



Contracts for Excellence

FY2022 Proposed Plan
CEC 29
September 2021

Contracts for Excellence (C4E) Overview

NYCDOE receives Foundation Aid from the State, making up a portion of the overall budget.

A November 2006 Court of Appeals decision stated that every public school child in the State has a right to a "sound basic education" and that the State has the responsibility to increase funding for New York City's public schools.

- >As a result of this court decision, the New York State Legislature passed legislation requiring that, for each school district that has at least one school that requires academic progress or is in need of improvement, the school district would receive an increase in foundation aid and a portion of that foundation aid would be subject to the categorical spending requirements of the Contract for Excellence. Funds were first received in the 2007-2008 school year.
- >DOE has not received additional funding subject to the requirements of the Contract for Excellence since FY2012.
- >C4E is a set-aside amount from State Foundation Aid. According to the C4E statute, the amount of the C4E set-aside may not be less than the prior year's set-aside amount, unless the Commissioner expressly establishes a different set-aside amount.

These funds, under State law, must be distributed to schools that meet certain requirements and must be spent by those schools in designated program areas, as set forth in the Contract for Excellence legislation.

Contracts for Excellence (C4E) Requirements

1. Funds must support specific program initiatives:

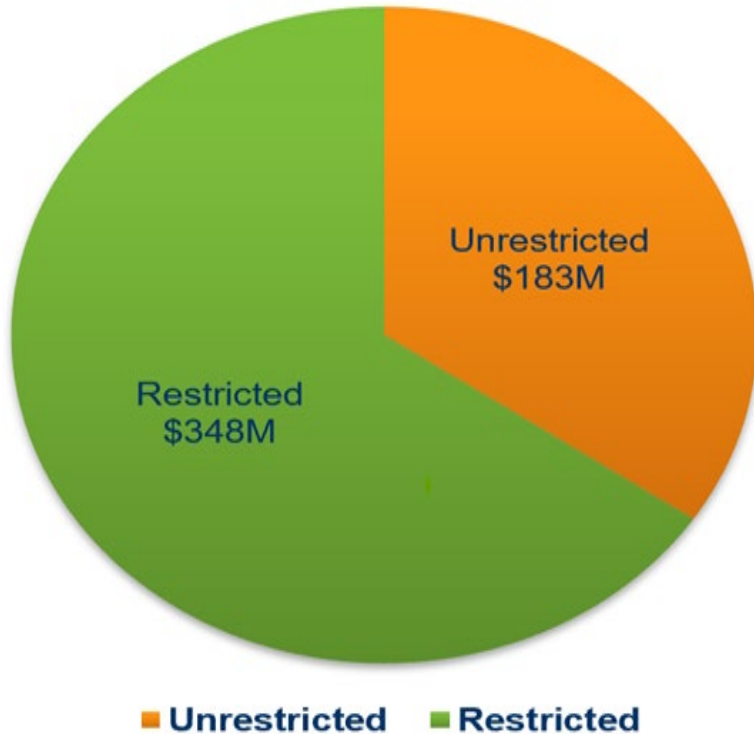
- > **Class Size Reduction** – opening additional class sections, creating more classrooms or school buildings, assigning more than one teacher to a classroom, and other approved methods, to facilitate student attainment of State learning standards, with priority given to pre-K through grade 12 students in overcrowded schools, particularly those requiring academic progress, schools in need of improvement, schools in corrective action, and schools in restructuring status
- > **Time on Task** – programs focusing on students who may require additional or increased individualized attention in order to raise achievement
- > **Teacher & Principal Quality Initiatives** – programs supporting development & retention of high quality teachers and principals for raising achievement in struggling schools
- > **Middle & High School Restructuring** – instructional and structural changes in middle and high schools to support class size reduction and raise achievement in struggling schools
- > **Full-Day Pre-Kindergarten Program**
- > **Model Programs for English Language Learners** – programs supporting schools in adopting “best practices” for raising achievement among English Language Learners.

Contracts for Excellence Requirements (cont'd)

- 1. Funds should be used towards meeting schools' overall educational goals as outlined in the School Comprehensive Educational Plan (SCEP) and must be allocated predominantly to students with the greatest educational needs, such as**
 - English Language Learners
 - Students in Poverty
 - Students with Disabilities
 - Students with Low Academic Achievement or At Risk of Not Graduating
- 2. Funds must supplement, not supplant, local funding or other grants:**
 - Expenditures made using C4E funds must “supplement, not supplant” funding by the school district: however, SED has provided guidance explaining that certain expenditures may be paid for with C4E funds even though these programs or expenditures were originally or have been typically paid for by the district or by other grants. For example, if a program had been funded by a different grant, but that grant funding has been cut, then C4E funds can be used to fund the program.
 - For new or expansion of existing programs only.

State C4E Funding Breakdown 2021-22

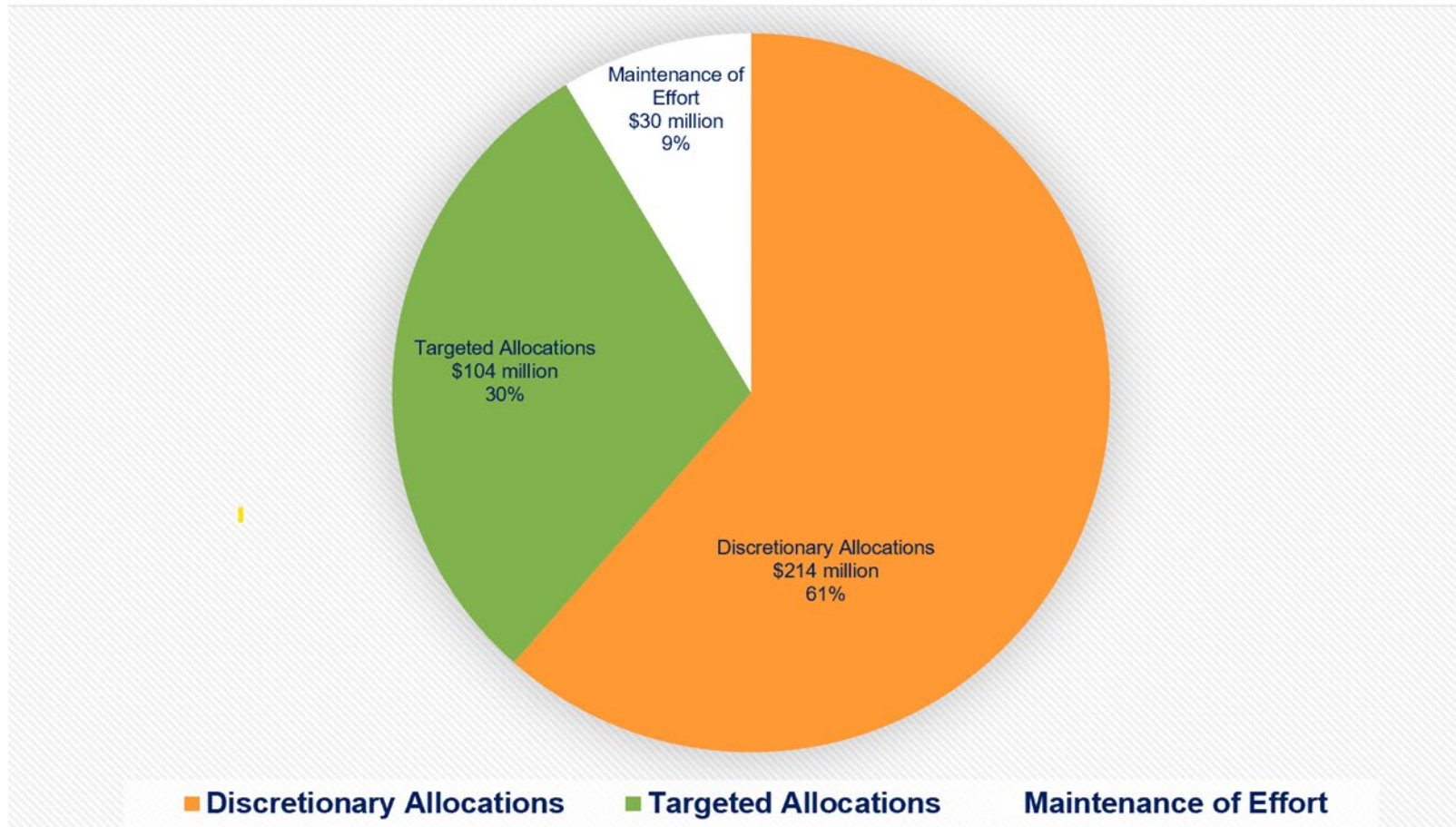
Total = \$531 million



- Unrestricted funds are not subject to C4E rules and may be used as needed. \$183 million is embedded in Fair Student Funding, which is the primary funding source for schools. Details for Fair Student Funding can be found by visiting:
- Restricted funds must comply with C4E guidelines. \$348 million is distributed through school allocations. The State has not given DOE any additional C4E funding above the amount it provided last year.
- NYCDOE is in “Maintenance of Effort” status, meaning that C4E funds will be used to maintain programs that were approved in prior years.

NYC's 2021-22 Preliminary C4E Plan

How We Propose to Allocate the \$348 Million Restricted Funds



The FY 2022 Contracts for Excellence allocations described in this plan are preliminary. Funds are subject to a public engagement process and approval by the State Education Department. Please note that distribution of all funds is subject to allocation guidelines as specified in State regulations.

Discretionary Allocations to Schools

Amount

- \$214 million in restricted Contracts for Excellence funds were released to 1,400+ schools in June 2021
- 61% of total restricted Contract funds

Use

- Continuity of service for existing C4E programs.
- However, if a school cannot maintain effort because of significant changes in its student population or its overall instructional strategy, it could choose to reallocate funds to a different allowable program area.

Targeted Allocations to Schools

Amount

- About \$104 million of C4E funds were targeted for specific programs (*see below for types of programs*). Schools receiving allocations were chosen based on a) overall student need and b) capacity to carry out the specific program.
- 30% of total restricted Contract funds.

Use

- Funds will be allocated directly to schools for specific programs, including but not limited to:
 - \$90.7 million – *Integrated Co – Teaching Classrooms (ICT)* (Formerly *Collaborative Team Teaching (CTT)*)
 - \$9.0 million – *Full-Day Pre-K*
 - \$4.7 million – *Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Classrooms*

Maintenance of Effort

Amount

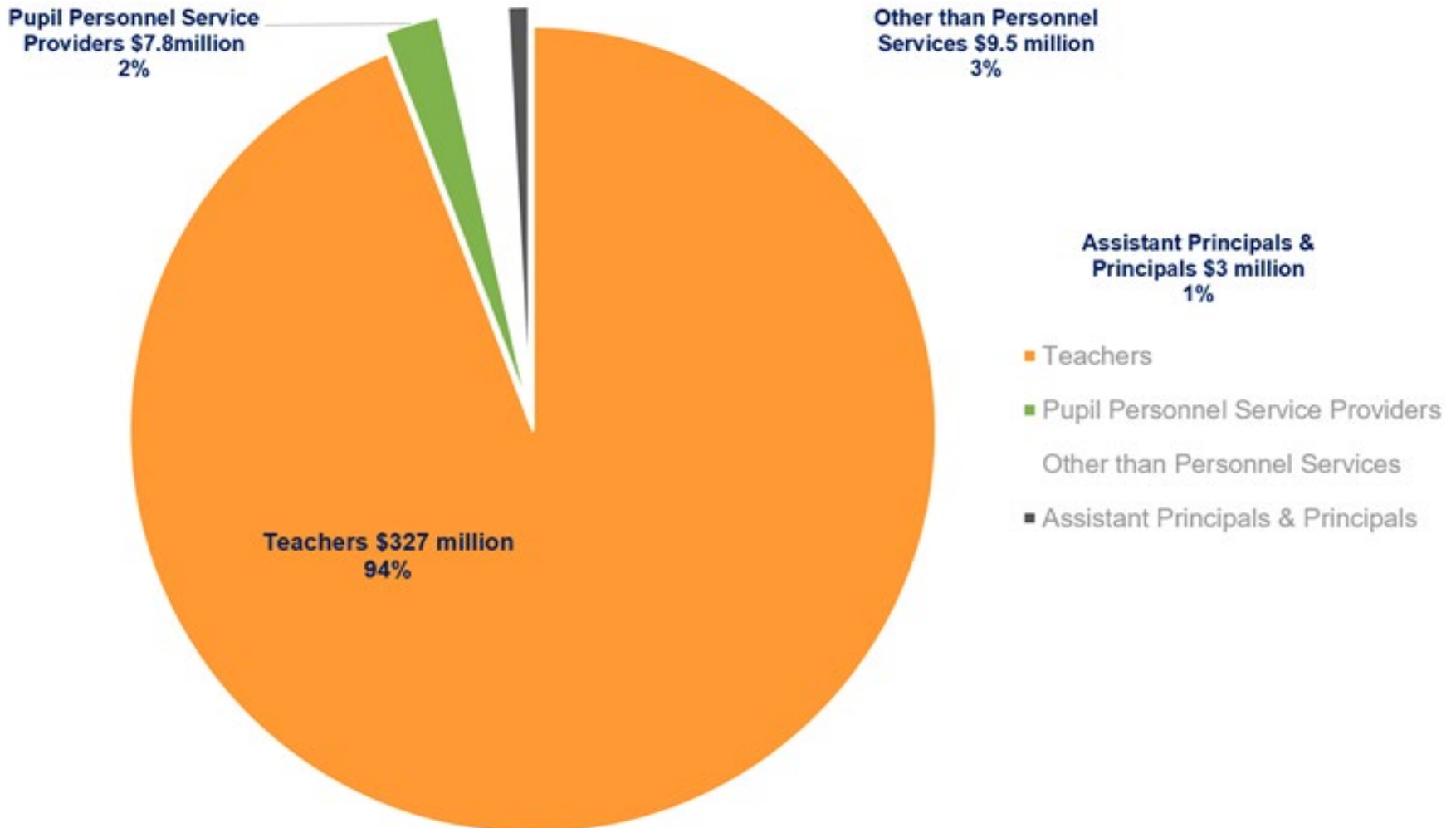
- \$30 million
- 9% of total restricted Contract funds

Use

- The Department proposes to spend these funds to maintain summer programs impacting the students with the lowest academic achievement in the city

How C4E Dollars Are Spent

Expenditures for the \$348 Million Restricted Funds



Proposed Discretionary Spending CEC 29*

Schools were allocated discretionary Contracts for Excellence funds. Schools have proposed to spend those funds as follows

C4E Program Area	Amount Budgeted	% Total
Class Size Reduction	\$1,237,627	23.50%
Time on Task	\$3,571,784	67.82%
Model Programs for ELLs	\$154,466	2.93%
Teacher and Principal Quality Initiatives	\$302,743	5.75%
Middle School and High School Restructuring	\$0	0.00%
Full – Day Pre-K	\$0	0.00%
Total	\$5,266,620	100.00%

Comprehensive information about these proposed allocations – including school-level program strategies and performance targets – are available online at <https://infohub.nyced.org/reports/financial/contracts-for-excellence>

*All proposed allocations described in this plan preliminary and contingent on further analysis of school-based conditions

1. School Year 21-22 C4E Plan: All Funds By Program Strategy – CEC 29*

Class Size Reduction Program Strategy	Citywide Total	CEC 29 Total	CEC 29 %
Reduced Class Size	\$103,213,981	\$1,880,078	81.88%
Reduced PTR	\$26,746,403	\$116,170	5.06%
Maintain Class Size	\$9,335,458	\$186,622	8.13%
Maintain PTR	\$2,349,789	\$0	0.00%
Minimize Class Size Growth	\$870,771	\$113,134	4.93%
<i>Team Teaching Strategies**</i>	<i>\$58,041,297</i>	<i>\$1,058,377</i>	<i>- -</i>
Total	\$142,516,402	\$2,296,004	100.00%

Time on Task Program Strategy	Citywide Total	CEC 29 Total	CEC 29 %
Dedicated Instruction	\$69,928,184	\$3,571,778	100.00%
Before & After School	\$5,445,811	\$0	0.00%
Summer School	\$819,084	\$0	0.00%
Individualized Tutoring	\$373,442	\$0	0.00%
Total	\$76,566,521	\$3,571,778	100.00%

*All proposed allocations described in this plan are preliminary and contingent on further analysis of school based conditions.

**Targeted Allocations (CTT and ASD Classrooms + school-level discretionary allocations – Not included in total sum.

2. School Year 21-22 C4E Plan: All Funds By Program Strategy – CEC 29*

Teacher and Principal Quality Initiatives Program Strategy	Citywide Total	CEC 29 Total	CEC 29 %
Teacher Coaches	\$14,056,255	\$302,743	100.00%
Leadership Coaches	\$1,926,170	\$0	0.00%
Mentoring New Staff	\$1,370,609	\$0	0.00%
Recruit & Retain HQT	\$37,476	\$0	0.00%
Total	\$17,390,510	\$302,743	100.00%

Middle & High School Restructuring Program Strategy	Citywide Total	CEC 29 Total	CEC 29 %
MSHS Struct Changes	\$1,346,082	\$0	0.00%
MSHS Instruct Changes	\$1,079,433	\$0	0.00%
Total	\$2,425,515	\$0	0.00%

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3. School Year 21-22 C4E Plan: All Funds By Program Strategy – CEC 29*

Full-Day Pre-K Program Strategy	Citywide Total	CEC 29 Total	CEC 29 %
Full-Day Pre-Kindergarten	\$9,213,549	\$259,273	100.00%

Model Programs for ELLs Program Strategy	Citywide Total	CEC 29 Total	CEC 29 %
ELL Innovative Programs	\$34,868,184	\$154,466	100.00%
ELL Parent Involvement	\$627,277	\$0	0.00%
ELL Teacher Recruitment	\$285,246	\$0	0.00%
Total	\$36,780,707	\$154,466	100.00%

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Class Size as an Allowable Activity During the 2021-2022 School Year

For the 2021-2022 school year, the DOE will continue its efforts to reduce class size, one of the allowable activities for which Contracts for Excellence funds may be spent pursuant to the C4E legislation. Principals may use C4E funds to reduce class sizes or student teacher ratios in their schools.

The New York State Commissioner of Education has determined that the five-year Class Size Plan created in 2007, when the C4E legislation was issued, is no longer in effect.

Public Comment

We will take public feedback into account in the coming months as we continue to develop a citywide Contracts for Excellence plan.

The deadline for submitting public comment will be January 16, 2022.

The public may comment on any aspect of the plan, including:

- >How schools are planning to spend their discretionary funds within the six allowable program areas
- >How the DOE is allocating the targeted Contract for Excellence funds to schools
- >The public comment process

Educators, parents, and all other members of the New York City community may submit their comments by email to

ContractsForExcellence@schools.nyc.gov