



NYC Department of
Education

Contracts for Excellence

FY16 Proposed Plan

July 2015

Contracts for Excellence (C4E) Overview

- The State passed the Education **Budget and Reform Act of 2007** to comply with a Court of Appeals decision that held the State responsible for increasing funding for New York City's public schools.
- The new law established a **Foundation Aid Formula** to ensure NYC schools receive more state funding. The State also passed the "**Contracts for Excellence**" rules about how NYCDOE must spend Foundation Aid.
- Funds were first received in the 2007-08 school year, and must be distributed to certain schools in specific program areas. No new funding has been received in five years, and was reduced in 2011-12.
- NYCDOE hasn't received the full amount of funding in the Foundation Aid Formula, and must still follow the Contracts for Excellence rules for the funding it does receive.

Contracts for Excellence (C4E) Requirements

I. Funds must support six specific program areas:

1. Class Size Reduction

Create more classrooms or school buildings, and assign more than one teacher to a classroom. Priority given to overcrowded schools, particularly those requiring academic progress, schools in need of improvement, schools in corrective action, and schools in restructuring status.

2. Time on Task

Programs focused on students who may require additional individualized attention to raise achievement.

3. Teacher & Principal Quality Initiatives

Programs supporting development and retention of high-quality teachers and principals in struggling schools

4. Middle & High School Restructuring

Instructional and structural changes to support class size reduction and raise achievement in struggling schools.

5. Full-Day Pre-Kindergarten Programs

6. Model Programs for English Language Learners

Programs aimed at helping schools adopt “best practices” for raising achievement among English Language Learners.

Contracts for Excellence Requirements (cont'd)

II. Funds must go to students with the greatest educational need.

- English Language Learners
- Students in Poverty
- Students with Disabilities
- Students with Low Academic Achievement or At Risk of Not Graduating

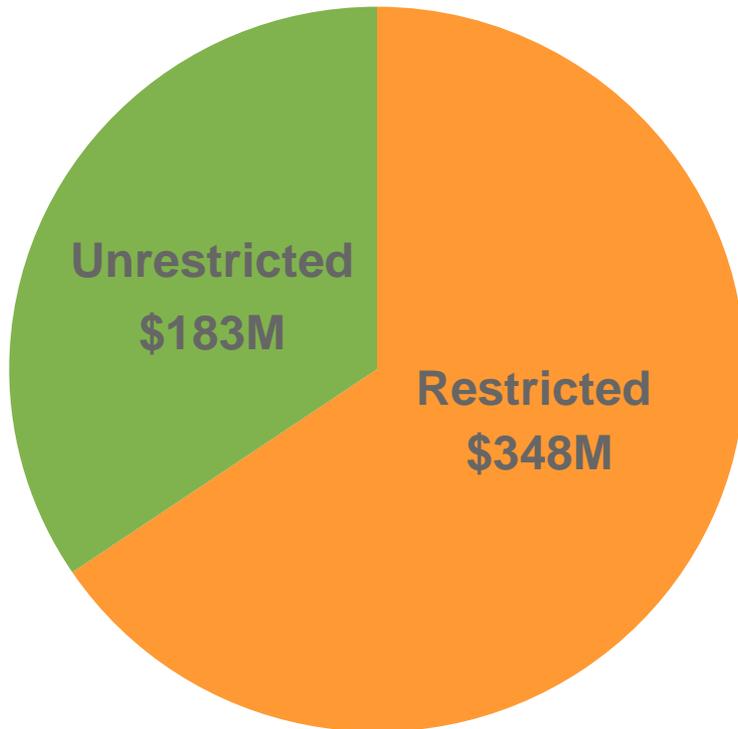
III. Funds must supplement, not supplant.

- C4E funds must “supplement, not supplant” funding provided by the school district. According to guidance from the State Education Department (SED), 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 new or expanded programs only*
- Should be used towards meeting educational goals outlined in the School Comprehensive Educational Plan (SCEP)

*No new C4E dollars have been made available since 2009-2010. NYCDOE is currently in Maintenance of Effort status.

State C4E Funding Breakdown 2015-16

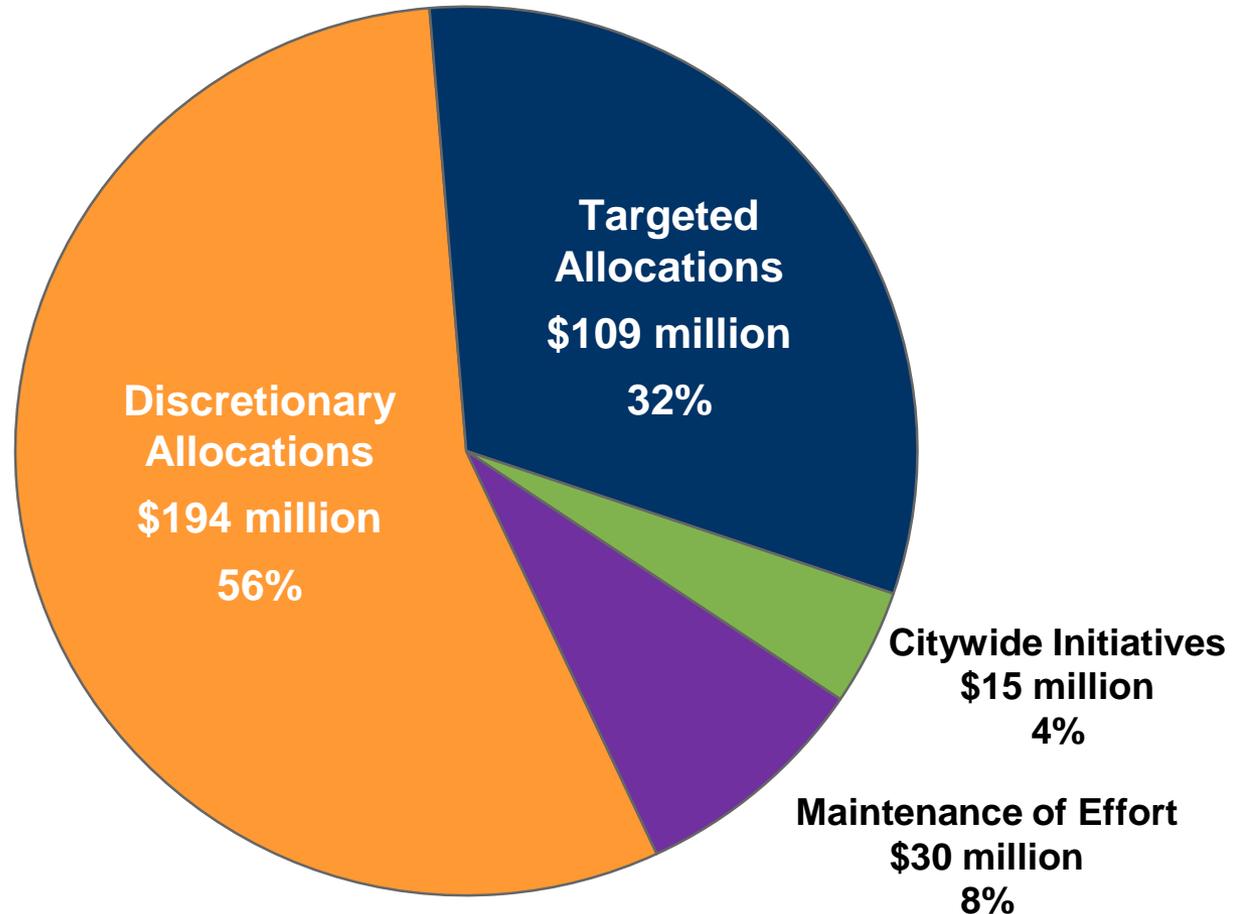
Total = \$531 million



- Unrestricted funds are not subject to C4E rules and may be used as needed. \$183 million is embedded in Fair Student Funding, the primary funding source for schools. Details for Fair Student Funding can be found by visiting:
http://schools.nyc.gov/offices/d_chanc_oper/budget/db_allocationmemo/fy15_16/AM_FY16_FSF1.html
- Restricted funds must comply with C4E guidelines. \$348 million is distributed through school allocations and citywide programs.
- There are no new Contract for Excellence funds to apply towards new or expanded programs.
- 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 Preliminary C4E Plan

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



The FY16 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.

NYC's Preliminary C4E Plan

Discretionary Allocations to Schools

Amount

\$194 million was released to 1,400+ schools in June 2015.
56% of total restricted C4E funds.

Use

- Continuity of service for existing C4E programs.
- 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.
- Guidance for schools and instructional strategies identified by SED as eligible for C4E funding are available in the School Allocation Memorandum.

NYC's Preliminary C4E Plan

Targeted Allocations to Schools

Amount

\$109 million is targeted for specific programs. Schools receiving allocations were chosen based on overall student need, and capacity to carry out the specific programs.

32% of total restricted C4E funds.

Use

Funds allocated directly to schools for specific uses that are eligible within the C4E programs areas:

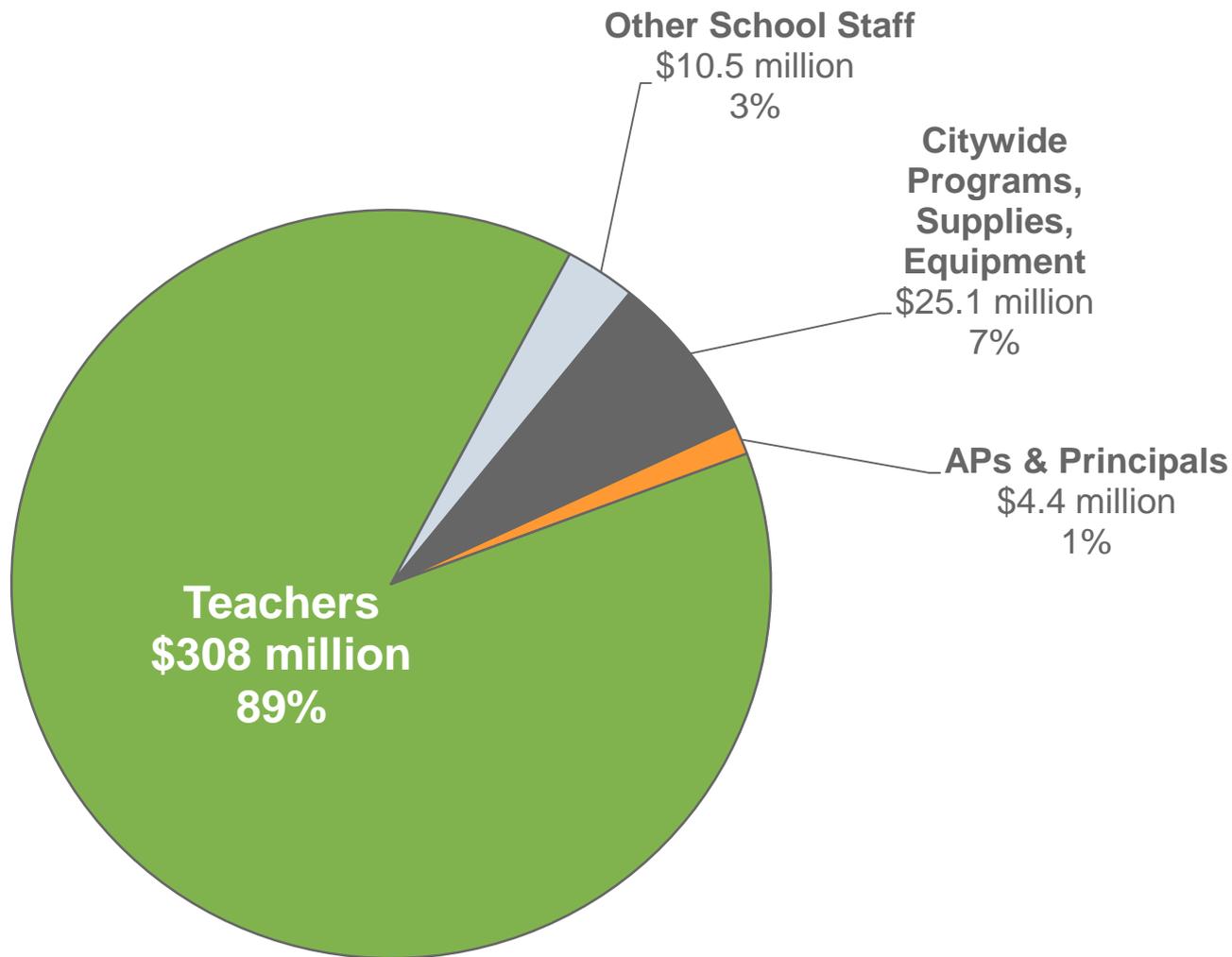
- \$93 million – Integrated Co-Teaching Classrooms (ICT)
(Formerly Collaborative Team Teaching (CTT))
- \$9.2 million – Full-Day Pre-K
- \$4.7 million – Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Classrooms
- \$2.1 million – ELL Summer School

NYC's Preliminary C4E Plan

Citywide Initiatives	
Amount	<p>\$15 million is our estimate in this category. While these funds do not appear in school budgets, the programs support our neediest students and are part of our citywide C4E plan.</p> <p>4% of total restricted CF4 funds</p>
Use	<p>Funds allocated to Central programs directly benefit high-need schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$6.3 million – Multiple Pathways to Graduation Initiatives (for over-age and under-credited students) ▪ \$6 million – Principal Training Initiatives ▪ \$2.8 million – College and AP Prep for high need high school students ▪ \$75,500 – ELL Youth Institute
Maintenance of Effort	
Amount	<p>\$30 million</p> <p>8% of total restricted C4E funds</p>
Use	<p>NYCDOE proposes spending the funds to maintain summer programs for students with the lowest academic achievement in the City.</p>

How C4E Dollars Are Spent

\$348 Million Restricted Funds



Class Size Reduction Planning in Renewal Schools

- NYCDOE is required by State law (Section 211d) to submit a Class Size Reduction Plan.
- The original five-year Class Size Reduction Plan was introduced in 2007. Since we stopped receiving new C4E funding, an amended, annual Class Size Reduction Plan is now presented to NYSED.
- For the 2015-16 school year, NYCDOE will focus Class Size Reduction planning efforts on the School Renewal Program.
- The criteria for selecting Renewal Schools is aligned with C4E goals to target schools with the greatest needs.
- For more information and for a list of Renewal Schools please visit: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/schools/RenewalSchool>

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 comments will be **August 15, 2015**.

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 targeted C4E funds to schools
- How the DOE is allocating funds for District-Wide Initiatives
- NYC's Class Size Reduction plan
- The public comment process

Educators, parents, and all other members of the New York City community with feedback should e-mail us at ContractsForExcellence@schools.nyc.gov