

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

NATIONAL CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Enhancing Innovation and Capabilities of the Environmental Public Health Tracking Network; Approaches to Data Modernization

CDC-RFA-EH17-17020501SUPP21

06/21/2021

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Part 1. Overview Information
Federal Agency Name:

Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Title:

Enhancing Innovation and Capabilities of the Environmental Public Health Tracking Network; Approaches to Data Modernization

Announcement Type:

Revision - Type 3 *- (Competitive supplement) Additional funds requested to expand the scope of work have elapsed.*

Agency Notice of Funding Opportunity Number:

CDC-RFA-EH17-17020501SUPP21

Assistance Listings Number:

93.070

Key Dates:

Due Date for Applications 06/18/2021

06/21/2021
Application must be successfully submitted to Grants.gov by 11:59 pm Eastern Standard Time on the deadline date.

Additional Overview Content:
Executive Summary

The Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (Tracking Program) and the Water, Food and Environmental Health Services Branch (WFEHSB) within the Division of Environmental Health Science and Practice share the common goal of modernizing the collection, integration, dissemination, and application of timely, environmental health (EH) data. Current gaps exist in the sharing of standardized EH services data related to inspections, investigations, public inquiries and complaints. These data are routinely generated and collected by EH programs and

they include, inspection results and violations, facility closures, permits, or licenses issued, investigation findings, public inquiries, and responses to complaints. These gaps limit both our ability to generate and apply evidence-based practices and interventions and our situational awareness and monitoring capacity at the national level. For example, as communities navigate the current response to COVID-19, EH services data are needed to detect environmental exposure trends by facility type and activities and events licensed and/or monitored by EH programs. These data could be used to assess environmental factors associated with exposure and to develop site specific and community interventions, especially in communities disproportionately affected by COVID-19 (racial and ethnic minority groups, persons meeting HHS poverty guidelines criteria and/or homelessness, low-wage essential workers, and socioeconomic disadvantaged populations in rural and urban areas).

The Tracking Program and WFEHSB will modernize surveillance activities for EH services that are relevant for COVID-19 responses and strengthen capacity of state, territorial, local, and tribal health departments (STLT HD) by bolstering and scaling the Tracking Network infrastructure and processes. With this approach, we will modernize the Tracking Network to improve data timeliness and accuracy while reducing the burden on STLT HD. The modernized Tracking Network will serve as a common portal for collecting and disseminating EH services data from STLT HD. The Tracking Network will integrate EH data feeds, including those relevant to COVID-19 (e.g., data from STLT HD EH programs, ATSDR, National Poison Data System, and other agencies), into the Tracking Network to create reusable, sustainable data pipelines for collecting, validating, and sharing data.

The proposed activities will provide STLT HD partners with temporary data science and informatics resources and staff to build reusable, plug-and-play processes which will modernize the collecting and sharing of EH services data with CDC. Recipients will also pilot the modernized Tracking Network at the state level and develop shared resources, code, tools, and training which will be made available to all STLT HD's for easy onboarding in future years. The modernized Tracking Network will be more efficient and easier to use for many public health disciplines, including non-data science and/or informatics staff.

Measurable outcomes of the program will be in alignment with one (or more) of the following performance goal(s) for the NATIONAL CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

GPRA goal(s)

This announcement is only for non-research activities supported by CDC. If research is proposed, the application will not be considered. For this purpose, research is defined at https://www.govregs.com/regulations/title42_chapterI_part2_subpartD_section2.52. Guidance on how CDC interprets the definition of research in the context of public health can be found at https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/regulations-and-policy/regulations/45-cfr-46/index.html (See section 45 CFR 46.102(d)).

Section I. Funding Opportunity Description

Statutory Authority

Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 [P.L. 116-123]/Suffix CV, Families First Coronavirus Response Act, 2020 [P.L. 116-127]/Suffix C2, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, 2020 [P.L. 116-136]/Suffix C3,

Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act [P.L. 116-139]/Suffix C4, Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplement Appropriations Act, 2021 [P.L. 116-260]/Suffix C5, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 [P.L. 116-260]/Suffix C5, American Rescue Plan of 2021 [P.L. 117-2]/Suffix C6, or any subsequent COVID-19 related emergency supplemental appropriation.

Background

N/A

Purpose

The purpose of the Environmental Public Health Tracking Program is to provide information from a nationwide network of environmental health data to help drive actions to improve the health of communities. The information is shared via a network of people and the Environmental Public Health Tracking Network, a web-based system of integrated health and environmental data with components at the national, state, and local levels. The Tracking Program will build on existing state and local public health capacity and expertise in environmental health surveillance to empower public health practitioners, healthcare providers, community members, policy members, and others to make information-driven decisions that affect their health.

CDC's Data Modernization Initiative (DMI) is bringing together state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) public health jurisdictions and our private and public sector partners to create modern, interoperable, and real-time public health data and surveillance systems that will protect the American public. The EPHT Program DMI efforts include providing State and Local Health Department partners funding to modernize the collection, integration, dissemination, and application of timely, local environmental health data.

This program addresses the "Healthy People 2030" focus area(s) of Environmental Health (https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/environmental-health) and Public Health Infrastructure (https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/public-health-infrastructure).

Program Implementation

Recipient Activities

Strategies	Outputs	Short-Term Outcomes	Metrics	Mid-Term & Long-Term Outcomes
Develop and maintain effective partnership with the Environmental Health Services (EHS) program and users of their data	MOU or other partnership agreement Standards for EHS data collection and	Improved collaboration and strategic decision-making to develop and maintain a modernize	Change in volume of EHS data accessible within the jurisdiction, publicly, and to CDC via open data standards	**Mid-Term** Shared, sustainable, and modernized IT infrastructure Timely and complete data sharing
Actively participate in workgroup of national, state, & local partners and adopt common policies, practices,				

and standards to make data sharing easier	sharing Enhanced IT infrastructure Shareable and reusable tools and processes	d IT infrastructure Increased and easier access to standardized EHS data Reduced burden in data collection, management, and sharing	Change in time, resources, and staff needed to collect, manage, and share EHS data	Routine analysis and reporting of EHS data
Develop a sustainable and modernized IT infrastructure that is reusable, transparent, extendable, and adaptable				**Long-Term** Data-driven public health actions and decisions Rapid identification and action to address emerging threats Reduction in exposures to environmental hazards
Develop infrastructure and processes to integrate EHS data with the Tracking Network and adopt open standards and tools while protecting data security				

The effective use of EH services data and information are essential for the timely identification and detection of environmental hazards and for implementation of evidence-based practices. EH services data include those routinely generated, collected, and used by State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial (STLT) Health Department EH programs. These data are routinely generated and collected by EH programs and they include, inspection results and violations, facility closures, permits, or licenses issued, investigation findings, public inquiries, and responses to complaints. Tracking recipients should partner with their EH services programs and/or Environmental Health Capacity (EHC) program staff if the department is a recipient.

1. Develop and maintain effective partnerships with the EH services program and users of their data

- Build or strengthen partnerships between Tracking and EH services program and/or EHC recipients to support active collaboration and strategic decision-making
- Establish any necessary data sharing agreements with partners or other stakeholders that generate EH services data to support timely, sustainable data access
- Engage users of EH services data to understand their data needs, prioritize data or IT improvements to address gaps, and gather information on how data are being used

2. Actively participate in workgroup of national, state, & local partners and adopt common practices and standards to make data sharing easier

- Collaborate with CDC, EH services programs, data users, and other tracking and EHC recipients to:

  o Identify and evaluate the strengths, limitations, and IT infrastructure of EH services data with emphasis on those data applicable to COVID-19 surveillance and responses
  o Develop and pilot tools and protocols to support timely and sustainable collection, management, sharing, and application of standardized EH services data

3. Develop a sustainable and modernized IT infrastructure for EH services data collection, management, and sharing that is reusable, transparent, extendable, and adaptable

- Document and review the current IT infrastructure and process for collecting, managing, sharing, and use of one or more types of EH services data, with emphasis on those that are relevant to COVID-19 surveillance, responses, and disproportionately affected communities
- Adopt and apply protocols and standards developed by the workgroup to EH services data in the applicant's jurisdiction
- Modernize EH services data collection, management, sharing, and application to address gaps and limitations in making data publicly available
- Ensure the inclusion of data elements relevant to environmental public health tracking

4. Integrate EH services and COVID-19 data into recipient's Tracking Network and adopt open standards and tools while protecting data security

- Develop modernized infrastructure and processes for integrating the EH services data into Tracking Network
- Ensure the availability and accessibility of data as appropriate for Tracking program, EH services program and/or EHC recipient, and other internal staff
- Disseminate data to CDC

CDC Activities

CDC will provide substantial involvement and regular performance and finance monitoring during the project period. Areas of support include technical assistance, information sharing between awardees, as well as other areas of support. Activities include:

1. Maintain and revise the National Tracking Network Architecture as Tracking/PHIN standards evolve in order to meet the recipient's needs.
2. Manage and maintain the National Tracking Network based on specifications in the Technical Network Implementation Plan (TNIP - https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/tracking/foa.htm), with input from recipients and other Tracking partners.
3. Maintain the CDC gateway of the National Tracking Network.

4. Maintain and revise Tracking standards for the portal and NCDMs.
5. Review public health actions and maintain a repository of approved public health actions.
6. Foster collaboration with:
- CDC's National Center of Environmental Health's Office of the Director, as needed, to maintain and facilitate the creation of any emerging Tracking-related technical and data standards.
- CDC's National Center of Environmental Health's, Division of Environmental Health Science and Practice, Water, Food and Environmental Health Services Branch (WFEHSB).
- CDC's Deputy Director for Public Health Science and Surveillance (DDPHSS)
- Recipients on projects to (a) improve the quality of data provided to CDC for the National Tracking Network Portals, and (b) explore methods and best practices for linking and analyzing health and environmental data.
- National data stewards and other professional organizations to facilitate data and information sharing and improvements in data quality that will support the awardees' Tracking activities.
7. Coordinate:
- Technical assistance to recipients in work plan development; design and implementation of program activities, including analysis and presentation of data; and facilitation of regional trainings.
- Identification, development, and/or maintenance of appropriate methods and tools for use in the National Tracking Network and facilitate license agreements, where appropriate, to provide broad access among Tracking partners to these tools.
- Activities at the national level among Centers, Institutes and Offices at CDC and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry as well as other federal partners, national data organizations, and national partners.
8. Implement and participate in projects and workgroups as needed to address specific program issues. Work with recipients on workgroups as needed to solicit input from state/local partners, academic partners, and other stakeholders on issues relevant to the implementation of the state and national Tracking networks.
9. Securely maintain, manage, and disseminate data provided by recipients and other partners as described in the Tracking Programs Data Re-Release Plan
https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/tracking/foa.htm

Funding Strategy

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Funds: A recipient of a grant or cooperative agreement awarded by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) with funds made available under the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-123); the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, 2020 (the "CARES Act") (P.L. 116-136); the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act (P.L. 116-139); and/or the Consolidated Appropriations Act and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplement Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260) agrees, as applicable to the award, to: 1) comply with existing and/or future directives and guidance from the Secretary regarding control of the spread of COVID-19; 2) in consultation and coordination with HHS, provide, commensurate with the condition of the individual, COVID-19 patient care regardless of the individual's home jurisdiction and/or appropriate public health measures (e.g., social distancing, home isolation); and 3) assist the United States Government in the implementation and enforcement of federal orders related to quarantine and isolation.

In addition, to the extent applicable, Recipient will comply with Section 18115 of the CARES Act, with respect to the reporting to the HHS Secretary of results of tests intended to detect SARS–CoV–2 or to diagnose a possible case of COVID–19. Such reporting shall be in accordance with guidance and direction from HHS and/or CDC. HHS laboratory reporting guidance is posted at: https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/covid-19-laboratory-data-reporting-guidance.pdf.

Further, consistent with the full scope of applicable grant regulations (45 C.F.R. 75.322), the purpose of this award, and the underlying funding, the recipient is expected to provide to CDC copies of and/or access to COVID-19 data collected with these funds, including but not limited to data related to COVID-19 testing. CDC will specify in further guidance and directives what is encompassed by this requirement.

This award is contingent upon agreement by the recipient to comply with existing and future guidance from the HHS Secretary regarding control of the spread of COVID-19. In addition, recipient is expected to flow down these terms to any subaward, to the extent applicable to activities set out in such subaward.

Section II. Award Information

Type of Award:
CA (Cooperative Agreement)
CDC substantial involvement in this program appears in the Activities Section above.

Award Mechanism:
UE1
Studies of Environmental Hazards and Health Effects - Cooperative Agreements to Develop or Improve Facets of the Public Health Information

Fiscal Year Funds:
2021

Approximate Total Supplemental Funding:
$ 2,250,000
This amount is subject to availability of funds. Includes direct costs.

Approximate Number of Awards:
15

Approximate Average Award:
$ 175,000
This amount is for the budget period only and includes direct costs and indirect costs as applicable.

Floor of Individual Award Range:
$ 100,000

Ceiling of Individual Award Range:
$ 300,000
This ceiling is for a 12-month budget period.

Anticipated Award Date:
August 01, 2021

Budget Period Length:
12 month(s)

Period of Performance Length:
1 year(s)

If you are successful and receive a Notice of Award, in accepting the award, you agree that the award and any activities thereunder are subject to all provisions of 45 CFR Part 75, currently in effect or implemented during the period of the award, other Department regulations and policies in effect at the time of the award, and applicable statutory provisions.

Section III. Eligibility Information

Eligible Applicants

The following recipients may submit an application:

Eligibility Category:
25 (Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification))

Additional Information on Eligibility
All eligible CDC-RFA-EH17-1702 recipients.

Required Registrations

System for Award Management and Universal Identifier Requirements
An organization must be registered at the three following locations before it can submit an application for funding at www.grants.gov.

a. Data Universal Numbering System: All applicant organizations must obtain a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number. A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit identification number provided by Dun & Bradstreet (D&B). It will be used as the Universal Identifier when applying for federal awards or cooperative agreements. The applicant organization may request a DUNS number by telephone at 1-866-705-5711 (toll free) or Internet at http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform/displayHomePage.do. The DUNS number will be provided at no charge. If funds are awarded to an applicant organization that includes sub-recipients, those sub-recipients must provide their DUNS numbers before accepting any funds.

b. System for Award Management (SAM): The SAM is the primary registrant database for the federal government and the repository into which an entity must submit information required to conduct business as a recipient. All applicant organizations must register with SAM, and will be assigned a SAM number. All information relevant to the SAM number must be current at all times during which the applicant has an application under consideration for funding by CDC. If an award is made, the SAM information must be maintained until a final financial report is submitted or the final payment is received, whichever is later. The SAM registration process usually requires not more than five business days, and registration must be renewed annually.

Additional information about registration procedures may be found at https://www.sam.gov/SAM/.

c. Grants.gov: The first step in submitting an application online is registering your organization through www.grants.gov, the official HHS E-grant website. Registration information is located at the "Applicant Registration" option at www.grants.gov. All applicant organizations must register with www.grants.gov. The one-time registration process usually takes not more than five days to complete. Applicants must start the registration process as early as possible.

Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement:
No

Other

If a funding amount greater than the ceiling of the award range is requested, the application will be considered non-responsive and will not be entered into the review process. The recipient will be notified that the application did not meet the eligibility requirements.

Special Requirements

Environmental health (EH) is concerned with factors in the environment that affect human health. The effective use of EH data and information are essential for the timely identification and detection of environmental hazards and for implementation of evidence-based practices by state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) public health departments. EH data and information in this NOFO include those routinely generated, collected, and used by STLT EH services programs. These data include, inspection results and violations, facility closures, permits, or licenses issued, investigation findings, public inquiries, and responses to complaints.

Applicants should include a letter of support that demonstrates their ability to build and maintain a partnership with the EH Services Program and/or EHC Program recipient (if applicable). Applicants should upload this documentation in Grants.gov under "Other Attachment Form," and label the document as “letter of support”.

Note: Title 2 of the United States Code Section 1611 states that an organization described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that engages in lobbying activities is not eligible to receive Federal funds constituting a grant, loan, or an award.

Maintenance of Effort

Maintenance of Effort is not required for this program.

Section IV. Application and Submission Information

Address to Request Application Package

Applicants must download the application package associated with this funding opportunity from Grants.gov.

If the applicant encounters technical difficulties with Grants.gov, the applicant should contact Grants.gov Customer Service. The Grants.gov Contact Center is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, with the exception of all Federal Holidays. The Contact Center provides customer service to the applicant community. The extended hours will provide applicants support around

the clock, ensuring the best possible customer service is received any time it is needed. You can reach the Grants.gov Support Center at 1-800-518-4726 or by email at support@grants.gov. Submissions sent by email, fax, CD's or thumb drives of applications will not be accepted.

Content and Form of Application Submission

Unless specifically indicated, this announcement requires submission of the following information:

Table of contents.

Project Abstract

A Project Abstract must be completed in the Grants.gov application forms. The Project Abstract must contain a summary of the proposed activity suitable for dissemination to the public. It should be a self-contained description of the project and should contain a statement of objectives and methods to be employed. It should be informative to other persons working in the same or related fields and insofar as possible understandable to a technically literate lay reader. This abstract must not include any proprietary/confidential information.

Project Narrative

A Project Narrative must be submitted with the application forms. The project narrative must be uploaded in a PDF file format when submitting via Grants.gov. The narrative must be submitted in the following format:

- 25: Maximum number of pages
- Font size: 12 point unreduced, Times New Roman
- Double spaced
- Page margin size: One inch
- Number of all narrative pages; not to exceed the maximum number of pages.

The narrative should address activities to be conducted over the entire Period of Performance and must include the following items in the order listed.

The Project Narrative must include all of the following headings (including subheadings): Background, Approach, Applicant Evaluation and Performance Measurement Plan, Organizational Capacity of Applicants to Implement the Approach, and Work Plan. The Project Narrative must be succinct, self-explanatory, and in the order outlined in this section. It must address outcomes and activities to be conducted over the entire project period as identified in the CDC Project Description section.

Additional information may be included in the application appendices. The appendices must be uploaded to the "Other Attachments Form" of application package in Grants.gov. Note: appendices will not be counted toward the narrative page limit. This additional information includes:

Budget Narrative

Applicants must submit an itemized budget narrative. When developing the budget narrative, applicants must consider whether the proposed budget is reasonable and consistent with the

purpose, outcomes, and program strategy outlined in the project narrative. The budget must include:

- Salaries and wages
- Fringe benefits
- Consultant costs
- Equipment
- Supplies
- Travel
- Other categories
- Contractual costs
- Total Direct costs
- Total Indirect costs

The budget can include both direct costs and indirect costs as allowed. Indirect costs could include the cost of collecting, managing, sharing and preserving data.

Indirect costs on grants awarded to foreign organizations and foreign public entities and performed fully outside of the territorial limits of the U.S. may be paid to support the costs of compliance with federal requirements at a fixed rate of eight percent of modified total direct costs exclusive of tuition and related fees, direct expenditures for equipment, and subawards in excess of $25,000. Negotiated indirect costs may be paid to the American University, Beirut, and the World Health Organization.

If requesting indirect costs in the budget, a copy of the indirect cost rate agreement is required. Include a copy of the current negotiated federal indirect cost rate agreement or cost allocation plan approval letter.

The applicant can obtain guidance for completing a detailed justified budget on the CDC website, at the following Internet address: https://www.cdc.gov/grants/documents/Budget-Preparation-Guidance.docx

Additional information submitted via Grants.gov must be uploaded in a PDF file format, and should be named:

Resumes / CVs
Position descriptions
Letters of Support
Organization Charts
Non-profit organization IRS status forms, if applicable
Indirect Cost Rate, if applicable
Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
Bona Fide Agent status documentation, if applicable

Work plan
Additional Supporting Information

15: Maximum number of allowable electronic attachments

Submission Dates and Times

This announcement is the definitive guide on application content, submission, and deadline. It supersedes information provided in the application instructions. If the application submission does not meet the deadline published herein, it will not be eligible for review and the recipient will be notified the application did not meet the submission requirements.

This section provides applicants with submission dates and times. Applications that are submitted after the deadlines will not be processed.

If Grants.gov is inoperable and cannot receive applications, and circumstances preclude advance notification of an extension, then applications must be submitted by the first business day on which grants.gov operations resume.

Application Deadline Date

Number Of Days from Publication 60

06/21/2021
Explanation of Deadlines: Application must be successfully submitted to Grants.gov by 11:59 pm Eastern Standard Time on the deadline date.

N/A

Pilot Program for Enhancement of Employee Whistleblower Protections

All applicants will be subject to a term and condition that applies the terms of 48 CFR section 3.908 to the award and requires that recipients inform their employees in writing (in the predominant native language of the workforce) of employee whistleblower rights and protections under 41 U.S.C 4712.

Copyright Interest Provisions

This provision is intended to ensure that the public has access to the results and accomplishments of public health activities funded by CDC. Pursuant to applicable grant regulations and CDC's Public Access Policy, Recipient agrees to submit into the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Manuscript Submission (NIHMS) system an electronic version of the final, peer-reviewed manuscript of any such work developed under this award upon acceptance for publication, to be made publicly available no later than 12 months after the official date of publication. Also at the time of submission, Recipient and/or the Recipient's submitting author must specify the date the final manuscript will be publicly accessible through PubMed Central (PMC). Recipient and/or Recipient's submitting author must also post the manuscript through PMC within twelve (12) months of the publisher's official date of final publication; however the author is strongly encouraged to make the subject manuscript available as soon as possible. The recipient must obtain prior approval from the CDC for any exception to this provision.

The author's final, peer-reviewed manuscript is defined as the final version accepted for journal publication, and includes all modifications from the publishing peer review process, and all graphics and supplemental material associated with the article. Recipient and its submitting

authors working under this award are responsible for ensuring that any publishing or copyright agreements concerning submitted articles reserve adequate right to fully comply with this provision and the license reserved by CDC. The manuscript will be hosted in both PMC and the CDC Stacks institutional repository system. In progress reports for this award, recipient must identify publications subject to the CDC Public Access Policy by using the applicable NIHMS identification number for up to three (3) months after the publication date and the PubMed Central identification number (PMCID) thereafter.

Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA), P.L. 109–282, as amended by section 6202 of P.L. 110–252 requires full disclosure of all entities and organizations receiving Federal funds including awards, contracts, loans, other assistance, and payments through a single publicly accessible Web site, www.USASpending.gov.

Compliance with this law is primarily the responsibility of the Federal agency. However, two elements of the law require information to be collected and reported by applicants: 1) information on executive compensation when not already reported through the SAM, and 2) similar information on all sub-awards/subcontracts/consortiums over $25,000.

For the full text of the requirements under the FFATA and HHS guidelines, go to:

- https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-109publ282/pdf/PLAW-109publ282.pdf,
- https://www.fsrs.gov/documents/ffata_legislation_110_252.pdf
- http://www.hhs.gov/grants/grants/grants-policies-regulations/index.html#FFATA.

Funding Restrictions

Funding Restrictions:

Restrictions, which must be taken into account while writing the budget, are as follows:

- Recipients may not use funds for research.
- Recipients may not use funds for clinical care.
- Recipients may only expend funds for reasonable program purposes, including personnel, travel, supplies, and services, such as contractual.
- Recipients may not generally use HHS/CDC/ATSDR funding for the purchase of furniture or equipment. Any such proposed spending must be identified in the budget.
- The direct and primary recipient in a cooperative agreement program must perform a substantial role in carrying out project objectives and not merely serve as a conduit for an award to another party or provider who is ineligible.

Other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships, no funds may be used for: publicity or propaganda purposes, for the preparation, distribution, or use of any material designed to support or defeat the enactment of legislation before any legislative body the salary or expenses of any grant or contract recipient, or agent acting for such recipient, related to any activity designed to influence the enactment of legislation, appropriations, regulation, administrative action, or Executive order proposed or pending before any legislative body.

See Additional Requirement (AR) 12 for detailed guidance on this prohibition and additional guidance on lobbying for CDC recipients.

The recipient can obtain guidance for completing a detailed justified budget on the CDC website, at the following Internet address: http://www.cdc.gov/grants/interestedinapplying/applicationprocess.html

Other Submission Requirements

Application Submission

Submit the application electronically by using the forms and instructions posted for this funding opportunity on www.Grants.gov.

Note: Application submission is not concluded until successful completion of the validation process. After submission of your application package, recipients will receive a "submission receipt" email generated by Grants.gov. Grants.gov will then generate a second e-mail message to recipients which will either validate or reject their submitted application package. This validation process may take as long as two (2) business days. Recipients are strongly encouraged check the status of their application to ensure submission of their application package is complete and no submission errors exists. To guarantee that you comply with the application deadline published in the Notice of Funding Opportunity, recipients are also strongly encouraged to allocate additional days prior to the published deadline to file their application. Non-validated applications will not be accepted after the published application deadline date.

In the event that you do not receive a "validation" email within two (2) business days of application submission, please contact Grants.gov. Refer to the email message generated at the time of application submission for instructions on how to track your application or the Application User Guide, Version 3.0 page 57.

Electronic Submission of Application:

Applications must be submitted electronically by using the forms and instructions posted for this notice of funding opportunity at www.grants.gov. Applicants can complete the application package using Workspace, which allows forms to be filled out online or offline. All application attachments must be submitted using a PDF file format. Instructions and training for using Workspace can be found at www.grants.gov under the "Workspace Overview" option.

Applications submitted through www.Grants.gov, are electronically time/date stamped and assigned a tracking number. The Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) will receive an e-mail notice of receipt when HHS/CDC receives the application. The tracking number serves to document submission and initiate the electronic validation process before the application is made available to CDC for processing.

If the recipient encounters technical difficulties with Grants.gov, the recipient should contact Grants.gov Customer Service. The Grants.gov Contact Center is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Contact Center provides customer service to the recipient community. The extended hours will provide recipients support around the clock, ensuring the best possible customer service is received any time it's needed. You can reach the Grants.gov Support Center at 1-800-

518-4726 or by email at support@grants.gov. Submissions sent by e-mail, fax, CD's or thumb drives of applications will not be accepted.

After consulting with the Grants.gov Support Center, if the technical difficulties remain unresolved and electronic submission is not possible to meet the established deadline, organizations may submit a request prior to the application deadline by email to the Grants Management Specialist/Officer for permission to submit a paper application. An organization's request for permission must: (a) include the Grants.gov case number assigned to the inquiry, (b) describe the difficulties that prevent electronic submission and the efforts taken with the Grants.gov Support Center (c) be submitted to the Grants Management Specialist/Officer at least 3 calendar days prior to the application deadline. Paper applications submitted without prior approval will not be considered.

Section V. Application Review Information

Eligible recipients are required to provide measures of effectiveness that will demonstrate the accomplishment of the various identified objectives of the CDC-RFA-EH17-17020501SUPP21 Measures of effectiveness must relate to the performance goals stated in the "Purpose" section of this announcement. Measures of effectiveness must be objective, quantitative and measure the intended outcome of the proposed program. The measures of effectiveness must be included in the application and will be an element of the evaluation of the submitted application.

Criteria

Eligible recipients will be evaluated against the following criteria:

Approach **Maximum Points:** 40

- The extent to which the applicant identifies a purpose and associated outcomes consistent with the strategies and activities outlined in the NOFO and the logic model (15 points)
- The extent to which the applicant describes their approach for partnering with their EH Services Program and/or EHC program in their state to address the NOFO activities. (10 points)
- The extent to which the applicant presents their strategy for implementing achievable activities that are appropriate to achieve the project outcomes and address the NOFO strategies. (10 points)
- The extent to which the applicant presents a work plan that is clearly aligned with proposed strategies/activities, outcomes, and performance measures in the approach and is consistent with the content and format proposed by CDC. (5 points)

Applicant's Organizational Capacity to Implement the Approach Maximum Points **Maximum Points:** 35

- The extent to which the applicant provides a staffing plan and project management structure that describes experience and capacity to implement the NOFO strategies and activities to use and modernize Tracking and EH services program data and processes. (10 points)
- The extent to which the applicant can provide leadership and environmental public health tracking expertise to key partners, including EH services programs, projects and workgroups. (10 points)
- The extent to which the applicant can innovate their state-based Tracking Network with EH services and COVID-19 data. (10 points)
- The extent to which the applicant provides at least one letter of support from public health

department programs, agencies, or organizations to demonstrate ability to build and maintain partnerships with the EH services program. (5 points)

Evaluation and Performance Measurement **Maximum Points:** 25

- The extent to which the applicant describes a commitment and ability to collect and report data on the process and outcome performance measures. (15 points)
- The extent to which the applicant describes clear monitoring and evaluation procedures and how evaluation and performance measurement will be incorporated into planning, implementation, and reporting of project activities. (5 points)
- The extent to which the applicant describes how performance measurement and evaluation findings will be reported and used to demonstrate the period of performance outcomes. (5 points)

Review and Selection Process

Review

Eligible applications will be jointly reviewed for responsiveness by NATIONAL CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH and Office of Grants Services (OGS). Incomplete applications and applications that are non-responsive will not advance through the review process. Recipients will be notified in writing of the results.
An objective review panel will evaluate complete and responsive applications according to the criteria listed in Section V. Application Review Information, subsection entitled "Criteria".

An objective review will be conducted on eligible applications. Reviews will be conducted by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention staff from multiple Centers, Institutes, and Offices.

Selection

Applications will be funded in order by score and rank determined by the review panel.

CDC will provide justification for any decision to fund out of rank order.

Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates

Anticipated announcement date is May 9, 2021.
Estimated award date is 08/01/2021.

Section VI. Award Administration Information

Award Notices

Successful recipients will receive a Notice of Award (NoA) from the CDC Office of Grants Services. The NoA shall be the only binding, authorizing document between the recipient and CDC. The NoA will be signed by an authorized Grants Management Officer and e-mailed to the program director. A hard copy of the NoA will be mailed to the recipient fiscal officer identified in the application.

Unsuccessful recipients will receive notification of the results of the application review by mail.

Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Administrative and National Policy Requirements, Additional Requirements (ARs) outline the administrative requirements found in 45 CFR Part 75 and the HHS Grants Policy Statement and

other requirements as mandated by statute or CDC policy. CDC programs must indicate which ARs are relevant to the NOFO. Recipients must then comply with the ARs listed in the NOFO. Do not include any ARs that do not apply to this NOFO. NOFO Recipients must comply with administrative and national policy requirements as appropriate. For more information on the Code of Federal Regulations, visit the National Archives and Records Administration: https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr. For competing supplements, ARs remain in effect as published in the original announcement.

Continuing Continuations -

AR-7: Executive Order 12372 Review
AR-8: Public Health System Reporting Requirements
AR-9: Paperwork Reduction Act Requirements
AR-10: Smoke-Free Workplace Requirements
AR-11: Healthy People 2030
AR-12: Lobbying Restrictions
AR-13: Prohibition on Use of CDC Funds for Certain Gun Control Activities
AR-14: Accounting System Requirements
AR-24: Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Requirements
AR-25: Data Management and Access
AR-29: Compliance with EO13513, "Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging while Driving", October 1, 2009
AR-30: Information Letter 10-006, - Compliance with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
AR-33: United States Government Policy for Institutional Oversight of Life Sciences Dual Use Research of Concern
AR-34: Language Access for Persons with Limited English Proficiency
AR-37: Prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment for all awards issued on or after August 13, 2020

The full text of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for HHS Awards, 45 CFR 75, can be found at:

https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?node=pt45.1.75

Reporting

Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA), P.L. 109–282, as amended by section 6202 of P.L. 110–252 requires full disclosure of all entities and organizations receiving Federal funds including awards, contracts, loans, other assistance, and payments through a single publicly accessible Web site, http://www.USASpending.gov

Compliance with this law is primarily the responsibility of the Federal agency. However, two elements of the law require information to be collected and reported by applicants: 1) information on executive compensation when not already reported through the SAM, and 2) similar information on all sub-awards/subcontracts/consortiums over $25,000.

For the full text of the requirements under the FFATA and HHS guidelines, go to:

- https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-109publ282/pdf/PLAW-109publ282.pdf,
- https://www.fsrs.gov /documents /ffata_legislation_ 110_252.pdf

- http://www.hhs.gov/grants/grants/grants-policies-regulations/index.html#FFATA.

The Final Performance Report is due 120 days after the end of the period of performance. The Final FFR is due 120 days after the end of the period of performance and must be submitted through the Payment Management System (PMS).

Termination

CDC may impose other enforcement actions in accordance with 45 CFR 75.371- Remedies for Noncompliance, as appropriate.

The Federal award may be terminated in whole or in part as follows:

(1) By the HHS awarding agency or pass-through entity, if the non-Federal entity fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the award;

(2) By the HHS awarding agency or pass-through entity for cause;

(3) By the HHS awarding agency or pass-through entity with the consent of the non-Federal entity, in which case the two parties must agree upon the termination conditions, including the effective date and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated; or

(4) By the non-Federal entity upon sending to the HHS awarding agency or pass-through entity written notification setting forth the reasons for such termination, the effective date, and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated. However, if the HHS awarding agency or pass-through entity determines in the case of partial termination that the reduced or modified portion of the Federal award or subaward will not accomplish the purposes for which the Federal award was made, the HHS awarding agency or pass-through entity may terminate the Federal award in its entirety.

Reporting of Foreign Taxes (International/foreign projects only)

A. Valued Added Tax (VAT) and Customs Duties – Customs and import duties, consular fees, customs surtax, valued added taxes, and other related charges are hereby authorized as an allowable cost for costs incurred for non-host governmental entities operating where no applicable tax exemption exists. This waiver does not apply to countries where a bilateral agreement (or similar legal document) is already in place providing applicable tax exemptions and it is not applicable to Ministries of Health. Successful applicants will receive information on VAT requirements via their Notice of Award.

B. The U.S. Department of State requires that agencies collect and report information on the amount of taxes assessed, reimbursed and not reimbursed by a foreign government against commodities financed with funds appropriated by the U.S. Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act (SFOAA) ("United States foreign assistance funds"). Outlined below are the specifics of this requirement:

1) Annual Report: The recipient must submit a report on or before November 16 for each foreign country on the amount of foreign taxes charged, as of September 30 of the same year, by a foreign government on commodity purchase transactions valued at 500 USD or more financed with United States foreign assistance funds under this grant during the prior United States fiscal year (October 1 – September 30), and the amount reimbursed and unreimbursed by the foreign government. [Reports are required even if the recipient did not pay any taxes during the reporting period.]

2) Quarterly Report: The recipient must quarterly submit a report on the amount of foreign taxes charged by a foreign government on commodity purchase transactions valued at 500 USD or more financed with United States foreign assistance funds under this grant. This report shall be submitted no later than two weeks following the end of each quarter: April 15, July 15, October 15 and January 15.

3) Terms: For purposes of this clause:

"Commodity" means any material, article, supplies, goods, or equipment;

"Foreign government" includes any foreign government entity;

"Foreign taxes" means value-added taxes and custom duties assessed by a foreign government on a commodity. It does not include foreign sales taxes.

4) Where: Submit the reports to the Director and Deputy Director of the CDC office in the country(ies) in which you are carrying out the activities associated with this cooperative agreement. In countries where there is no CDC office, send reports to VATreporting@cdc.gov.

5) Contents of Reports: The reports must contain:

a. recipient name;

b. contact name with phone, fax, and e-mail;

c. agreement number(s) if reporting by agreement(s);

d. reporting period;

e. amount of foreign taxes assessed by each foreign government;

f. amount of any foreign taxes reimbursed by each foreign government;

g. amount of foreign taxes unreimbursed by each foreign government.

6) Subagreements. The recipient must include this reporting requirement in all applicable subgrants and other subagreements.

Section VII. Agency Contacts

CDC encourages inquiries concerning this announcement.

For **programmatic technical assistance and general inquiries**, contact:

First Name:
Joseph
Last Name:
Ralph
Project Officer
Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Street 1:

Street 2:

City:

State:

Zip:

Telephone:

Email:
CMQ8@cdc.gov
For **financial, grants management, budget assistance and general inquiries**, contact:

Address:

First Name:
Wanda

Last Name:
Tucker
Grants Management Specialist
Department of Health and Human Services
Office of Grants Services

Street 1:
District Building 2939 Flowers Rd South

Street 2:

City:
Atlanta

State:
GA Georgia

Zip:
303414146

Telephone:
770-488-5056

Email:
fmn4@cdc.gov

Section VIII. Other Information

Other CDC Notice of Funding Opportunities can be found at www.grants.gov.

N/A