

Application Instructions for the Procurement Technical Assistance Program

Your application must be submitted at [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov). You may find, download and submit the application package at [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) by searching for the pertinent funding opportunity number, which is usually included in the funding opportunity announcement and/or provided to you directly. If you do not know the funding opportunity number, you can also find opportunities for the Procurement Technical Assistance Program (PTAP) at [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) by searching for CFDA number 12.002. Other information to help you prepare your application is posted at www.dla.mil/HQ/SmallBusiness/PTAP/SCAA.aspx.

Section A. Application Components

1. **SF 424, Application for Federal Assistance.** Complete the SF 424 and attach your proposed service area listing in block 14. You may use the template for the Proposed Service Area Listing available [here](#), which provides an example of the information that we need in this attachment.

It is important that the amount you enter in block 18.a. of the SF 424 accurately reflects the amount of DoD funding that you are requesting with your application. By signing the SF 424, you are providing the certifications and assurances in the funding opportunity announcement.

2. **SF 424A, Budget Information - Non-Construction Programs.** Complete the SF 424A using the instructions for the form available [here](#). The SF 424A includes your proposed budget and should be completed carefully to be consistent with other components of your application, especially [Attachment 15](#). The SF 424A is always required as part of your application.
3. **Attachments.** Use the “Attachments” form, which is part of the application package at [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov).

Attach files in the sequence below (i.e., 1-15). If a particular attachment is not applicable, include an attachment with an affirmative statement that the attachment is not applicable and explain why. This means that all of the 15 available slots within the attachments form will be occupied. This is important for the proper processing of your application.

Ensure that you follow [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) rules in naming and attaching files because attachments that do not follow the rules may cause the entire application to be rejected or cause issues during processing. Limit file names to 50 or fewer characters and use only the following characters when naming attachments: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, underscore (_), hyphen (-), space and period. Do not attach multiple documents with the same file name or attach the same file more than once. A user guide and contact information for [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) support is provided [here](#).

FOR OPTION PERIOD APPLICATIONS: Refer to the following table and note that for options, certain attachments are only required if there are changes from the previous year. Disregard this table if this is not an application for an option period because in that case all attachments are always required, regardless of whether or not you are an existing PTAC.

	Always Required for an Option	Only Required if Changed from the Prior Period
Attachment 1	X	
Attachment 2	X	
Attachment 3		X
Attachment 4		X
Attachment 5	X	
Attachment 6	X	
Attachment 7		X
Attachment 8		X
Attachment 9		X
Attachment 10	X	
Attachment 11	X	
Attachment 12	X	
Attachment 13		X
Attachment 14	X	
Attachment 15	X	

Attachment 1. Attach information that attests to the commitment of matching funds to your program. You may use the templates for Certification of Cost Matching Funds Letter and Third-Party Letter(s) of Commitment available [here](#), which provide examples of the information that we need in this attachment.

Attachment 2. Provide information to support any proposed third-party in-kind contributions. The information that we need is described in [Section C](#) below.

Attachment 3. Provide information to describe and provide a basis for fringe benefit amounts included in your budget. Simply stating what the rate is (e.g., 30%) does not adequately fulfill this requirement. Where fringe benefit rates have been approved in conjunction with an indirect cost rate, the negotiated rate memorandum should be provided and no further explanation is necessary. Do not include personal information such as employee's names.

Attachment 4. If indirect costs are included in the budget, attach a current copy of a negotiated rate memorandum from the cognizant federal agency. Cite the de minimis rate described in 2 CFR 200.414(f) if it applies.

Attachment 5. Our share of cost is limited to no more than one-half unless you provide procurement technical assistance in a distressed area, in which case our share is limited to no more than three-fourths. *Distressed area* means an area of local government (i.e., usually a city or county) that has a per capita income of 80 percent or less of that State’s average or an unemployment rate that is one percent greater than the national average for the most recent 24-month period for which statistics are available.

If the proposed federal cost share exceeds 50% -

- a. Attach an analysis verifying that your proposed service area meets the definition of a distressed area. Refer to the guidance provided [here](#) for additional assistance conducting your analysis.
 - (1) **Using per capita income.** [US Department of Commerce](#), Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) data must be used. In conducting your analysis, compare state and local area “per capita personal income” for the most recent year available; or
 - (2) **Using unemployment rates.** [US Department of Labor](#), Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data must be used. In comparing national and local area unemployment rates, use the average taken over the most recent 24-month period for which both national and local area statistics are available (use “not seasonally adjusted” data). Use the latest final data available, i.e., do not use “preliminary” data published by BLS.
- b. If you are proposing two separate budgets for providing services in both distressed and non-distressed areas, explain and justify the methodology that you used to separate the distressed and non-distressed portions of your budget. When preparing this information, ensure that your methodology is sufficiently explained so that it is clear that costs have been allocated in proportions that reasonably approximate the costs necessary to serve the distressed and non-distressed portions of your service area. Refer to [Section D](#) below for additional information.

Attachment 6. *Statewide coverage* means a PTAC that provides procurement technical assistance in at least one-half of a state’s counties or equivalent coverage (e.g., parishes, boroughs, etc) and serves at least three-fourths of the state’s labor force. If you propose a statewide program but will cover less than the entire state, attach documentation to verify that your service area meets the definition of statewide coverage. Refer to the guidance provided [here](#) for assistance in conducting your analysis. Use the most recent, annual labor force statistics available from the [US Department of Labor](#), Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Attachment 7. Limit this attachment to no more than fifteen (15) pages and use at least 12 point font.

Describe how you will comply with the “Program Requirements” part of the PTAP General Terms and Conditions, which are available [here](#). Include all information necessary for us to conduct an evaluation of your application using the evaluation factors in the funding opportunity announcement.

If you intend to earn program income, e.g., charge clients a fee for any services rendered, include a discussion concerning why it is necessary to charge fees, the amount of fees to be charged, details as to the basis for determining the fees to be charged, and how this income will be used to further program objectives.

For new programs, include an implementation plan including targets for significant implementation milestones such as the hiring of personnel, the execution of subawards and the opening of PTAC facilities. Identify targets for milestones as the number of calendar days elapsed following the start date of the proposed period of performance. You are encouraged to propose and adhere to the most expeditious implementation plan possible, which we may regard more favorably when evaluating your application.

Attachment 8. Attach information about each of the personnel positions included in your budget. You may use the template available [here](#), which provides an example of the information that we need in this attachment. Describe the position, rather than the individual occupying it. Do not include any personal information, such as employee names.

Attachment 9. Attach a resume for the proposed Program Manager. The resume should describe the Program Manager’s qualifications, but not include personal information such as home address, personal telephone number, or ID numbers such as an Employee ID or social security number.

Attachment 10. Attach the representation concerning tax liability and felony criminal violations that is available [here](#).

Attachment 11. Attach budgets for your subawards, if you plan to make any, using Section B of the SF 424A (Section B is available [here](#)). If you have subrecipients, your budget should show the total amount of each subaward within your budget’s contractual cost category, where you should summarize the total amount of the subaward as a single line item – refer to [B.6](#) below. Use Section B of the SF 424A to show the details of each subrecipient’s budget by cost category (i.e., personnel, fringe benefits, travel, etc). You can show up to four subawards on one SF 424A by listing subawards in Section B, line 6, column headings (1) – (4). Use additional pages if you need to. You do need to show Federal and Non-Federal shares or complete the other sections of the SF 424A for subrecipients.

Attachment 12. Attach your proposed performance goals and explain how you developed them. Include goals for 1) number of new clients; 2) hours of counseling time; and 3) number of participated events. Refer to the instructions for the DLA Form 1806 in Appendix A to the PTAP General Terms and Conditions for more information about your goals.

Attachment 13. Attach an organizational chart showing the PTAC's placement within the host organization and lines of reporting for the Program Manager to the head of the host organization, including all positions within that line of authority. Identify positions, as opposed to individuals. Do not include personal information such as employee's names. For those PTACs utilizing subrecipient and/or satellite offices, show the organizational placement and relationship of these entities to the PTAC.

Attachment 14. Attach a copy of your latest audit in accordance with Subpart F of 2 CFR Part 200 (formerly OMB Circular A-133). If you are a for-profit entity, attach a copy of your audit pursuant to 32 CFR §34.16. If available, you may provide the URL (i.e., web address) of an audit that is available on the internet in lieu of attaching a copy. If you did not expend Federal awards exceeding the thresholds that evoke these audit requirements, describe the amounts and sources of Federal awards that you did expend during your last fiscal year.

Attachment 15. Attach a budget breakdown that shows the individual line items of cost that makeup the higher-level budget that you included in the SF 424A. You may use the template available [here](#), which provides an example of the information that we need in this attachment. Refer to [Section B](#) below for examples and guidance on how to describe budgeted costs. Ensure that it is clear how you calculated the total amount of indirect costs (F&A) included in your budget. Use additional pages to show indirect cost calculations if necessary.

4. **Other attachments.** Additional attachments are usually not required, however, an "Other Attachments Form" is included as part of the [grants.gov](#) application package in the event that you need to attach other documents to your application.
5. **SF LLL, Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying.** Appendix A in 32 CFR Part 28 requires you to complete and submit the SF LLL if you engage in certain types of lobbying. Review 32 CFR Part 28, "New Restrictions on Lobbying," and attach the SF LLL if it is applicable.

Section B. Program Budget and Selected Items of Cost

Use [Attachment 15](#) to show the separate items of cost included in your proposal so that we can make a determination concerning the reasonableness of your overall budget. Provide detailed descriptions of costs to show how amounts were arrived at and the basis of your estimates. Ensure that there is no ambiguity as to whether a particular cost is necessary for the efficient operation of a PTAC. Guidance is provided below on describing costs and including them in the appropriate cost category. Similar to how you describe costs, if your proposal includes third-party in-kind contributions, they should be described and their values included in the appropriate cost category.

1. Personnel

List all of your personnel positions included in the budget. Subrecipient personnel costs should usually not be included here – refer to paragraph [B.6](#) below.

Describe each position's percent of time working on the program in terms of the time employed by you. For example, show a staff member who dedicates all of his or her time to the PTAC while employed as a 100% contributor, regardless of whether that person is a full or part-time employee. Less than 100% contributors are those personnel that share time between the PTAC and other programs in the course of their employment with you. Describe the position, not the individual occupying it. Do not include personal information such as employee's names.

2. Fringe Benefits

Show fringe benefit costs for each position you included in the budget. Subrecipient fringe benefits costs should usually not be included here, but instead as contractual costs – refer to paragraph [B.6](#) below.

3. Travel

Separate and describe the purpose of each travel item. Provide an estimate that includes, as applicable, the number of travelers, number of days lodging, airfare, meal allowance, rental car, conference registration fees, mileage and mileage rate, etc. Provide the basis for your estimates.

- a. Local travel. Provide the purpose, mileage and mileage rate for any local travel. A summary entry may be made for recurring routine trips. Describe the basis for estimated amounts such as an estimated number of miles per year.
- b. Training. Identify the course to include name, source and duration. If it is available, consider training through the Defense Acquisition University (DAU).
- c. Registration fees. Registration fees related to travel should be listed with the related travel expense. Include conference, seminar, workshop and event fees.

4. Equipment

Equipment means tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by you for financial statement purposes, or \$5,000. Individual items costing less (e.g., most computers and printers) are supplies rather than equipment.

Describe the purpose of any equipment and the basis for your estimated amounts. Where equipment is being replaced, provide the age of the equipment needing replacement and justify the need for its replacement. Note there is a Federal interest in any equipment that you acquire or improve under an award. Refer to the Part 5, "Property Administration," in the PTAP General Terms and Conditions.

5. Supplies

General office supplies may be summarized on a monthly basis, showing the monthly amount x 12 and the estimated total. Individual supply items in excess of \$1,000 per month or \$12,000 per year should usually be shown separately. Items such as computers costing less than \$5,000 each should normally be shown as supplies.

6. Contractual

Itemize consultant and contractor costs. Include a description of the purchase and an explanation as to why it is necessary. Explain how costs were derived and include the basis for estimates (e.g., number of hours and the cost per hour). Show the cost of subawards under contractual, which can usually be summarized in a single line item.

7. Other

Items may include, but are not limited to, computer software, copying, postage, printing, publications, subscriptions and telephone. Itemize disparate items separately and describe the basis for their cost. Do not include generic, all-inclusive, items such as “event costs” or “utilities” without providing details.

- a. Rental expenses. Show costs for rental of office space and other facilities. Include the address of the property and describe how it is priced such as an annual cost per square foot or a monthly or daily rental rate.
- b. Facilities and utilities. If it is not part of indirect cost, include cost related to facilities and itemize different components such as electrical, telephone and internet access.
- c. Publications and subscriptions. Itemize costs for each individual publication or subscription.
- d. Memberships. Itemize membership costs for business, technical and professional organizations. Note that the costs of individual memberships are not allowable costs (e.g., personal memberships for your staff).

8. Indirect Costs

Show your indirect cost base, rate and amount of indirect charges. Ensure calculations are clear, especially if you use more than one rate (for example, if you use on- and off-campus rates or different rates for separate locations). Do not include applicable subrecipient or subcontractor indirect costs, which should instead be included with the corresponding line item under [contractual](#).

Section C. Supporting Documentation for In-Kind Contributions

Third-party in-kind contributions are non-cash contributions (i.e., property or services) that a third party furnishes to you or your subrecipients that are to be counted towards meeting the award's cost sharing requirements. Refer to FMS Article VI, "Cost sharing or matching," in the PTAP General Terms and Conditions for more information on the valuation of cost sharing or matching contributions. Use [Attachment 2](#) to provide the information below to support each third-party in-kind contribution that you propose to use. Note that FMS Article VI requires that you obtain our prior approval before you use any third-party in-kind contribution that was not included your budget.

1. Describe your need for the contribution so that there is no ambiguity as to whether it is necessary for the efficient operation of the PTAC.
2. Show the value that you derived based on the principles in 2 CFR 200.306 (or in 32 CFR 34.13 if you are a for-profit entity).
3. Cite the paragraph in 2 CFR 200.306 or 32 CFR 34.13 that applies.
4. Describe how you determined that the value that you propose to use is fair and reasonable. Examples of price analysis techniques include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Comparison of the value with proposed prices you received in response to a solicitation for the purchase of the same or similar items;
 - b. Comparison with previous contract prices for the same or similar items, if both the validity of the comparison and the reasonableness of the previous price(s) can be established;
 - c. Comparison with published price lists or published market prices;
 - d. Comparison with rates you paid for similar work; and
 - e. Comparison to an independent appraisal or estimate (see the specific requirement below for donated space).
5. The value of third-party donated space must not exceed the fair rental value of comparable space as established by an independent appraisal (refer to 2 CFR 200.306(i)(3) or 32 CFR 34.13(b)(4)). Provide a copy of an independent appraisal to support your valuation if the third-party in-kind contribution is donated space.

Section D. Budget Development

When part, but not all, of your service area meets the definition of a distressed area you may, but are not required to, propose a separate budget for your service to the distressed portion of your total service area so that you can utilize the higher federal cost share that we are authorized to provide for service to distressed areas. If you decide to do this, you must include both a distressed area budget and a non-distressed area budget in your application. In preparing your application, you must reasonably estimate the cost of serving the distressed and non-distressed portions of the service area and describe how you did this in [Attachment 5](#). Refer to the "Distressed and non-distressed area budgets" section in the "Program Requirements" part of the PTAP General Terms and Conditions for additional requirements that apply if you structure your program this way.