**Frequently Asked Questions**

Information on the specification for this grant is included in the **Invitation to Bid**

Full details on the application and assessment process are included in the **Application Form**.

Further clarification is available in these Frequently Asked Questions.

Please read these documents carefully before submitting a question to the department.

**Can you send me information/the application form for this grant?**

All documents, including the application form can be downloaded from the contracts finder website: <https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/Notice/89549c70-f14d-4bc3-97ae-0fc53630064c>

**How do I ask a question that’s not covered in the documents available on contracts finder?**

If you have any questions about the bidding procedure which are not covered in the frequently asked questions (FAQ) document please contact PEandSEND.GRANT@education.gov.uk.The enquiry email box will close at **5pm on** **Thursday 17 October** and all responses will be posted in a revised FAQ by **close** **Wednesday 24 October.**

You should include in the subject line of your email **‘SEND PE Grant’**. We are however only able to respond to general queries about the application process via the updated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ). We are **not** able to answer questions about the specifics of what you would like to include in your proposal, this may give an applicant an unfair advantage over other applicants.

**Can I talk to you about my bid?**

Pre-bid negotiations or conversations with the department are not permitted. This is an open competition and this pre-bid conversations may give an applicant an unfair advantage over other applications.

**You have said there will be a review in March 2019 – are you looking for a bid across 2018-19 and 2019-20?**

Yes, we are interested in a project which can deliver from December 2018 through to March 2020. We will, however, be reviewing the progress of the successful project to assess delivery against the stated project plan before funding for 2019-2020 is confirmed. Project delivery plans should take this review into account to ensure value for money for the department if funding were not be continued.

**The overall bid funding is for £600k across two financial years – can I spend more than £300k in either financial year?**

No. The specification asks for each financial year to include a maximum expenditure of £300k per year.

**How do I know if you’ve received my application?**

## You will know when we have received your email as you will receive an automatic email message from the Department for Education to let you know your application has arrived.

**Are you seeking a single provider or a number of providers for the delivery of the programme?**

We are seeking to award this grant to one application. Consortia bids are welcomed.

**Can an organisation be part of more than one consortium bid?**

Yes. Please note additional information is required in the application form where the bid is from a consortium.

**Can a school apply for this funding?**

This grant is not a bid-based funding stream for schools. We are interested in bids which have national relevance and can deliver in a number of locations across England. A single school would not be able to fulfil this requirement of the specification.

**What is your expectation on how the bid should include an element which improves the quality of swimming and water safety lessons?**

The Swim Group’s ‘Review of curriculum swimming and water safety lessons’ report in 2016 stated that the “Group heard anecdotal evidence that while Special Educational Needs’ Schools recognise the additional benefits of providing regular swimming opportunities for pupils, SEND pupils in some mainstream schools are being denied the opportunity to take part in sessions because of the perceived difficulties in going to the pool”.

This highlights that further work is required in this area. It is our expectation that a bid should look to increase the opportunities that pupils with SEND have to access safe, fun and effective swimming and water safety lessons. This element does not need to be restricted to pupils in mainstream schools. Rationale for the approach should be provided.

**Are you looking for a total number of pupils to include?**

We have no maximum or minimum number of pupils we expect the bid to include. However, the bid should have national relevance and be delivered across a number of locations. We will consider bids that target a specific group of children (e.g children in years 6 and 7 or those with particular types of SEN or disability) but clear rationale and evidence should be included to support this. It is important that the Department for Education receives value for money for the up to £600k funding.

**Do you have a desired split between the number of mainstream, SEND and alternative provision schools in the bid?**

No. It is up to bidders to decide on this. Evidence and rationale for the approach should be included.

**What is the spend profile and the end point to delivery?**

The grant profile follows financial years. A maximum of £300k is available for the remainder of financial year 2018-19. A maximum of £300k is available in financial year 2019-2020. A project review will occur at the end of financial year 2018-19 (please see FAQ above), and delivery is expected to be completed by March 2020.