



NOEEN Coordinated Funding Request Process September 26, 2017



A Unified Approach

BESE Bulletin 140 requires the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) to work with each Lead Agency to unify funding requests from each provider in the network for “seats” in state-funded early childhood programs (LA4, NSECD, and Preschool Expansion Grant) into a single, annual “coordinated funding request.”

The goal of NOEEN’s Fall 2017 Coordinated Funding Request (CFR) is to ensure that the limited number of publicly-funded early childhood seats are allocated to those programs that:

- ◆ Meet families’ needs;
- ◆ Are high quality; and
- ◆ Are in high demand by parents.

Overview of Available Funding Streams

Funding Stream	Available To	Administered By	2017-18 Seats in Orleans Parish
LA 4	Public Schools	LDE	1643
Non Public School Early Childhood Development (NSECD)	Non-Public Schools & Centers	LDE	502
Preschool Expansion Grant (PEG)	Centers in Partnership with Public Schools	Agenda for Children	160

Building on the 2016-17 CFR

In 2015-16, NOEEN conducted the first Coordinated Funding Request, (CFR) implementing a common timeline, application, and transparent scoring and recommendations process for LA 4, NSECD, and Preschool Expansion Grant allocations.

In 2016-17, the process was improved further to shorten and streamline the process and application materials, and more fully incorporate parent demand data from EnrollNOLA.

This year, NOEEN is seeking to make the process even better by:

Two years of EnrollNOLA data as a measurement of parent demand

Incorporating CLASS scores as a measure of quality

Focusing on sustaining and strengthening existing PEG partnerships

Parent Demand Data

This year, NOEEN has **two years of objective quantitative parent demand data** on all LA 4, NSECD, and PEG programs.

This data allows NOEEN to understand how many seats are needed citywide, and which programs are in higher demand based on data such as:

- # of eligible families applying for seats citywide
- # of families that ranked a program and how high they ranked each program
- # of children on each program's waitlist at various points in the process
- # of children enrolled through Late Enrollment
- How quickly or slowly different programs were able to fully enroll classrooms

All programs requesting LA 4 or NSECD seats for 2017-18 will have to submit a CFR application and will be evaluated using parent demand data. Centers or schools that do not have EnrollNOLA data because they do not currently serve LA 4, NSECD, or PEG programs will receive a site visit instead.

Quality Data

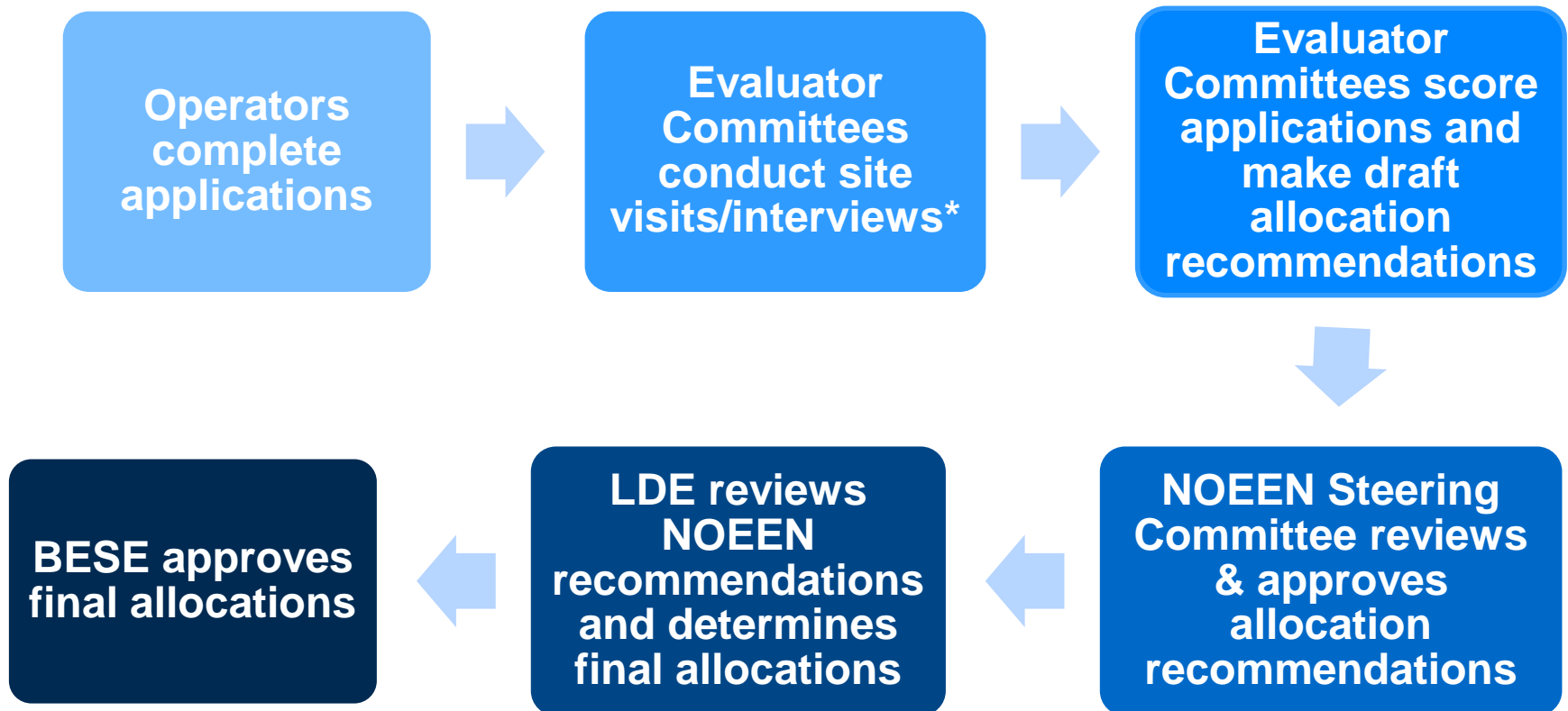
This year, NOEEN will be able to incorporate CLASS data as a measurement of quality for the first time.

This data allows NOEEN to understand the quality of adult and children interactions in publicly-funded four-year-old classrooms like never before.

In addition to CLASS data, the existing quality data will also be examined:

- Letter Grade (for public schools only)
- Extension and renewal standards for charter schools in the final year of their charter contract
- Scholarship Cohort Index (for nonpublic schools participating in the Scholarship Program)
- Audit/monitoring results that relate to serious quality concerns
- Information from site visits (for those sites that do not have other quality data)

CFR Process Overview



*Sites that do not currently operate an LA 4, PEG, or NSECD program will receive a site visit.

Timeline

Date	Action
Sept. 26	NOEEN Steering Committee considers approval of CFR process
Oct. 2	Agenda releases CFR application
Oct. 4-11	Agenda conducts CFR process webinar for operators
Oct. 27	CFR applications due
Oct. 30-Nov. 10	Evaluators score CFR applications and conduct site visits/interviews
Nov. 13-16	Evaluator Committees deliberate to make draft CFR allocation recommendations
Nov. 17	Agenda publicly posts draft CFR allocation recommendations
Nov. 28	NOEEN Steering Committee considers approval of Evaluator Committees preliminary CFR allocation recommendations
Dec. 1	Agenda submits NOEEN-approved CFR allocation recommendations to LDE
Jan. 23	BESE considers approval of final LDE CFR allocations

Scoring & Evaluation Committees

Each application will be scored based on rubrics included in the application materials. How scores will be weighted depends on the type of program.

LA4 & NSECD		
Quality* 50%	Parent Demand* 50%	Meeting Families' Needs Bonus Points

*For applicants that do not have this data, a site visit will be conducted.

Scoring & site visits will be conducted by Evaluator Committees comprised of staff with expertise in each of the following.

Evaluator Committees		
Public School Applications	Nonpublic School Applications	Center Applications
1 RSD, 1 OPSB staff	2 LDE staff	2 Agenda staff

Preschool Expansion Grant (PEG)

Unlike LA 4 and NSECD, where the LDE contracts directly with centers and schools, the Preschool Expansion Grant is a contract between the LDE and Agenda for Children. Agenda then subcontracts with individual school and center partnerships.

The Preschool Expansion Grant is a four-year federal grant that began in 2015. The 2018-19 school year is the final year of the grant, and participating centers continue to struggle to fully enroll these classrooms. Given this, Agenda has decided to use the final year of the grant to continue to support existing school and center partnerships, and will not be accepting applications for new partnerships.

Existing partners will be required to affirmatively sign assurances that they intend to continue to participate in the PEG program for the 2018-19 school year.