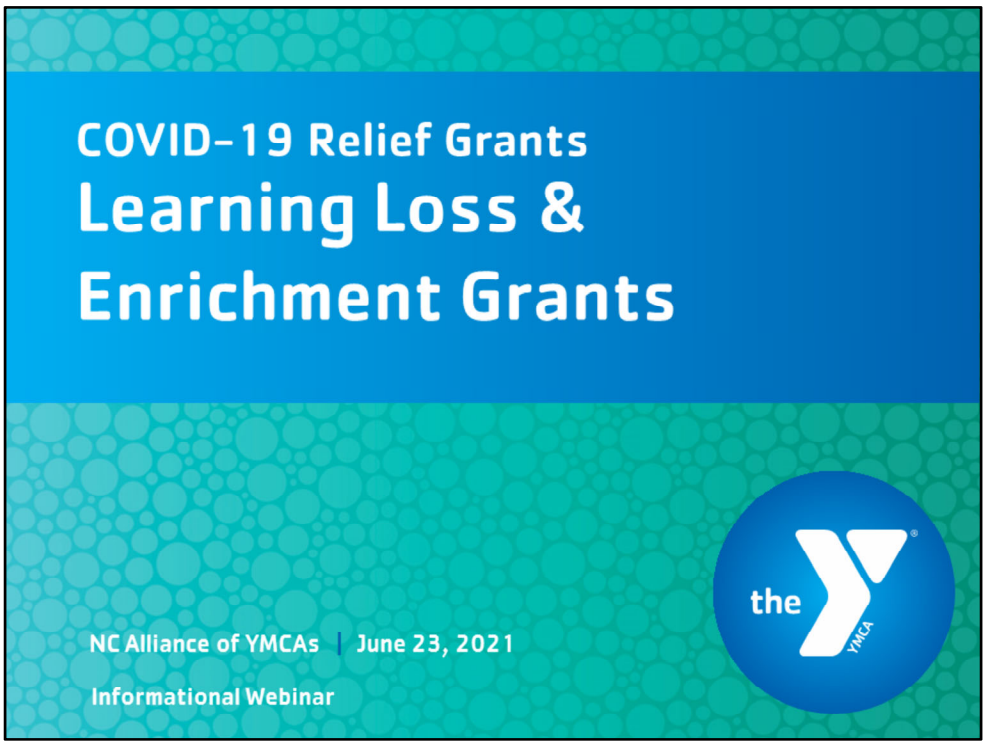
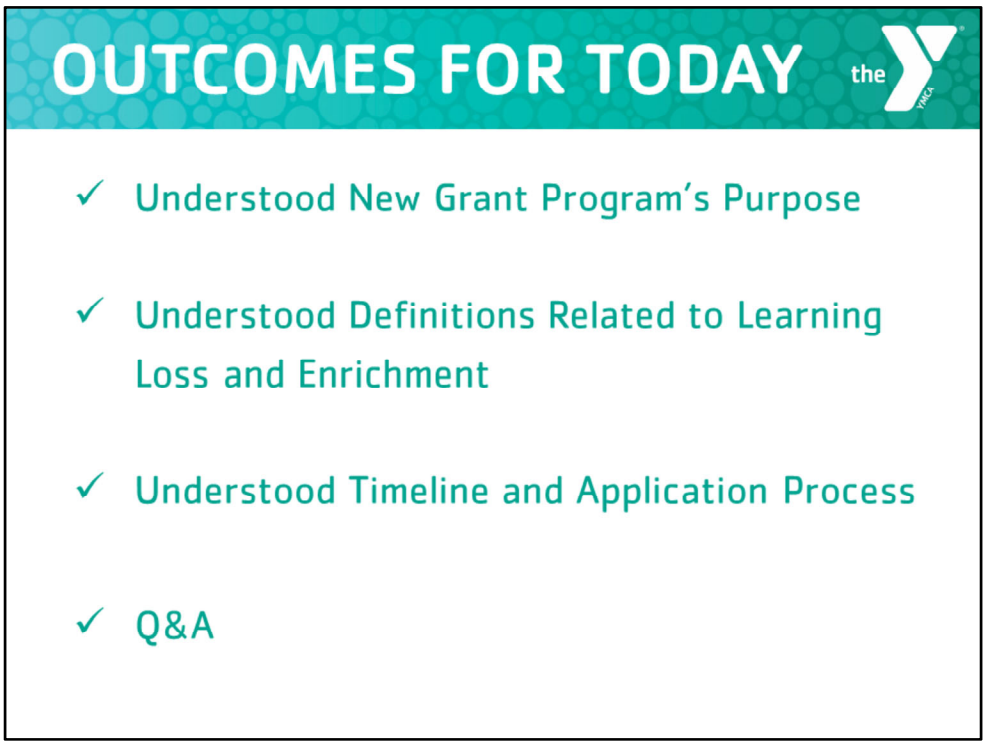
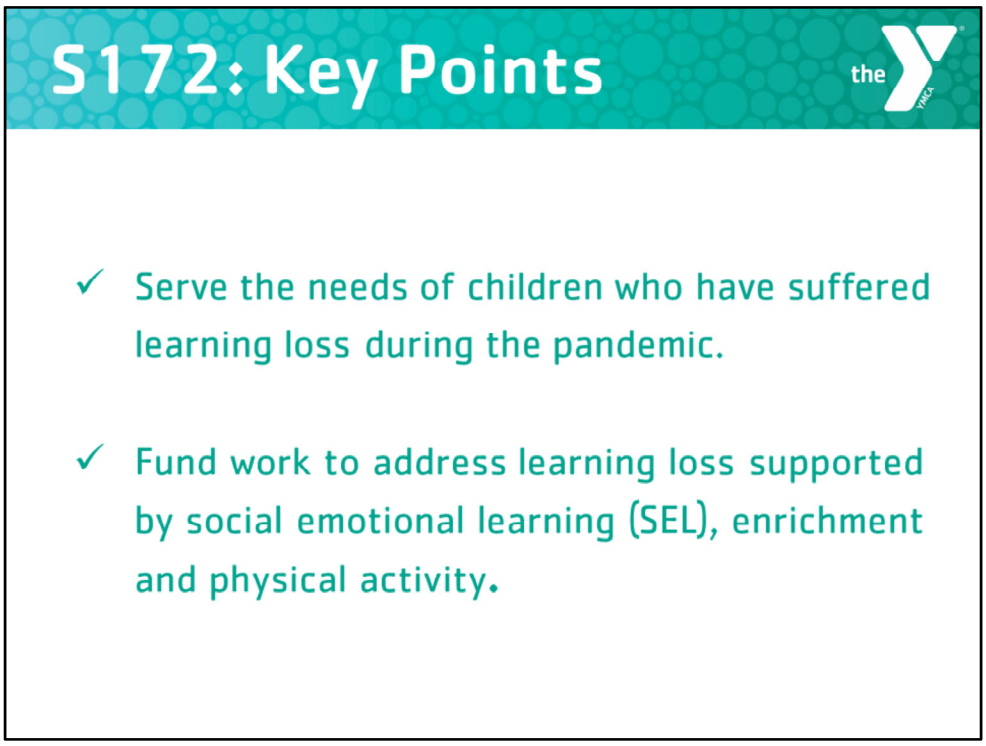

COVID-19 Relief Grants
Learning Loss &
Enrichment Grants
NC Alliance of YMCAs | June 23, 2021
Informational Webinar
the
YMCA



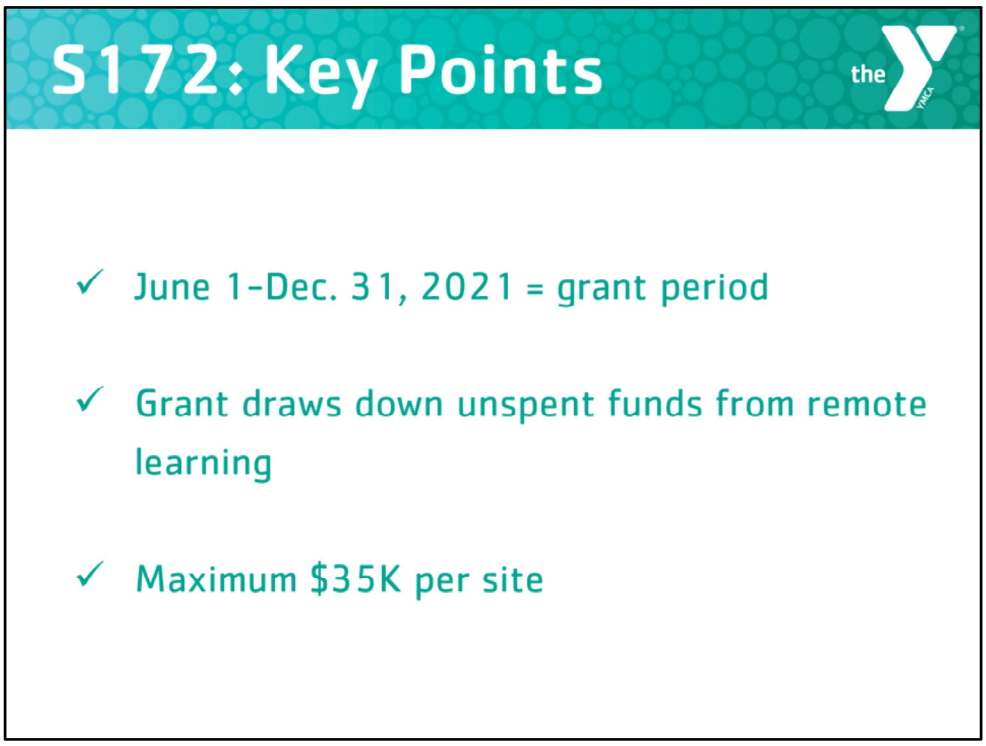
- Sheree introduces self
- Welcomes participants
- Thank you for your work to serve children and families in remote learning – You have providing a much needed service to support children and we applaud you for that work.

- We are in the process of winding down that grant now, while we ramp up on the new one. You may hear from someone on our team reaching out about a missing Attachment F – we'll ask you to quickly get that to us if needed.

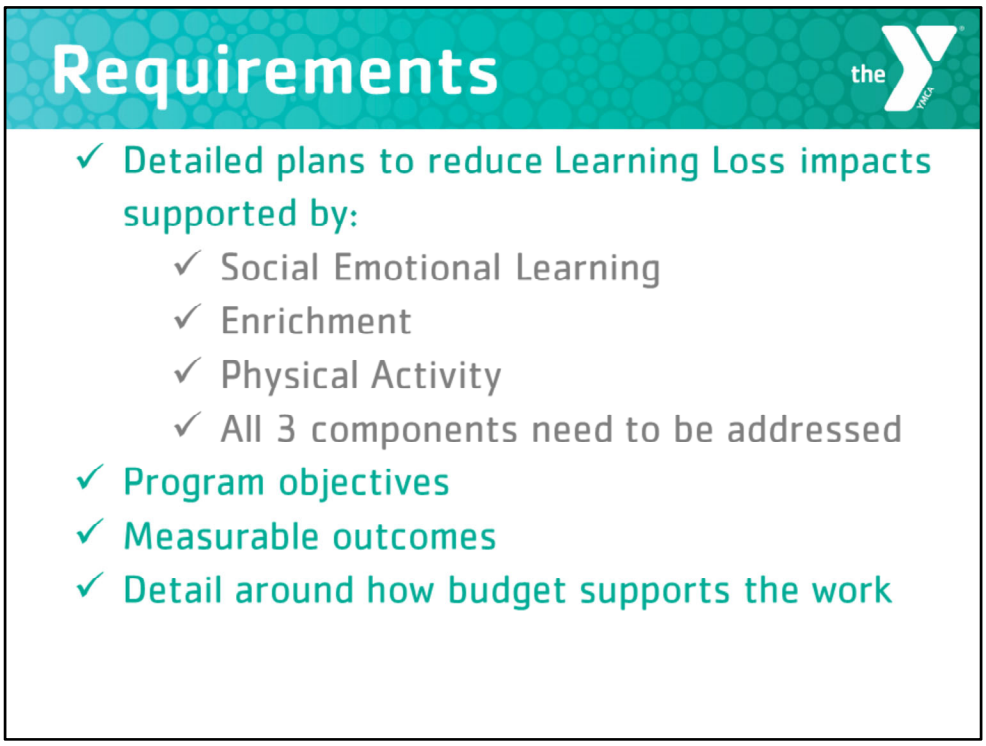
- Today we're going to spend some time today talking about the new Learning Loss and Enrichment Grant opportunity , the key definitions related to the scope of this grant and how to apply.
- And we'll have time for questions – please use the Q&A feature, NOT the chat, and WAIT until we have reviewed these slides as we may address your question.



- Let's recap how we got to where we are today…
- In May, NC General Assembly passed and Gov. Cooper signed into law S172 – this ended the remote learning grant program May 31 and provided for this new grant.
- The focus is on supporting children who have faced significant learning loss during the pandemic. We aren't talking about academic loss, which is also significant, but rather this grant focuses on learning loss – we'll talk in a minute about the definitions around the scope of this work.



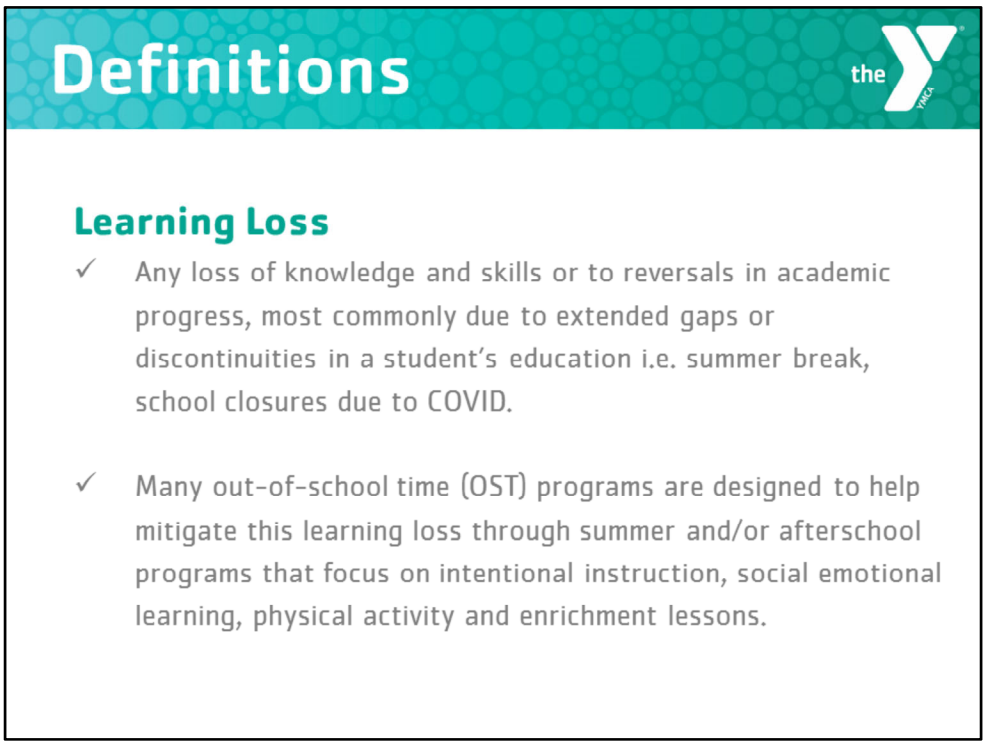
- The period for the new grant is June 1 through Dec 31, 2021.
- The grant draws down the unspent funds from the remote learning grant – there were some funds that were unallocated because the initial budget requests of applicants didn't quite reach $19.85million, which was what had been appropriated, and many sites didn't spend as much money as they had anticipated, particularly with many schools returning to in-person instruction.
- **By the end of this week, when the May reimbursements for the remote learning grant are processed, we'll know exactly how much money is available for the new grants.**
- Sites will be able to apply for up to $35K and our hope is that we can meet all of those requests. **Depending on the balance of funds, it is possible we will need to award sites less money than requested.**



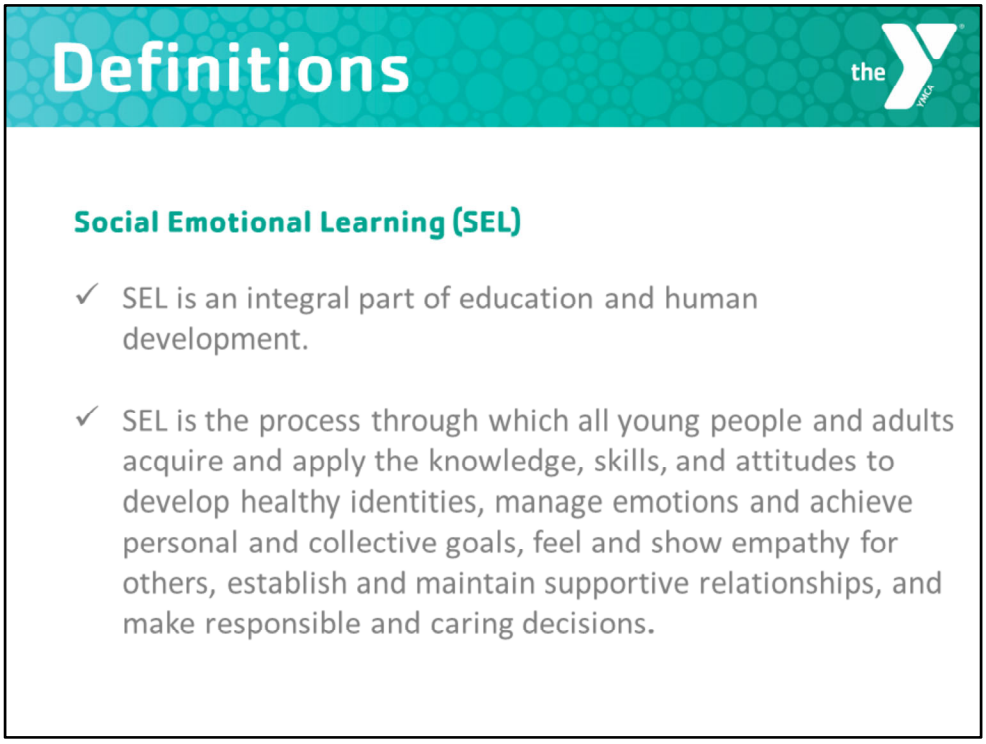
- So if you have reviewed the RFP, you have seen these definitions but we want to just review them here together

- Applicants for the grant will need to describe in detail in their A-1 scope of work their plans to reduce learning loss impacts through SEL, enrichment and physical activity – program objectives and expected measurable outcomes need will need to be provided. So let's talk a minute about that means

- Want to emphasize that your program needs to incorporate all 3 areas- SEL, enrichment and physical activity – all should be outlined in your A-1



- So if you have reviewed the RFP, you have seen these definitions but we want to just review them here together
- First let's talk about learning loss

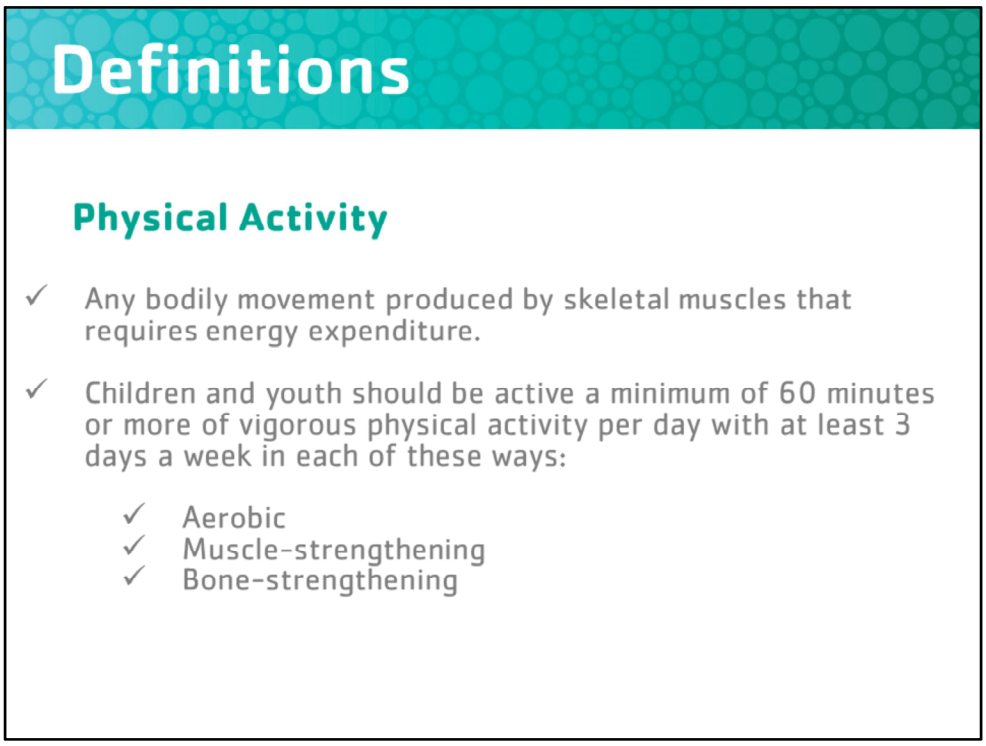


- Social emotional learning is just really critical for youth right now. Children spent so much time disconnected to people during the pandemic.
- They are in dire need of support in the 5 core competencies of SEL:
    - Self awareness
    - Self management
    - Responsible decision making
    - Social awareness
    - Relationship skills

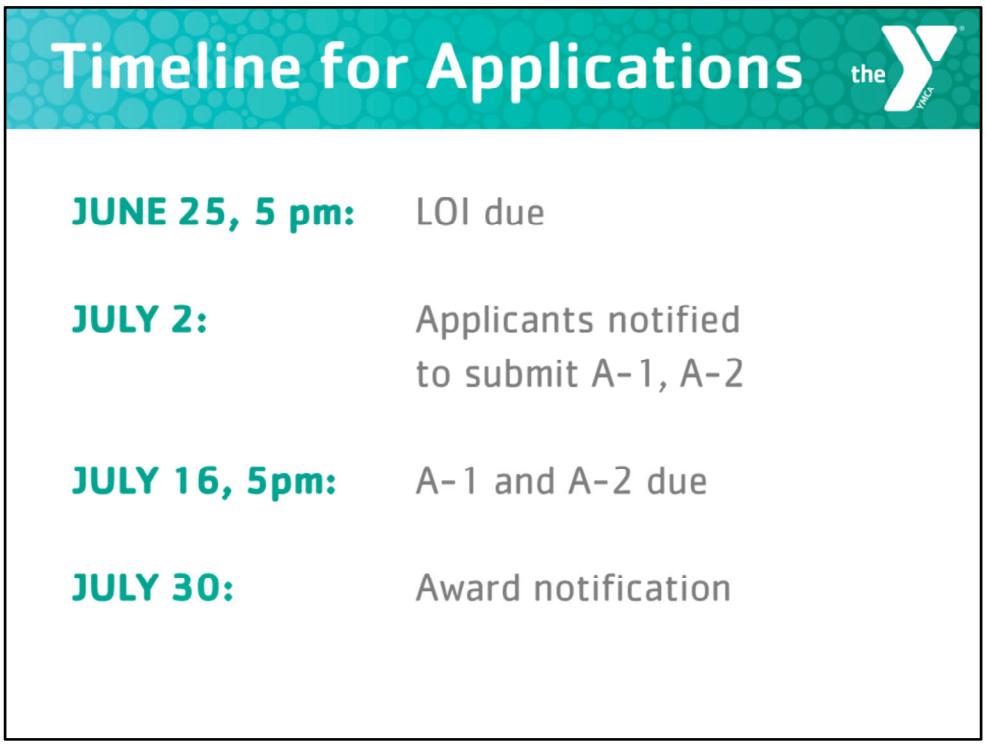
Definitions

Enrichment

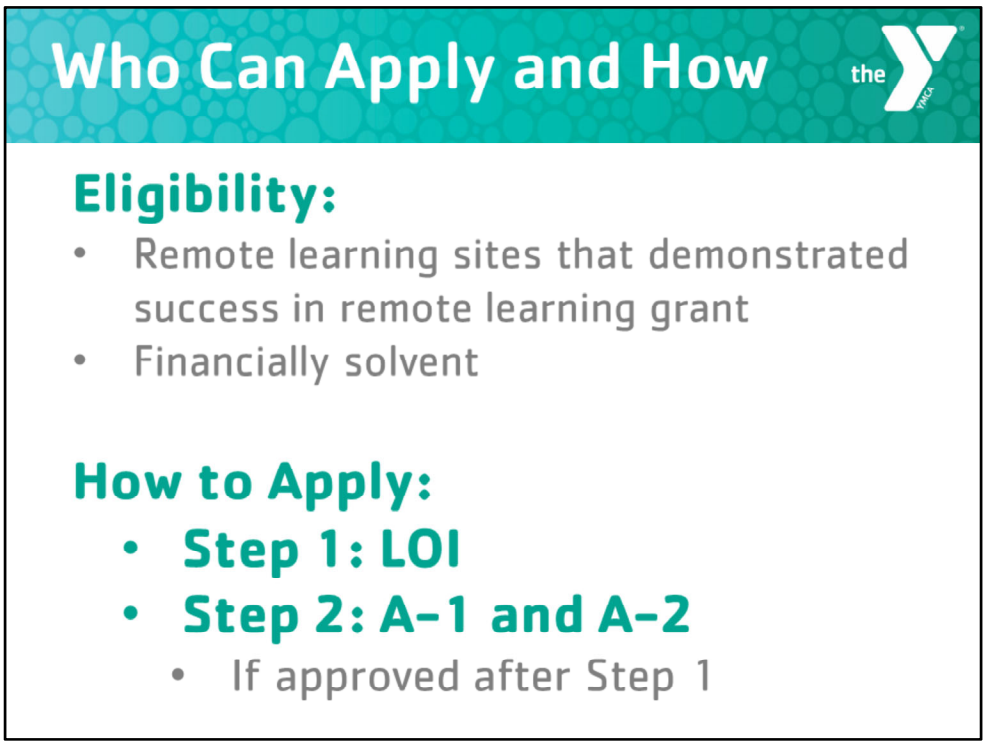
- ✓ Enrichment is the use of unique and innovative strategies to engage students, placing a special emphasis on making learning fun.
- ✓ Program components vary and may include visual and performing arts, music, cooking, gardening, health and nutrition, cultural activities, technology and recreation (e.g., sports, dance, drill team, and outdoor games).



This likely doesn't need too much explanation – we know kids need at least 60 minutes per day of vigorous physical activity. Not only good for their bodies but good for their minds as well.

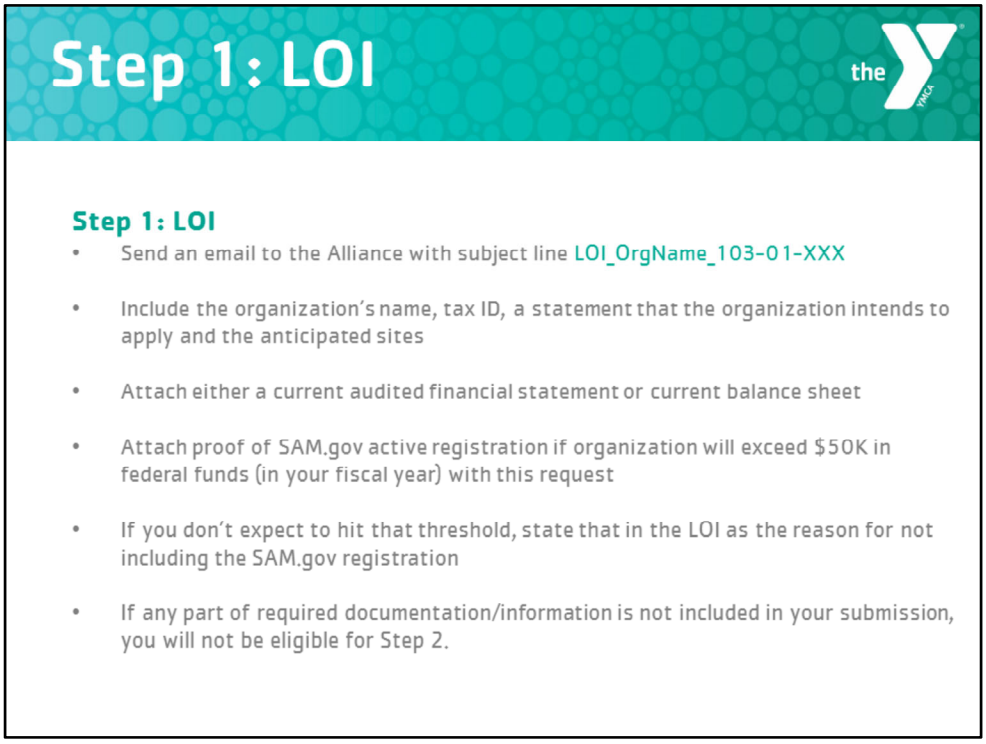


- As noted in the RFP, this is the timeline.
- Letters of intent are due by 5 pm this Friday. And by July 2 we'll notify applicants whether they are approved to continue in the application process and submit the A-1 and A-2.
- By July 30, we will notify about grant awards.



So who can apply?

Because organizations must be able to meet the financial requirements outlined in S172, the applications process will occur in two steps. First is to submit a letter of intent to apply – this is at the organizational level.

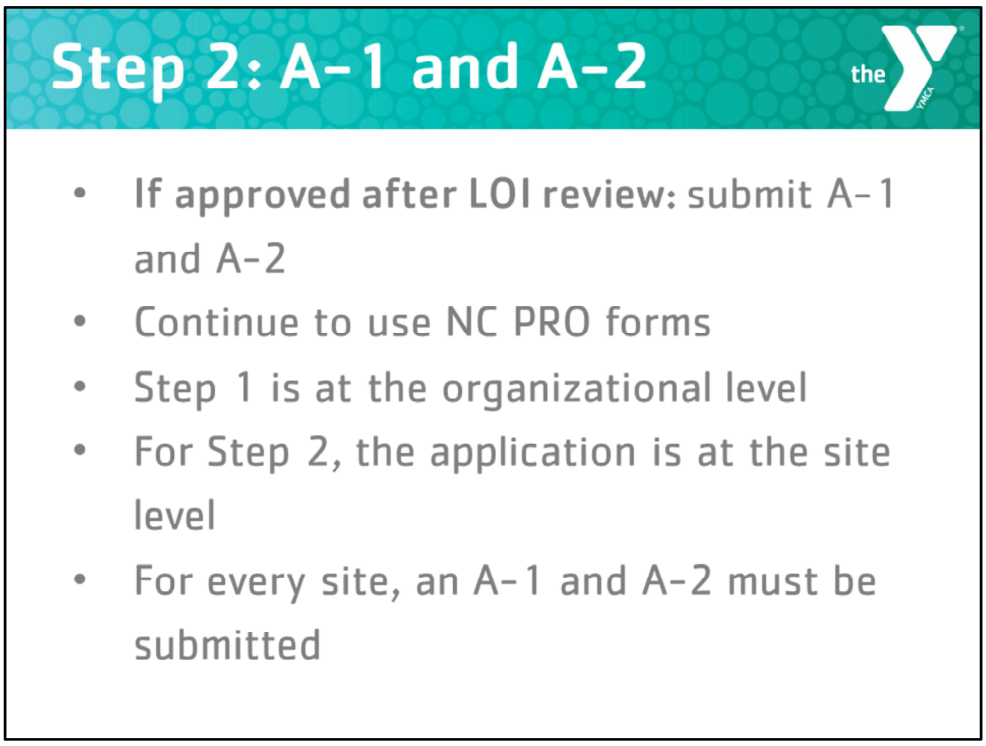


Organizations that were funded with remote learning grants and that demonstrated success in those grants; specifically, sites will have to have been reimbursed at least 65% of the remote learning site funds awarded to them and will have to be financially solvent as demonstrated by the finance documents requested.

This slide shows what you need to include for your LOI in the email and what to attach. We know that you may not have all the plans fully defined yet for your sites, particularly if you are looking at afterschool sites for when school starts. The LOI isn't binding in terms of the sites you note there, but you will need to finalize this Step 2 of the application process.

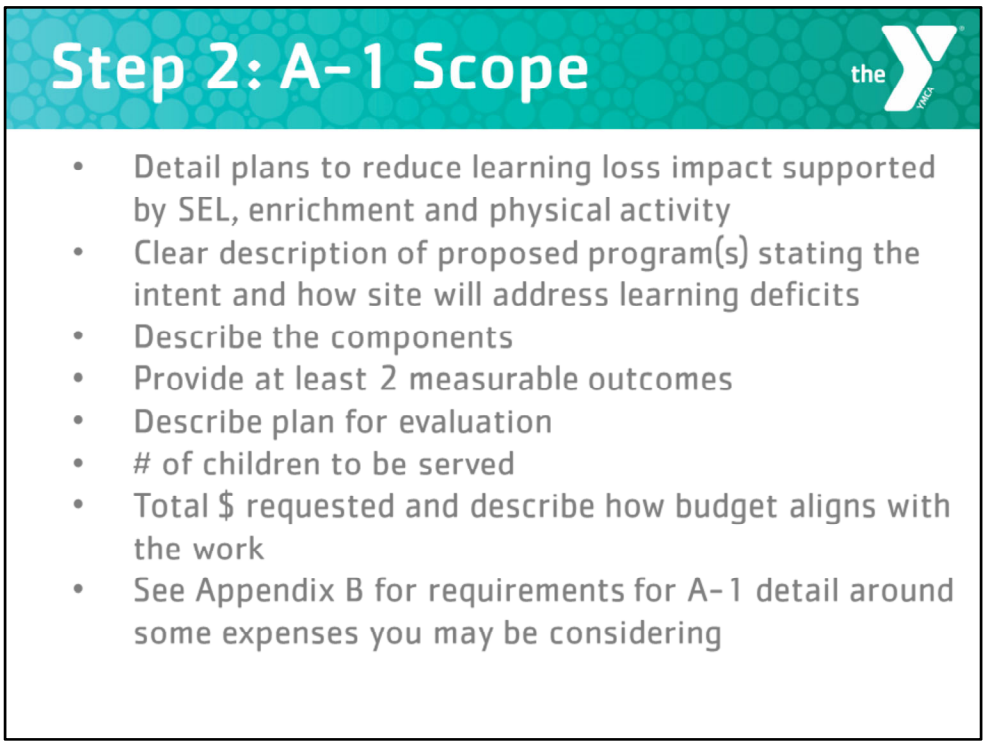
NOTE that SAM.gov proof is required at the LOI stage.

I also want to emphasize that you should take the time to carefully read the instructions as to what is needed for the LOI – it's very basic, and outlined in the RFP. If it's not done correctly, we'll not review the LOI and you wont be eligible to apply for funding.



If approved to move on to the next step of the application process, you'll need to complete the A-1 and A-2.

The NC Pandemic Recovery Office continues to have oversight of the CARES Act funding spent statewide, and we are contracted to administer the learning loss and enrichment grants for them. So again it means using their A-1 and A-2 forms, and the C-1 And C-2 forms



The RFP details what should be included in the A-1 scope. I'm just hitting a few highlights here (go over bullets)

Step 2: A-2 Budget

- **Complete Row 9 and Row 15**
- Instructions in the RFP

- Strongly encourage: use budget for payroll rather than purchases
- Appendix B shows allowable expenses
  - some items will require a detailed explanation in A-1 as to why necessary
  - if an expense is not on the list, it's not reimbursable

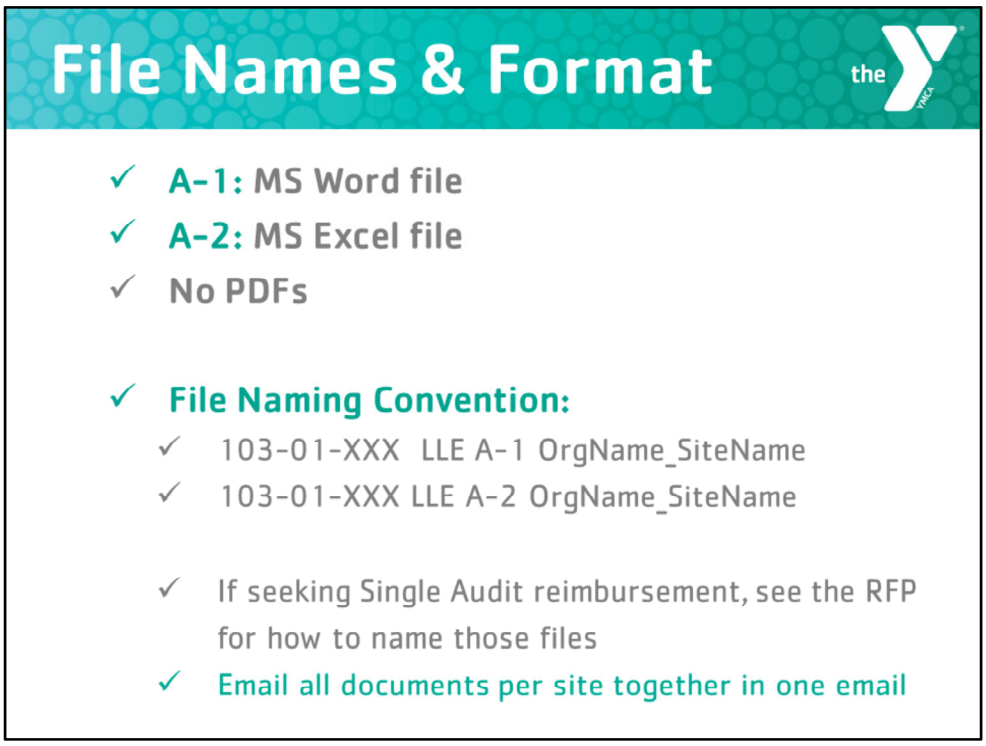
- Maximum budget: $35K per site

- Reminder: can't double-dip on Federal funds-PPP etc.

- **NOTE:**
  - if approved for funds, note that if expenses are disallowed in reimbursement request, there is no further opportunity to request reimbursement for those expenses
  - For LLE grant, amended A-1s and A-2s will not be accepted

Scoring Rubric

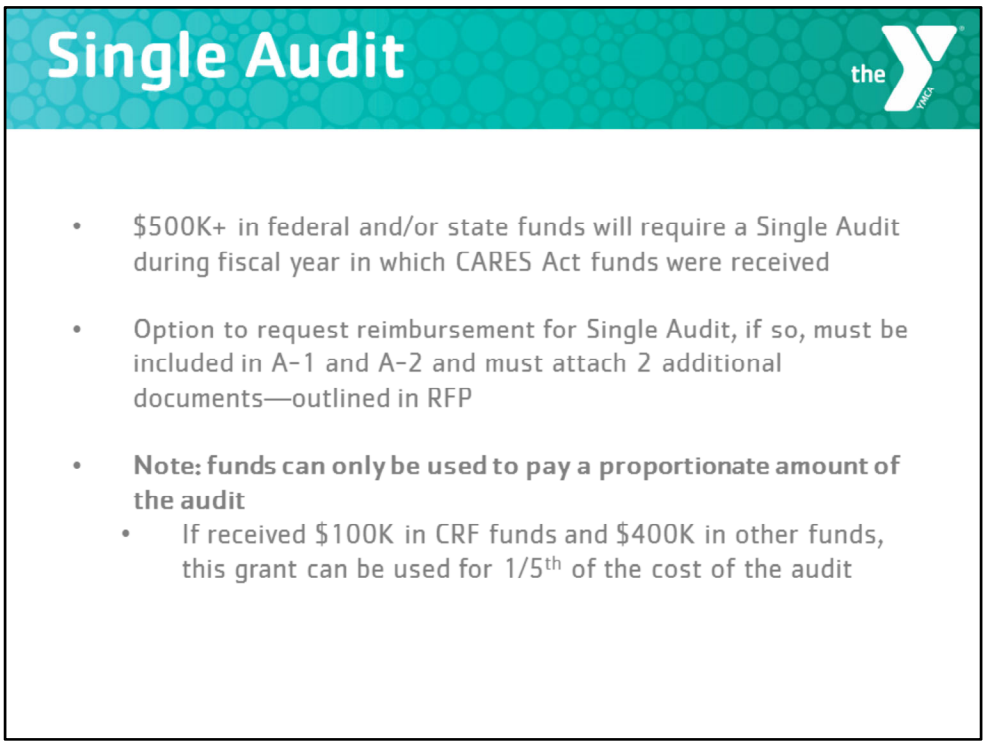
- Applications will be assessed based on a scoring rubric outlined in the RFP
  - Program description
  - Program objectives
  - Evaluation plan
  - Budget alignment



- Please note the file formats required by NC PRO – PDFs are not acceptable

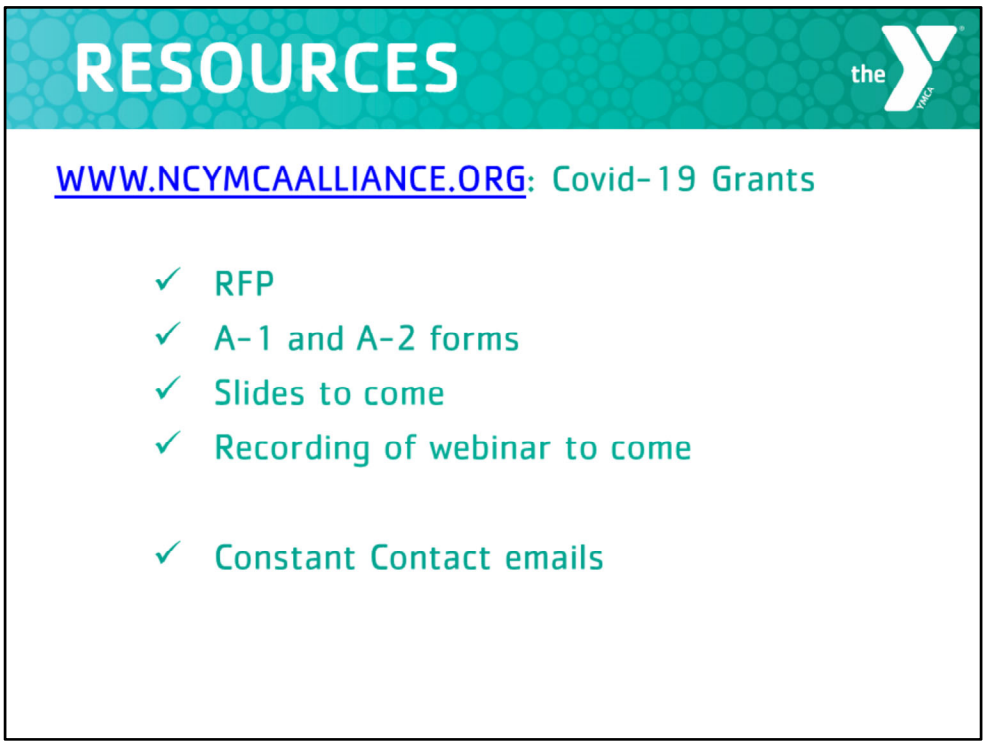
- Also note the file naming convention:
  - Be sure to use your unique contract agreement number assigned during remote learning with the 3-digit organization number. You will NOT use the site number as we will reassign site numbers if needed based on awards and number of sites within an organization

  - The addition of the letters LLE is important – this is what will distinguish these files from the remote learning files for NC PRO.



If your organization has received more than $500,000 in federal and/or state grants in total, your organization will be required by the state of North Carolina to undergo a Single Audit for your fiscal year during which CARES Act funds were received.

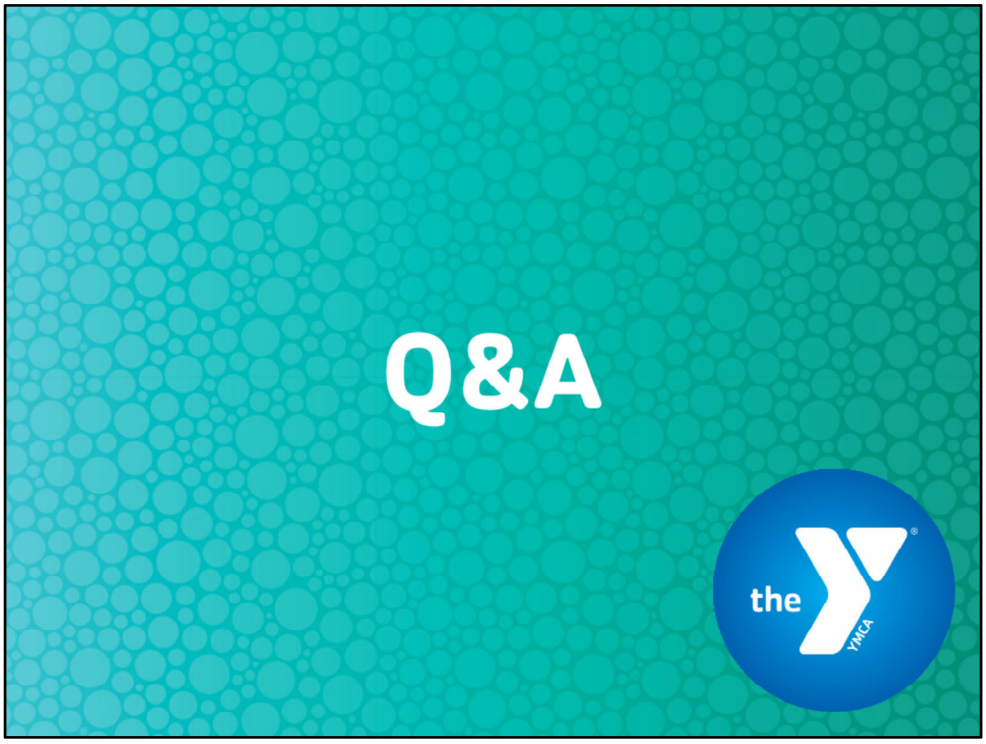
If you elect to request reimbursement for Single Audit, please include in your A-1 scope and A-2 budget. However, **Please note:**
Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) can only be used to cover a **proportionate amount of the audit**, so if an organization received $100,000 in CRF funds and $400,000 in other funds, CRF could be used to pay 1/5th of the cost of the audit.



As always, our website has the documents you need to download.

We will post the slides from today and the recording shortly.

We'll continue to communicate via Constant Contact emails- please read every email closely – over the course of the remote learning grant, our staff spent a lot of time answering questions that were already addressed in emails or on the website



OK, we'll open it up for questions now