

Supporting American-Style Higher Education in Iraq 2024

Opportunity Number: DFOP0010765

NOFO Questions and Answers

- Is it permissible to update or upgrade existing studying equipment at the university under this objective? (e.g., smartboards, projectors, etc.)
 - Yes, the upgrading or updating current equipment or supplies is an allowable cost.
- Are scholarships allowed as part of women's empowerment activities?
 - Yes, scholarships or other financial tuition assistance is allowable.
- If specific offices have been established under a prior fund from NEA, and as part of ongoing initiatives to enhance student support, can we reallocate these offices under a new project with revised objectives?
 - The costs related to the reallocation of previously funded offices are allowable with sufficient justification and relevant activities to achieve award objectives.
- Is providing training for students to prepare them to apply for an internationally recognized English language certificate permissible under this award? (e.g. TOFEL, TOEIC, etc)
 - English training is an allowable cost if allocable to the award objectives.
- The OMB recently announced that the de minimis rate to calculate indirect cost would increase to 15% on October 1, 2024. Should we use the 15% rate in our budget calculations? Or should we continue to use the 10% for our proposal at this time?
 - The draft revisions posted by OMB in the Federal Register is not the official version of the final guidance for purposes of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), nor does it constitute publication of the final guidance. Awards issued prior to the effective date of the final guidance will be issued using the existing guidance in the current CFR.
- Partnerships. On pages 6, 8, and 9, the NOFO states that partnerships are encouraged with US higher education institutions **and/or** regional American-style IHEs. However, on page 10 (5) under activities, it states that partnerships and linkages are allowed **with US HEIs and regional IHEs**. Is it required that a partnership include both a US HEI and a regional IHE?

- Partnerships with U.S and/or Regional American-style IHEs are allowable and encouraged, however, it is not a requirement.
- Questions about APPENDIX 5: Results Monitoring Plan (RMP).
 - # of objectives requested on the Template is only three. If we have more objectives than that, then we should choose which ones to include and which to leave off. Is that correct?
 - The template is to assist the applicant in developing their RMP. It is permissible to add additional objectives and make other edits to the template as necessary.
 - # of indicators for each Project Objective. The template includes only one indicator per objective. I would like to confirm that we should only include one indicator as well at this time. Or should we add multiple indicators for each objective, if suitable?
 - It is permissible to add additional relevant indicators to measure the output and/or outcome of the activities.
 - There does not seem to be a page limit listed for the RMP in the NOFO or on the Appendix 5 Guidance. Is there a page limit for the RMP?
 - There is no page limit to the RMP.