

1. Can the Border 2012 R6 funding pay for equipment under this RFP SOLTA09-005?
  - The funds to be allocated under this RFP are not intended for the exclusive purpose of purchasing general equipment, construction of facilities, and/or other rehabilitation of infrastructure. Applicants that require the purchase of equipment as part of the project proposal will need to clearly identify it in the proposed budget and explain its purpose and how it will benefit the overall project. In general, equipment purchases should not exceed \$5,000.
2. Can BECC help organizations with the transmittal of funds to a sub-contractor?
  - Yes.
3. Does Border 2012 cover Wastewater infrastructure projects?
  - No.
4. Can we submit proposals for other border regions?
  - Yes, as long as they are covered under the RFP.
5. Do I need to have a non-profit in Mexico to submit proposals?
  - No, although binational projects are encouraged when possible.
6. Upon project selection, when will funds arrive?
  - In general, after notice of award and submission of an acceptable work plan, the BECC will issue Technical Assistance Agreements for Border 2012 funding. The TAA is the contractual document that will formalize the agreement between the Project Sponsor and BECC for project funding.
7. Are there fees for completing the QAPP?
  - The QAPP will have to be included under the proposed budget.
8. Can we submit more than one proposal?
  - Yes, as long as they do not duplicate.
- 9.- Does EPA fund research and education proposals?
  - As stated in the RFP, see section 3.0 2009 PRIORITY AREAS AND BORDER WIDE EMERGING ISSUES AND BORDER WIDE PRIORITIES: "Proposed projects submitted under

this RFP must address one or more of the topics listed under either of the Options identified in Appendix 1 or Appendix 2 or Appendix 3....”

10.- Do I need to ask for approval if the instruments I need to do the study cost more than \$5,000?

- As stated in the RFP, see section 6.0 PROPOSAL PREPARATION PROCEDURES, 6.1 Submittal of Proposals, Letter D, number 7. “In general, equipment purchases should not exceed \$5,000. In rare instances, projects requesting larger amounts for equipment purchases may be approved with prior notice.”

11. What is the procedure for requesting permission for technology up to twenty thousand dollars?

- There is no permission needed for technology; however, if you are asking if you can purchase equipment or the equipment is the new technology, then it is not eligible for this RFP. The RFP states "The funds to be allocated under this RFP are not intended for the exclusive purpose of purchasing general equipment, construction of facilities, and/or other rehabilitation of infrastructure....In general, equipment purchases should not exceed \$5,000."

12. We want to develop local and regional models for simulating agricultural and unpaved road dust dispersion around the border area. Could you advise if this idea is appropriate to the RFP?

- Please refer to the priority areas under the RFP. However, you may want to focus on Appendix I, Option 1- Border 2012 New Mexico-Texas-Chihuahua Regional Workgroup Priorities - "Address PM in the non-urban areas to target open air burning and bare soil/unpaved streets PM issues. Correlate Environmental Health effect data to the air quality improvement data being collected."

13. Is the charging of Indirect Costs (IDC) allowed for this program?

- Yes, you are allowed to charge indirect costs.

14. Is our PI allowed to list corporate partners on projects or should any partners just be local organizations?

- Your PI is allowed to list corporate partners, no matter where or who they are. Please keep in mind that the funds under this RFP are for nonprofit entities only. Matching or leveraging funds can be from any source.

15. We have an apple computer. What format do we submit in when we do not have Microsoft?
- You can submit your proposal in the most similar format for word that you have in your computer (note pad).
16. We are a NM based non-profit working in Palomas for the past two years. Your list of grants given out seem to be all government agencies. Is there a chance non government agency could be accepted?
- Past grants have not been given only to government agencies, in fact, many grants have gone to not for profit agencies. We encourage all non governmental agencies to apply.
17. Page 5 of the RFP 5.2 last line....."no individual e-mail inquiries will be made ". HOW DO YOU ANSWER MY QUESTIONS?
- The RFP states that all questions and responses will posted and available at [www.cocef.org](http://www.cocef.org) under Proposals Border 2012 - Region 6 Q&A.
18. The last time I worked with EPA on a TCEQ grant with UT-Austin, the indirect rate was limited to 15%. I looked in the RFP, but have missed any limits on the indirect rate.
- There are no limits on the indirect rates mentioned on the RFP; however, your project funding may be impacted if most of the funding is used for the indirect funding rather than directly for the implementation of the project. If selected, these rates can be negotiated.
19. We have two organizations proposing the project—Border Environmental Health Coalition (BEHC) and Battelle. BEHC will lead and Battelle will be the subcontract. Each of the two organizations will have salaries, travel, and some equipment. Do you want a separate breakdown salary, travel, and equipment for the lead (BEHC) and Battelle (subcontract), or just a subcontract cost, plus travel and equipment for all? What will work best for you?
- You can add all the costs into one budget, however, be as detailed as possible on your budget request. The limit overall on equipment is \$5,000. However, please keep in mind that we limit the purchase of equipment, and the amount requested and type of equipment will be only approved on a case by case basis.