

Department of Homeland Security Science & Technology Directorate (DHS/S&T)
Center for Borders, Trade and Immigration Research (CBTIR)

Center Lead FOA: DHS-14-ST-061-COE-002A

Center Partner FOA: DHS-14-ST-061-COE-002B

The following questions have been received by the DHS Grants Officer. Answers are based on published information in the above referenced Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) and are intended to ensure all interested applicants have the same information. The identity of the institution asking the question will not be provided. Questions have been edited to provide clarity.

Question #1: Would a pending PhD be an obstacle in pursuing this proposal as PI or CO-PI, or would other credentials be sufficient?

Answer: There are no PhD requirements to apply. Please refer to the FOAs, Section III. Eligibility Information.

Question #2: Page 19 of the revised final FOA indicates “Principal Investigators (PI) that are already Partners under a Center Lead application may not submit an application under this Partner FOA”. My project under a current COE ends March 2015 (project award date). Am I eligible to apply for this competitive opportunity?

Answer: Yes, this competition is open to academic institutions and PIs that are currently partnered with existing COEs. Please note the modified Text on page 19 of the Partner FOA: “Principal Investigators that are already Partners under a Center Lead application may not submit the same application under this Partner FOA.”

Question #3: Please let us know If our technology platform could be of relevance to the requirements of the program or not.

Answer: Please refer to the “Research and Education Themes, Topics, and Questions” as identified in the FOA. DHS will not provide feedback on the relevancy of your project prior to submission.

Question: Do we submit a budget for all 5 years (max of \$20 million) or do we only submit a budget for year 1 at a max of \$4 million, even though some of the proposed projects will extend beyond Year 1?

Answer: Applicants should submit a budget for all 5 years, including the following for each project (from Center Lead FOA Section IV. How to Apply, D. 3. b. Page 31) “A year-by-year description of the project from inception to transition including key milestones for each year” and “Total costs per year”.