

School Councils Innovation Grant Feedback Form

Selection and Review Process:

1. **School Selection Parameters:** Could you please clarify how schools are selected for the SCIG? Are Model Schools prioritized in this process?
2. **Review Panel Composition:** Who comprises the review panel for the grant applications?
3. **Applicant Data:** How many school councils applied for the SCIG, and how many were funded? Can you share the data with PIAC?
4. **Funding Details:** How much funding is provided by the Ministry annually for this grant? Can you provide the data?

Application Process Issues:

Errors in the Form: There were issues with the application form, such as two separate links being provided and the form being in edit mode, leading to shared personal information. More time should be given to applicants when such errors occur.

Serving Food Restrictions: Money allocated for food is being restricted to only allow refreshments, which is not sufficient given the high levels of food insecurity. Many applicants might rely on such events for their meals, and this limitation exacerbates their already vulnerable situation. Allowing full food distribution during these events could help address this critical need.

Follow-Through and Implementation:

1. **Project Implementation:** How does PCCEO ensure that the funded projects are serving the community effectively?
2. **Vendor List:** The current vendor list seems outdated and limited. What are the parameters for vendors to be included on the list, and how often is this list updated?

Additional Concerns:

1. **Vendor Diversity:** There is a need for increased diversity among vendors and the inclusion of vendors who meet diverse community needs.
2. **Application Timing:** The timing of the application process was challenging as committee chairs had not been selected, making it difficult to get necessary signoffs.
3. **Fund Management:** Depositing funds into school accounts can create difficulties if the principal is not fully engaged. How can this be addressed?
4. **Training Sessions:** Training sessions indicated that vendors were not necessary, focusing on innovation, yet the approval process seemed to require them. Can we clarify this requirement?
5. **Contract Regulations:** Contract regulations are complex for parents to manage if they are the applicants. How can this process be simplified?

Actions and Requests:

1. **Transparency:** We request transparency regarding the selection procedures and the staff involved in the approval or denial of applications.
2. **General Meeting Presentation:** Could you provide a presentation at a general meeting to explain how the PCCEO office manages the SCIG process?
3. **Data and Statistics:** We request data and statistics on the applications and funding decisions.
4. **Rubric Scores:** Can school councils receive their rubric scores from the application process for better understanding and improvement?
5. **Capacity Building:** More capacity-building opportunities should be provided to parents/caregivers to support their engagement and confidence in applying for and implementing grants.