**Meeting the Needs of Students Afterschool through LEA & CBO Partnerships**

**RFP Questions and Answers**

**Updated 12/6/22**

This RFP was intended to be broad and flexible. In general, where there is qualifying or limiting language in the RFP, please pay attention to that. Otherwise, you may assume that you have some flexibility.

**Question:** Are there eligibility requirements (e.g., school accountability status, Free/Reduced Price Lunch rate) for this grant?

**Answer:** No. No eligibility requirements are listed in the RFP.

**Question:** May we partner with more than one CBO?

**Answer:** Yes. There is no limitation on partners listed in the RFP.

**Question:** May a CBO submit applications with more than one district?

**Answer:** Yes. There is no limitation on this listed in the RFP.

**Question:** May we use these funds for \_\_\_\_?

**Answer:** Once grants selections are made, RIDE will conduct a review of the budget and scope of work and may request clarifications and/or revisions. In reviewing the budget, RIDE will apply the usual tests of whether requested items are **allowable** per federal regulations, **necessary** for implementing this grant proposal as outlined in the program narrative, **reasonable** in terms of the cost basis, **allocable** to this grant, and can be **documented** going forward. Please refer to the [*Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*](https://www2.ed.gov/policy/fund/guid/uniform-guidance/index.html) (*Uniform Guidance*) for more information.

**Question:** We are proposing serving more than one school. Should we submit one application, or should we submit one for each school?

**Answer:** The RFP refers to “one or more target schools,” so one application would be simpler. That said, the RFP does not state you cannot submit separate applications for each school.

**Question:** We want to focus on more than one school. Do you want one narrative and then separate budgets per school? Or one narrative and one budget?

**Answer:** If you are submitting one application, you should submit one budget.

**Question:** We want to propose a program starting in fall 2023. Should we budget for the full $75,000 to $200,000, or should we pro-rate it since we will not be operating the full 18-month period?

**Answer:** Please pro-rate your budget request.

**Question:** Is there any limit of applications from any community or grants that will be awarded per community?

**Answer:** No, there is no limit per community.

**Question:** What about charter schools? Can we partner with one?

**Answer:** All public schools – including charter schools, mayoral academies, and “state-operated schools” like the Met School, the School for the Deaf, and Davies – are eligible.

**Question:** I know the funding begins in January.  When is it expected that the program would be up and running?  I am thinking it would take a little time to procure the materials, organize staffing, etc.

**Answer:** The start of actual programming is flexible.

**Question:** RIDE will consider proposals for less than $75,000 per school?

**Answer:** Applications must be within the range provided in the RFP, with a minimum of $75k per school for the 18-month period. We are allowing for grants to start later than Jan. 1st, given the short turnaround time, in which case you may prorate the amount per school.

**Question:** Is there a distribution list that I can join to get information like this?

**Answer:** For RIDE grants, Your best bet is to sign up for the [Friends of Education Memo](https://www.ride.ri.gov/InsideRIDE/AdditionalInformation/eNews.aspx). That is where pretty much all RIDE RFPs are announced. We also recommend joining the [Rhode Island Afterschool Network (RIAN)](https://www.unitedwayri.org/get-involved/ri-afterschool-network/). They have a newsletter where funding opportunities for out-of-school time programming, such as this, are announced.

**Question:** Does RIDE anticipate that there will be more rounds of this funding?

**Answer:** Unless another source of funding becomes available, we do not expect additional rounds. This RFP is using one-time American Rescue Plan funding.

**Question:** Can you clarify the budget form, specifically the time periods covered for each tab? I’m confused by row 3.

**Answer:** Please ignore row 3 on each tab; it was intended to demonstrate that the form as a whole covers the 18-month period from Jan. 1, 2023-June 30,2024, but it has understandably confused people.

* The first five tabs (labeled FY23 51&52, FY23 53, FY23 54&55, FY23 56, and FY23 57&58) represent the period from January 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023 (i.e., the second half of Fiscal Year ‘23).
* The second five tabs (labeled FY24 51&52, FY24 53, FY24 54&55, FY24 56, and FY24 57&58) represent the period from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 (i.e., Fiscal Year ‘24).

Please note that the headers for each section, in rows 7, 8, or 16 (e.g., “*FY23* EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS”) should correspond to the fiscal year covered by that tab of the budget form.

**Question:** If FY 2023 starts on 1/1/2023, when will the funding be awarded (assuming we qualify, of course)? Also, given the short turnaround to apply, is there any latitude during FY 2023 to ramp up, hire new staff, and enroll students?  In other words, can our program begin in February?

**Answer:** We will be making funding decisions and making grant awards as quickly as possible after the submission deadline. We recognize that timelines are tight and there will be a very short turnaround time for awarded grantees. We are allowing applicants to plan for a later start date than January 1. We will also afford grantees some flexibility with ramp up and will work with them once awards are made to adjust their plans as necessary.