QUESTIONS & ANSWERS: THIRD FRONTIER RESEARCH INCENTIVES RFP

Last updated October 16, 2019

How would the renewal option work? It would have a huge impact on what we can propose to be realistic goals, timeline and budget for a project that is 6 months vs. 18 months. What should we plan for?

In the budget portion of the document, applicants should indicate the time period for which they are seeking funding. Renewals would be based upon progress toward identified goals as determined by the Chancellor.

Is there a matching fund requirement?
There is no matching requirement, but resources contributed by the applicant toward identified goals will be viewed as evidence of sustainability.

Is there an intended number of projects to fund and a limit to the budget request?
There is no predetermined limit of projects to fund and there is no limit to the budget request.

Are there any limitations on the number of proposals one institution can submit, or how many awards an institution might receive?
There is no limitation on the number of proposals that can be submitted by an institution or limitation on the number of awards an institution may receive.

Would you please clarify if a particular researcher can submit more than one proposal or receive more than one award?
A PI can submit more than one proposal and could potentially receive more than one award.

Would we be able to submit proposals for multiple funding items?
You may submit a proposal for any area, program or funding item of your choosing.

To clarify the expected deliverables of a funded project, please explain what is meant by “tool development”. When the RFP refers to “tool development” does this imply fully developed technologies and applications, or can this be interpreted to cover processes, designs, protocols etc.?

All of these things would be interpreted as tools, the RFP does not imply an expectation of prototype design and technology development.
Is there a preference for proposals that cover all components and subcomponents of a sub-area? Will proposals that cover some select components/subcomponents of a sub-area be equally considered?

Applicants are free to design a proposal that includes whichever components and subcomponents best fit their model. There is no preference or priority over which components are included.

Section VIII. Part C, sub-section 3 of the RFP asks that proposal narratives address support of Ohio industry, does this include the non-profit and social service sector, as well as private for-profit industry? Is there a requirement that proposal outputs support private sector, for-profit industry?

This includes all sectors for-profit, non-profit, and service sector.

When the RFP asks for a demonstration of sustainability, does this imply financial sustainability or could this be interpreted as longevity of the project output/outcome.

It could be both. Sustainability means continued impact of the funded project, not a one and done output or event. Commitment by partners to adopt an intervention, tool, or process; development of institutional capacities, partnerships and collaborative arrangements; as well as continued resource commitments all demonstrate sustainability.

What time are proposals due by on the 17th of October?

5pm EST

Is the page limit based on double or single spacing?

Single spacing is allowed.

Does IRB approval need to be confirmed prior to the proposal submission, or before funding is allocated?

If IRB approval is a pre-requisite for going forward then approval will be required before funding will be allocated.

Our application will have two Project Directors (if that’s permitted)-should I list both as the applicant on the cover page, or chose one for contact purposes only?

You should list both applicant and indicate the primary contact.
Is there somewhere in the application content or attachments where we should provide bios for both directors or other key personnel? I don’t see anything in the RFP that requests bios for the key personnel-can we include these in the attachments?

You will be permitted to upload attachments and exhibits bios are encouraged to be included in your submission.

Also, does the 1 page limit for the cover letter include the legal applicant information and contacts, or is it just the information within the table on p. 10 of the RFP?

The table on page ten is a template, you should include the legal applicant information as part of the cover letter.

My colleagues and I are seeking clarity around the anticipated award disbursement. The language of the RFP seems to infer that funding may be available across multiple years, with the ceiling for each fiscal year set at $200k. Is this an accurate interpretation of the language or is this a call for a one-time allocation of up to $200k.

Your interpretation is correct. Funding is available across multiple years with renewal based upon progress toward identified goals.

Please clarify the email address or web address that Opiate Addiction proposals should be submitted to.

For proposals related to Infant Mortality research, Opiate Addiction research, Cyber Security initiatives, Ohio Manufacturing and Innovation Center, and the Ohio Innovation Exchange, one electronic PDF file sent to https://icorpsohio.org/apply/

Also, just a clarification on the RFP: in Section VII, it says “Proposal Review Process and Timeline Proposals can be submitted beginning September 18, 2019 and are due no later than October 18, 2019,” but then later on in the same section it lists Proposals Submission Window September 18 - October 17, 2019. Do we have until the 17th or the 18th to submit?

Close of Business on the 17th