce development/career college readiness; and implementing quality programming.

To be considered, eligible entities must complete an application and submit directly to KDE for review. Partnering organizations must provide the following evidence:

- Nonprofit status
- By definition, the KDE will recognize nonprofits with a 501(c)(3) status or other tax exempt entity
- Certification covering debarment
- Signatures will guarantee that organizations are not prohibited from entering into contracts with a federal funding source
- Mission statement
- Record of success in running or working with before- and after-school (or summer recess) programs and activities
- Description of services, support, or expertise qualified to offer
- Signatures verifying the truth and accuracy of the information provided to the KDE

The KDE website will post the accepted entities for a period of two years from time of acceptance, at which time organizations must reapply. This list of organizations is intended to serve as a resource for 21st CCLC programs looking for potential partners in their region. Please note: this document is not an exhaustive list nor does it serve as an endorsement or certification of quality from the KDE. The current list of self-nominated external organizations may be found here.

The application process is closed at this time but will re-open January 2019.