

**CDC-RFA-EH-24-0043 State Biomonitoring Programs:
Assessing Disproportionate Exposure to Environmental Chemicals among Communities**

**Informational Call Questions and Answers
February 21, 2024, at 1:00 PM EST**

Program Strategies

1. The description discusses states leveraging existing capabilities. Does this mean that a lab must have been conducting biomonitoring already? We have the capabilities (instruments, skills, CLIA lab), but will need to set up the specific biomonitoring methods and projects.
 - a. **States with existing capabilities (instruments, skills, CLIA lab) are eligible to apply even if they have not previously conducted biomonitoring studies. You will be able to set-up biomonitoring specific methods during the period of performance.**
2. When you say only 2 projects, is part C considered a separate project?
 - a. **Part C is not considered a project or biomonitoring investigation. It is a separate request for laboratory equipment. "No more than 2 investigations" applies to part A, B, or a combination of strategies A and B.**
3. For the project narrative, 10 pages is very short! Is the workplan table included in the page limit?
 - a. **The narrative length is 10 pages. No, the workplan table is not included in the 10 pages and can be submitted as an attachment.**
4. For strategy B, can a project's sampling strategy oversample more than one unequally affected group?
 - a. **Yes**
5. Should analytes come from the [National Report on Human Exposure to Environmental Chemicals](#)?
 - a. **Yes, the [National Report on Human Exposure to Environmental Chemicals](#) is updated biannually. We are not aware of any anticipated additions to the chemicals in the report.**
6. CDC stopped measuring some chemicals in the [National Report on Human Exposure to Environmental Chemicals](#). Can we still measure them?
 - a. **Yes, but CDC may not have the method active and may not be able to provide support.**
7. Where do capacity building and enhanced lab expertise fit into these strategies (A and B)?
 - a. **Labs can propose new biomonitoring methods for their proposed investigations under strategies A and/or B, but method development and validation must be outlined and completed by 8/31/2025. This NOFO will expand the approach from previous iterations to include outreach and education with the community.**
8. For applicants who were previously funded, how much progress of previous awards should be discussed in the application?
 - a. **You can mention the impact of previous studies in your narrative. There is a 10-page limit to the project narrative.**

Letters of Support

9. Are the letters of support recommended or required to demonstrate collaborations?
 - a. **3 letters of support are required**
10. Can the 3 letters of support be from internal partners, or do they need to be from external agencies?
 - a. **Yes, the letters can be from internal and/or external partners who will support your investigations.**
11. Can you have more than 3 letters of supports?
 - a. **Yes**

Organizational Capacity

12. Are the principal investigators (PIs) of these grants generally lab or non-lab people? Is there any preference?
 - a. **In past applications, PIs have been people associated with the laboratory, but we do not have a preference.**
13. Can a non-profit apply in the capacity as a fiscal agent for the state DPH?
 - a. **Yes**

Budget

14. The grant ceiling is \$1.1 million. Is this per year, or is this the total across all 3 years?
 - a. **The ceiling is applied per year. However, the ceiling reflects funding of the optional strategy C in year 1. This will not be available in the following two funding cycles.**
15. Is the ceiling for strategies A and B \$900,000?
 - a. **Yes**
16. Is the budget scored?
 - a. **No**

Application Process

17. There is no page limit for budget justification/narrative, correct?
 - a. **Correct**
18. Can attachments other than those listed in the NOFO be submitted to support the project narrative?
 - a. **Yes**
19. Will there be an opportunity to ask additional questions in the future? If so, how should these be routed?
 - a. **Yes. Send program questions to Rebecca Hunt at jxq6@cdc.gov, send grant services questions to Randall Slaven at jlf0@cd.gov.**
20. Is there an anticipated timeline for when Notice of Awards (NOAs) will go out?
 - a. **Yes. We expect to send NOAs out in August.**
21. Will you post the Q & As?

- a. **Yes, we will update the NOFO listing on Grants.gov to include the Q & As. We suggest subscribing to the NOFO listing so you are automatically alerted when updates are made.**