



North Carolina / CSEFEL Partnership Demonstration Site Invitation to Apply

Dear Colleague:

North Carolina is one of only five states recently selected to participate in a partnership with the Center on the Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) program to build the skills of early care and education professionals in the area of children's emotional and social skills. We would like to invite you to become part of this exciting initiative by becoming a **Pyramid Model Demonstration Site**. CSEFEL is partnering with North Carolina to build capacity for promoting young children's emotional and social competence and addressing challenging behavior. CSEFEL is working with the North Carolina Child Care Resource and Referral Council, the Division of Child Development, the Division of Public Health, the FPG Child Development Institute, Head Start, the Office of School Readiness, Smart Start, the Community College system, and others in this initiative.

There are 5 major components of the NC/CSEFEL Partnership:

- Provide CSEFEL Pyramid Model train-the-trainer events in October of 2008.
- Coordinate and work with a team of 10-15 local CSEFEL Pyramid Model coaches to help programs in their locale implement the Pyramid Model
- Work with programs state-wide as Pyramid Model demonstration sites
- Work with a state team to strengthen policies and systems to sustain evidence-based practices such as the Pyramid Model at the local level
- Collect data on the effectiveness of the initiative

North Carolina will select 4-5 model demonstration sites where the child, teacher, and program outcomes from the training and implementation coaching will be evaluated.

What Does it Mean to be a Demonstration Site?

Each demonstration site will select a classroom to receive weekly technical assistance on the CSEFEL Pyramid Model practices from a coach. The demonstration site can identify a potential coach that currently provides technical assistance to their program or the CSEFEL planning team will help them identify a qualified coach from their area. Coaches and demonstration site staff will be trained together on the CSEFEL Pyramid Model. During coaching visits, the coach will observe, provide feedback, demonstrate practices and strategies, and collect data on program improvement and outcomes. After a year of this intensive coaching, the demonstration site will agree to allow visitors who are interested in learning about the Pyramid Model to observe their demonstration classroom in action.

How Will The Process Be Evaluated?

After receiving training, the demonstration site program will implement the CSEFEL Pyramid Model to high-fidelity with the guidance and support of their coach and will participate in quarterly evaluation activities. Child and program-specific data will be collected at the demonstration sites using CSEFEL evaluation instruments on a frequent and ongoing basis. Once analyzed, data will be shared with each program to inform the program's internal decision-making and allow the program to make modifications as necessary. Each program must agree that if implementation is not satisfactory they will no longer serve as a demonstration site.

How Will Demonstration Sites Be Selected?

Programs that meet these criteria will be selected:

- Be willing to participate in some data collection with support of coach
- Are inclusive
- Have program leadership committed to the CSEFEL initiative
- Have the resources (i.e. staff, substitutes, resources, etc.) to commit to being a demonstration site
- Be willing to commit to being a demonstration site for three years

- Have administration and classroom staff who can attend 4 days of training in Raleigh on October 6-7 and October 22-23
- If DCD licensure is required, the program must hold a 5 star license or 4 star rating and one of the following designations:
 - NAEYC accreditation
 - 7 out of 7 points achieved in the educational component of the star rated license
 - Office of Head Start Monitoring "Program of Excellence" distinction

What are the Benefits for a Demonstration Site?

Although CSEFEL is not able to provide funding to the program for this initiative, each demonstration site will receive training and individualized technical assistance that represents over \$10,000 in in-kind support. CSEFEL, with support from the North Carolina Planning Team, will provide:

- Training to coaches who will support the demonstration site staff
- Training to a team, including staff and leadership from each demonstration site
- Consultation to program administrators as needed
- Follow-up materials and print/web-based resources
- Processing of evaluation data and reports back to the demonstration site

Demonstration site staff (3 maximum) will receive complimentary conference registration, which includes breakfast, lunch and materials. Lodging will be reimbursed for site staff who travel a long distance to the conference.

How Can Potential Demonstration Sites Get More Information?

CSEFEL staff and the NC/CSEFEL Planning Team will host a Webinar on September 8, 2008 from 1:00-3:00. This call-in event will include both an informational session and time for questions from potential demonstration sites and coaches. Upon receipt of the information below, sites will be sent details about the Webinar. Final decisions about participation will be made in early September. Additionally, demonstration site staff can learn about the CSEFEL Pyramid Model approach at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel/>.

**North Carolina / CSEFEL Partnership
Demonstration Site Application**

Please submit application via email by August 22, 2008 to Lanier DeGrella at lanierd@childcareservices.org

Center/FCCH Name: _____

Physical Address: _____
Street Address

City/Town Zip Code County

Mailing Address (if different from above) _____
PO Box City/Town Zip Code

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Primary Contact/Title: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Type of License/Rating: *Check all that apply*

- 5-Star FCCH 5-Star Center 4-star **and** 7 Education Points on Rated License,
 NAEYC Accreditation, **or**
 Head Start "Program of Excellence"

Hours of operation: _____

For FCCH

Number of children enrolled: _____ Age range of children enrolled: _____

Number of children with disabilities enrolled: *Children who have an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individual Education Program (IEP)* _____

For Center

Demonstration classroom name: _____ Age range of children enrolled in classroom: _____

Number of children in classroom: _____ Number of teaching staff in classroom: _____

Number of children with disabilities enrolled: *Children who have an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individual Education Program (IEP)* _____

We have read the information in the Invitation to Apply regarding the opportunity to become a demonstration site for the NC/CSEFEL partnership. Our names below indicate our program's commitment to meeting the expectations outlined above.

Program Director

Date

Board Chair or School Principal

Date