

AGENCY: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

TITLE: “RCRA STATE IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT GRANT”

ACTION: Request for Proposals (RFP) - Questions and Answers.

RFA NO: EPA-OSWER-ORCR-09-03

CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE (CFDA) NO: 66.808

SUMMARY: The following are formal Agency responses to questions/comments received regarding the subject solicitation.

1. Do we need to register on Grants.gov?

No. Registration on Grants.gov is necessary only when proposal submission is required through the Grants.gov portal. For this RFP (EPA-OSWER-OCRC-09-03), proposals may only be submitted either in hard copy or by electronic mail with a PDF attachment. Accordingly, the RFP does not require applicants to register on Grants.gov to submit their proposal; however, applicants may sign-up to receive notifications of any amendments and/or modifications which are made to the announcement at: <http://www.grants.gov/search/email.do>. (Refer to Section 4(C), Submitting an Application Package.)

2. Does the term “cooperative partners” in Section (4)(B)(2)(a)(v) & Section (4)(B)(2)(b)(v) include individuals who volunteer to participate on an applicant’s subcommittees, task forces or workgroups and will participate in the implementation of the project?

No.

3. Regarding Section (4)(B)(2)(b)(ii) – Programmatic Capability and Past Performance, for purposes of submitting a list of federally funded assistance agreement similar in size, scope and relevance to the proposed project – what is considered a “similar size”?

Generally, "similar in size" refers to assistance agreements whose total project costs and duration were near or equal to the estimated costs and duration detailed in the RFP (EPA-OSWER-OCRC-09-03).

- 4. The announcement says that all Q&As will be posted here: <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/grants-funding.htm>. Can you provide more specific guidance about where to find the Q&As?**

When Q&As are posted, a dated link labeled "Questions and Answers" will appear at the site listed above, directly below the link to the RFP.

- 5. Does the grant cover travel/support for Territories in addition to States?**

Yes.

- 6. Should Letters of Support be sent directly to the Agency Contact or only to the applicant for inclusion in the application package?**

Letters of support should be included as "Attachments" to the applicant's narrative proposal. (Refer to Section 4(B)(3), Attachments.)

- 7. What is the distinction between the two Evaluation Criteria "Project Description/Technical Approach" and "Programmatic Capability and Environmental Results Past Performance?" Both seem to address staff qualifications to achieve the goals of the project.**

Although both criterion address qualifications of assigned staff to achieve goals of the project, under the "Project Description/Technical Approach" criterion, the applicant's proposal should demonstrate their assigned staff's "understanding, knowledge, and capability" to perform the work in Section 1 of the RFP. The "Programmatic Capability and Environmental Results Past Performance" criterion takes into account the applicant's staff expertise/qualifications, in past performance on similar agreements, in evaluating the programmatic capability of applicants to achieve the goals of the proposed project.

- 8. The RFP indicates that the Standard Form 424 "Application for Federal Assistance" is required. Does that mean only the form at the following link is required? <http://www.epa.gov/ogd/AppKit/form/SF424.pdf>**

Yes, along with the Narrative Proposal and any attachments.
(Refer to Section 4(B) Content and Form of Application.)