

Questions for Program Developers

Questions on program monitoring and student assessment:

- Does the program provide tools to monitor the performance of implementers to aid in the planning to enhance implementation?
- Does the program provide performance-based tools to assess program impact on students?
- Does the program provide tools to assess changes in school climate?
- Does the program provide on-site assistance in data collection and interpretation to help schools plan implementation enhancements?

Questions on costs:

- What is the cost of standard program materials? Can classes at the same grade level share some materials? Some SEL programs are designed to take the place of a part or all of a curriculum in a core learning area such as social studies or language arts.
- Can Title I, Safe and Drug-Free Schools, state tobacco-settlement or other current funding streams singly or together be used to underwrite the costs of SEL program materials? See the Simple Financing Self Assessment at www.financeproject.org/earlychild.html for help in identifying possible funding sources for SEL programming.
- What is the cost of this training? (Sometimes programs offer discounts for multiple registrants from the same school or district. Discounts may also be available if a district purchases a minimum number of program books. Some registration fees do not include training materials.)
- What are the differences in cost based on location? (There will be travel and maintenance costs for participants going to a training center and travel and maintenance costs for trainers traveling to a school or district.)

Questions on program staff development

- Does the initial staff development workshop for educators preparing to implement the

program include opportunities for participants to practice:

- using classroom materials in teaching and receiving feedback on a lesson?
- developing a plan with colleagues for implementing the program at their school?
- using program strategies such as “morning meeting” or a “buddy system” for establishing a supportive classroom learning environment?
- Are there any pre-requisites for participating in your staff development programs?
- Is there a discount on staff development registration fees for purchase of a certain volume of materials?
- Subsequent to the initial staff development workshop and a period of implementation, does the program offer on-site consultation to schools in any of the following ways:
 - observing and giving feedback to teachers who are using program materials in their classes?
 - facilitating group sessions that allow teachers using the materials to share successes and challenges, ideas on how they have addressed implementation issues, and ask for help?
 - organizing and helping teachers coach one another in using the materials?

Questions on evaluating a program's impact

- Does your program provide school districts with on-site help in designing an evaluation to determine the program's impact on their students?
- Does your program have measurement tools school districts can use in conducting an evaluation?
- Does your program provide on-site assistance in collecting and analyzing evaluation data?
- Does your program provide assistance in interpreting evaluation data and making appropriate recommendations?