



Development
Services Agency



Third Frontier
Innovation Creating Opportunity

John R. Kasich, Governor

David Goodman, Director

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Ohio Opioid Technology Challenge Program

As of June 26, 2017

Ohio Opioid Technology Challenge

CY 2017 Request for Proposals: Frequently Asked Questions

Question: In addition to the mandatory compliance requirements listed in section III of Appendix A, are there other requirements like these that the submitted solutions must follow?

We anticipate working with the Challenge Manager to determine restrictions for submitted solutions consistent with the Commission's guidance.

Related to RFP Section 2.1 - Each tier of the competition is to be associated with highly visible events.

Question: Can the State please clarify what is meant by "events"? Should these all be physical events, virtual, or both?

At a minimum, it is expected that the Challenge Manager will be responsible for planning physical events associated with the kick-off of the entire competition, announcement of prize winners at each level and the announcement of the detailed guidance for participating in each level. The latter will likely be a component of the other two elements. It is the intention of the grantor to augment the prize competition element of the physical events with other education, information and networking activities related to opioid topics, and may do additional events as well. Effectively, planning and implementation of all physical events meeting the minimum requirement will be a cooperative effort between the Manager and the grantor.

Question: Are there other events planned or that will be planned for the broader Opioid initiative that the Challenge could be integrated into. For example, public forums, speakers' panels or community awareness events that could also serve as a platform for promoting the Challenge.

See answer to above.

Related to RFP Section 2.1 - The Lead Applicant is expected to have a plan for seeking private sector matching contributions to augment the prize pool supported with funding from this solicitation.

Question: Can the State please clarify what is meant by "matching funds"? Is 100% of the prize funds required to be matched? Can matching funds be given through services (ex: participation on the judging panel), and/or in-kind gifts?

The matching funds terminology in this RFP is NOT synonymous with the meaning of "cost share" that is a feature of most Ohio Third Frontier solicitations; i.e., a required level of non-state resources pledged as part of the proposal in some ratio to the amount of Ohio Third Frontier funding requested. In the context of this RFP, matching funds means an effort by the Challenge Manager, during the course of the competition, to increase the financial element of the prize pool by soliciting for cash donations from corporate or other entities that may have a general interest in assisting with the opioid crisis or a specific interest in the outcomes of the challenge competition. While we are requiring applicants to propose targets and a plan for such fund-raising, there is no defined amount or ratio to the requested Ohio Third Frontier funding, and the actual performance against the proposed target amount will be considered a best effort by the grantor.

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Related to RFP Section 3.3.4 - Provide specific steps that will be taken to attract private sector matching contributions to augment the prize pool. Specifically define the targeted amount of funding expected to be attracted.

Question: Is the Lead Applicant to suggest incentives to offer the potential sponsors as part of the proposed plan?

The Lead Applicant may suggest incentives as a feature of their fund-raising plan which will be considered as part of the grantor's evaluation process.

Related to RFP Section 3.3.4 - Describe how expertise will be recruited to evaluate submissions and select prize winners at each tier of the competition, including meeting the requirement that a majority of the expertise be recruited from Ohio.

Question: Will the Judging Panel(s) be made public?

It is a strong preference of the grantor that all aspects of the Challenge Competition be transparent to the public, including the make-up of the Judging Panel(s). An applicant may provide reasons why the integrity of their process would require limitations on information about the Judging Panel(s) which will be considered as part of the grantor's evaluation process.

Question: Is there a desired length of time for each level of the competition for those awarded funds to implement, in order to report on results??

No, there is no specific or mandated timeline.

Question: Is there any further guidance available to help define the scope of desired work covered by "The first, and smaller, component will be used by the Lead Applicant to develop and operate the challenge competition."

This is the applicant's administrative budget to be used to design, operate and manage the challenge competition.

Question: In addition to the summary project budget response required in the forms of Appendix B, is there a more detailed budget form that should be submitted providing further detail of the proposed budget?

There is no mandated budget form that must be used; the Lead applicant must, however, clearly describe all sources and uses of funds for the proposed Project Period. The Lead Applicant is to provide a detailed budget and related explanations that are consistent with the level of resources being requested.

Question: What other programs in the state or country have you tailored this program after? What were some keys to these programs that are important to the current program?

Organizations that are currently approved on the US General Services Administration (GSA) [Schedule 541-4G](#) for Challenges and Competition Services are preferred. It is suggested that applicants review the prior work done by the list of approved vendors to get a sense of what is appropriate.