

1. Explain the Financial Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Number change:

The Announcement Number of P14AS00055 was changed as it was taken by someone going into Grants.gov without first going through the program we use to write our opportunity announcements. When the announcement was finalized the number P14AS00055 would not allow us to use it. Therefore the number was changed to P14AS00057, the next available number. Please use P14AS00057 on any documentation for the solicitation number.

2. On page 9 the FOA notes 40 awards and on page 14 it notes 5 umbrella cooperative agreements. Please clarify the difference between the number of awards and umbrella cooperative agreements:

We are looking at 40 Cooperative Agreements as noted on page 9 of the FOA. Page 14 of the FOA should also read 40 Cooperative Agreements for 5 years.

3. Can you clarify how we should present key staff biographies and resumes? Guidelines for Protected PII indicate employment history associated with an individual is not allowed; whereas Public PII guidelines not as acceptable – “employment info that is not PII even when associated with a name” and “Resumes, unless they include a social security number”. An example would be helpful. Normally we include a summary of past employment in a biography and past employment, including job title, is part of even a short resume.

Listed below are examples of Public PII that Applicants may include in the files listed above to be evaluated by the Merit Review Committee:

- Resumes, unless they include a Social Security Number
- Employment information that is not PII even when associated with a name
- Resumes, unless they include a Social Security Number
- Present and past position titles and occupational series
- Present and past grades
- Present and past annual salary rates (including performance awards or bonuses, incentive awards, merit pay amount, Meritorious or Distinguished Executive Ranks, and allowances and differentials)
- Present and past duty stations and organization of assignment (includes room and phone numbers, organization designations, work email address, or other identifying information regarding buildings, room numbers, or places of employment)

- Position descriptions, identification of job elements, and those performance standards (but not actual performance appraisals) that the release of which would not interfere with law enforcement programs or severely inhibit agency effectiveness
- Security clearances held
- Written biographies (e.g. to be used in a program describing a speaker)
- Academic credentials
- Schools attended
- Major or area of study
- Personal information stored by individuals about themselves on their assigned workstation or laptop unless it contains a Social Security Number

4. **On page 14, Frequently Asked Questions section. Average Cost/project:**

- **Is this annually or for a 5 year contract period?**
For a 1 year project
- **How does this correspond to the number of awards (40 anticipated) and number of umbrella cooperative agreements (5)?**
It is 40 agreements with a 5 year period for the cooperative agreement. Funded task agreements issued under the 5 year agreement will be less than five years, likely yearly funded projects.
- **Are these amounts total project (Award + Match) or federal award only?**
Federal Funds Only

5. **Will the 40 agreements go exclusively to organizations that operate on a large scale nationally, regionally or state-wide?**

No, there is no requirement for a large scale operation. However, the announcement is looking for organizations with strong national, local, and regional presences.

6. **My organization operates in only one city should I apply?**

No, unless you are part of a larger network of national partners. The announcement is looking for organizations with strong national, local, and regional presences. If you are limited to work in only one city you may not be suited for this announcement.

7. **How is regionally defined? Does the word regionally as used here mean that organizations can be those that operate throughout one or more of the seven NPS regions?**

Regionally, in this case is defined as more generically and not limited to NPS region distinctions. (i.e) Someone that operates in the Southwest, the Northeast, the Gulf Coast or another region of the country as defined generically.

Region: an area or division, esp. part of a country or the world having definable characteristics but not always fixed boundaries.

8. **Since each NPS region consists of several states, the applicant must then operate in all states with in that particular region?**

No, region is defined generically. You do not need to operate nor are you constricted to the NPS regions.

9. **On page 6 C. Project Objectives an overview of the 21st CSC is presented which explains that the first goal is to provide “service, training, education and employment opportunities for thousands of young Americans and veterans.” My organization has significant veteran and youth programs. I am unclear whether we should include our veteran programs since our veteran participants tend to be outside the age range specified in the Statement of Work page 6 under the heading Population.**

Do veterans need to be 25 years of age and younger?

No, if it is a Public Land Corps Act project veterans are eligible to up to age 35.

10. **Are state universities considered non-profits? Is this an appropriate avenue for us to pursue given your knowledge of the Conservation Service Corps Program?**

You must have a 501-3(c) designation.

11. **Would a proposal developed in collaboration with partners in AL and focusing on youth training in AL State Parks be considered within the overall guidelines of RFA?**

No. The projects will be related to National Park sites.

Alternatively, could I serve as PI on a proposal developed in collaboration with a Non-Governmental Organization in the US Virgin Islands and focusing on youth training in the US Virgin Islands National Park be considered within the overall guidelines of the RFA? A sub-award would be proposed for the Virgin Islands based NGO partner?

If there was a project there you could be possibly be the PI if you we’re qualified and associated with non-profit that is awarded the project.

12. **Do projects need to take place on National Park System lands?**

No. Not all projects will take place on NPS lands, however, the emphasis will be on projects associated with NPS lands and NPS programs.

We were not incredibly clear on the definition of *project* as regards this opportunity. Can a project be our overall program (which also receives funding from a variety of

other sources) which includes specific projects in parks and recreation areas as well as educational activities, service activities, and opportunities for professional certifications/credentials for young adult participants? Or is a project only an individual project, including a very specific set of activities, like a tree planting in a particular area.

A project is only an individual project, including a very specific set of activities. Examples would be a project where interns plant trees at a given location. For an example of a project we are looking for something that would demonstrate what the interns get paid, what the executive hours/pay, travel, and other expenses related to that project, etc.

13. Can an applicant apply for multiple work projects at more than 1 unit under the same application?

Do not understand the question fully but will try to respond.

You only need to apply once. The application will be considered for an “umbrella” cooperative agreement with NPS. If you are selected for a cooperative agreement with NPS, then you will be selected/used for projects around the country depending on the project objectives and NPS park/programs that are involved.

So apply once of the cooperative agreement and then projects will be selected based on the needs/funding available and the recipients who can accommodate those objectives.