

## **Innovation Grant Questions and Responses**

- 1. Does the Innovation Grant Program require a Letter of Intent?**
  - a. No, the program does not require a Letter of Intent.
- 2. May an institution submit two proposals?**
  - a. No, an institution may submit only one proposal; it can participate in other projects it does not lead.
- 3. Are two institutions partnering on a project eligible to receive up to \$750,000?**
  - a. Yes, two institutions partnering are eligible for up to \$750,000.
- 4. Can Innovation Grant funding go directly to students in the form of scholarships?**
  - a. Yes, funds may be provided to students in the form of scholarships.
- 5. Can Innovation Grant funding be used for student salaries in the form of internship and co-op experiences?**
  - a. Yes, funds may be used for student salaries to support internship and co-op experiences.
- 6. Are we required to partner with another institution at some point?**
  - a. Yes. Even though an institution can receive an award on its own, the institution must, in its proposal, describe how it will initiate collaboration and begin that work during the grant period.
- 7. Is January 20, 2017 the opening date (website) for proposals or the closing date (page 2 of the grant)?**
  - a. The submission date for all proposals is January 20, 2017.
- 8. The grant states that partnership with private entities is allowed. If a regional non-profit consortium partners on the grant, can they receive funds from the grant, possibly as subcontractors?**
  - a. Yes, an awarded institution may provide funds to a regional non-profit to undertake grant implementation activities.
- 9. Can some of the grant funds be allocated toward tuition for high school teachers to receive post-graduate training?**
  - a. Yes, if the awarded Innovation Grant program includes this element as part of the approved project.
- 10. If a regional campus of an Ohio university system collaborates with another regional campus within the same system, is that considered two institutions?**
  - a. No, the regional campuses are considered part of one institution. The institution is eligible to seek funding as single institution.
- 11. Within a university system, may a regional campus and the main campus apply for an ODHE Innovation grant, each with a distinct program as two grant applications?**
  - a. No, the institution would be eligible for assistance as one institution at a maximum grant amount of \$300,000.

**12. Is there a requirement for the principal investigator to be a full-time faculty member of a state university?**

- a. No, the principal investigator does not need to be a full-time faculty member.

**13. Does the state university need to be the lead organization for this grant?**

- a. No, any eligible institution may lead a grant.

**14. Would the innovation grant consider a successful model, which has been updated and applied to a different cohort, as innovative and cost-efficient?**

- a. Competitive proposals will address the requirements of the RFP, in particular the promotion of educational excellence and economic efficiency.

**15. If a regional campus of a university system applies for an innovation grant (as the sole applicant of the university system), can it partner with a regional campus from another university system in which the main campus of that university system is the lead in another innovation grant application?**

- a. Yes, an institution may partner on more than one grant proposal.

**16. The grant period is for 24 months. Do you anticipate that there will be another cycle of innovation grants at the end of the 24-month period?**

- a. At this time, ODHE is not aware of additional funding being available in 24 months.

**17. If the budget is higher than the maximum grant award, should we submit the budget with the knowledge that the grant award will be less than that amount, or should the budget be reduced to be within the maximum amount of the award?**

- a. The budget should not exceed the maximum amount of an award based on the number of participating institutions.

**18. Referring to the Innovation Grant application, would it be appropriate to categorize software as Equipment, Supplies, or Other? And, should we categorize licensing and maintenance expenses as Purchased Services or Other, or designate all software-related expenses as one total amount?**

- a. Software items are considered Equipment and Supplies, while the licensing and maintenance expenses are Purchased Services. These proposed expenses should be supported by third party estimates.

**19. Please clarify, is the three-page budget narrative part of the 25-page narrative, or separate?**

- a. The three-page budget narrative is separate from the 25-page project narrative.

**20. In the RFP section, where it reads “Describe how this program provides a new opportunity or model for the state in educational excellence and/or economic efficiency,” is ODHE looking for an answer based on the proposed program or from the perspective of the Innovation grant opportunity as a whole?**

- a. The response should address how the new opportunity or model that seeks funding may help achieve educational and/or economic efficiency for other institutions facing similar challenges in the state.