

Questions and Answers

Q1: Can organizations apply as a collaborator on more than one proposal?

A1: Yes.

Q2: Our organization is a proud recipient of a 2021 and 2022 Inclusive Healthy Communities Grant for the same primary bidder. After hearing about the third round of funding, we have another member of our organization that is interested in applying for this round of funding. Previously, we have been able to submit proposals with different members as primary bidders. While we understand that the current grantee cannot submit a proposal as a primary bidder, would another member of our organization be able to submit a proposal as a primary bidder?

A2: Yes.

Q3: We are eligible to file IRS Form 990-N. Are small organizations that are not required to have financial audits or certified statements eligible to apply?

A3: The audit is required for all bidders and it cannot be waived regardless of the bidders size. If a bidder does not include a single audit report or certified statements with their proposal, then their bid must be rejected as non-responsive.

Q4a: We are an organization that was the primary grantee during IHC Round 1 and Round 2, making us ineligible to be an applicant for this current RFP. Does this apply only for the same grant project?

A4a: No, your organization may not be the lead applicant for any IHC Round 3 application.

Q4b: If the team wants to expand on the current project, or basically do the project with a different town/village/etc., could a different team member apply for a grant in their name?

A4b: Yes, a different organizational member of the team would be eligible to apply for a grant to undertake similar work in another location.

Q4c: Could our organization apply for a grant for a completely different project?

A4c: No. Your organization is not eligible to apply for any project under this current third round of IHC.

Q4d: Are we able to partner with another applicant(s) in a grant for a completely different project that is in another entity's name?

A4d: Yes, your organization may be a partner on an application led by a different organization that is eligible.

Q4e: Is our organization's ineligibility for IHC Round 3 only or any/all future rounds?

A4e: The answer to your question is undecided and will be addressed in future IHC Rounds.

Q5: Could a primary recipient grantee of two rounds of IHC grant funding apply as primary grantee for a round three grant for a completely different project (working with different organizations)?

A5: See question 4c. No. Your organization is not eligible to apply for any project under this current third round of IHC.

Q6: Can the primary grantee of the two previous rounds of grants be a grantee participant on another grant (round 3)? If no, does this apply only for the same grant project concept, or

any project? If yes, are there any restrictions? If yes, can they participate as a subcontractor/consultant on multiple grant projects (have been approached to participate in multiple grant projects)?

A6: See the answer to question 4d. Yes, your organization may be a partner on an application led by a different organization that is eligible. The only restrictions are the same ones that apply to the primary grantee such as eligible costs, etc. Yes, an organization may participate in multiple applications.

Q7: If a grant group/team (made up of multiple organizations) that received the two previous rounds of funding wants to implement the current project in a different community/area than specified in the first two rounds of the grant, could a different group/team member organization apply for a grant as primary (with the same other organizations serving as subcontractors/consultants)?

A7: See the answer to question 4b. Yes, a different organizational member of the team would be eligible to apply for a grant to undertake similar work in another location.

Q8: If a round one and two primary grantee is not eligible to participate as a grantee (in any capacity for round 3), is this only for round 3, or any/all future rounds of IHC Healthy Community grant funding?

A8: See the answer to question 4e. The answer to your question is undecided and will be addressed in future IHC Rounds.

Q9: Are applicants who have received capacity building funds in the last two rounds eligible to apply for funding currently.

A9: If an applicant was the primary grantee on an IHC grant in both of the last two rounds, they are not eligible to apply as the primary applicant in this third IHC round.

Q10: Is a public, state-controlled two-year institution of higher education eligible to apply?

A10: If the institution has 501(c)3 status at the time of its application, it is eligible to apply.

Q11: Do you have ASL interpreters for the February 9 and 16 virtual workshops?

A11: Yes, ASL interpreters and closed caption will be provided at both workshops.

Q12: On Page 8 of the RFP there is a link to a Disability & Health U.S. State Profile Data for New Jersey, <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/impacts/new-jersey.html>. When I click on it, the charts appear incomplete, any suggestions?

A12: Try a different browser, or you can use the “print as pdf” function to view, download and print the complete graphic, in color.

Q13: On page 9 of the RFP, under the Health Equity section, when I click on the second bullet I get an error message. Is there a working link?

A13: The infographic was updated and can now be accessed here: <https://www.rwjf.org/en/insights/our-research/infographics/visualizing-health-equity.html>

Q14: Is it possible to request a grant for a community garden at our DDD funded day program?

A14: We cannot answer this specific question without better understanding the overall design of your intended initiative. The RFP specifies all of the additional components required to create lasting policy, systems and environmental change. Review *IHC Core Principles and Priorities* starting on page 9.

Q15: We are a New Jersey municipality interested in applying for the IHC Grant and have a question about the qualifications of our project. Each year, we inspect our Playgrounds and make necessary repairs and upgrades; always keeping in mind our long-term goal of complete accessibility at all of our facilities. This Fall 2023 we will be replacing one of our playgrounds with a new structure that features openings with ramps and elements that are accessible. Part of the larger vision for the park is to add a patio and pathway that connects the bathrooms to the new playground, but we lack funding. Is the patio (which connects the playground to the bathrooms) a project that we could apply for? Are future walkways and accessible play structures within the scope of the Grant?

A15: See answer to previous question. Also, we encourage you to look at other sources of relevant funding such as those listed below:

- nj.gov/dca/dlgs/programs/lriggrants.shtml
- nj.gov/dep/newsrel/2023/23_0001.htm
- nj.gov/dca/divisions/dhcr/offices/np.html

Q16: Do partners have to be located in New Jersey?

A16: Partners need to be located in New Jersey no later than the start of the grant cycle.

Q17: Do initiatives that focus on launching a new program that support individual families count as PSE change?

A17: No. The IHC is focused on advancing systemic change that supports whole communities and whole populations and not individuals.

Q18: As an unsuccessful applicant in the last round, can I get feedback as to why our proposal was unsuccessful? How many agencies are allowed to apply?

A18: We cannot offer any individual guidance to a prospective or previous applicant, as that may create an unfair advantage. There is no limit on the number of agencies allowed to apply.

Q19: Will there be feedback given to organizations that do not receive funding?

A19: No, we do not intend to meet with individual applicants to provide feedback.

Q20: We serve a very acute population. 1/2 are non-verbal and low cognition. They have a very hard time with accessing health care because of behaviors and a lack of doctors who know how to work with them. We are working with a group that will bring healthcare to them and are doing a study about aging in place. Would something like this be considered systems change in healthcare access for instance?

A20: We cannot answer this specific question without better understanding the overall design of your intended initiative. Applications must demonstrate capacity building that will lead to lasting policy, systems and environmental change, as well as engage people

with disabilities in planning, development and implementation. Review *IHC Core Principles and Priorities* starting on page 9.

Q21: Will those of us who attended the webinar be able to receive the slides or details regarding when we can provide our letter of intent, etc

A21: Please see “The Application Process” above.

- See Step 1 for a copy of the Request for Proposals
- See Step 2 for recording and PowerPoint from the two identical workshops
- See Step 3 for the link to submit your Letter of Intent

Q22: I am interested in pursuing a purchase for the East Brunswick Public Library called a “Magic Table”/ The Magic Table is a game console that is designed to bring joy and physical, cognitive, and social development to seniors living with dementia and children with autism. The Magic Table was designed by a company in Denmark called Active Cues that conducted Ph.D research for groups with special needs. Here is my question: In terms of long-term sustainability, the libraries could continue to purchase additional games to support the console for many years following the end of the grant. Is the one-time purchase of the console something that could be covered in this funding opportunity?

A22: We cannot answer this specific question without better understanding the overall design of your intended initiative. Applications must demonstrate capacity building that will lead to lasting policy, systems and environmental change, as well as engage people with disabilities in planning, development and implementation. If you choose to apply, we would encourage you to strongly consider how your proposed initiative will support sustainable and transformative change. Review *IHC Core Principles and Priorities* starting on page 9.

Q23: Is a 501(c)7 eligible to apply to IHC?

A23: Under IRS rules, a 501(c)3 is a tax-exempt charitable organization that must spend its income on activities that are charitable which is different than a 501(c)7 which is a tax-exempt social club which may spend its income on social or recreational purposes. For the purposes of the IHC Round 3, eligible entities include only nonprofit organizations with 501(c)3 status. The Division of Disability Services appreciates the question and will explore the potential for additional nonprofit organizations as eligible applicants in future IHC rounds.

Q24: In the guidance, I noticed that it mentions “Bidders who have been the lead grantee in the past two previous funding cycles are ineligible to apply as the lead organization, however they may be a collaborator in a proposal that is lead by another organization?”

A24: See answers to questions 4.d. and 6. If your organization was the lead organization on funded IHC grants for Round 1 and Round 2, you are not eligible to be the lead organization in Round 3 but, yes, your organization may be a partner on an application led by a different organization that is eligible.

Q25: Can you provide feedback on our 2022 unsuccessful grant application?

A25: No, we do not intend to meet with individual applicants to provide feedback.

Q26: Our Department consists of several offices/divisions. One office received funding for Round 1 and 2 of the IHC grant program. Can another division/office apply for the third round of funding although it is under the same organization? If so, can the office that was the lead agency for Round 1 and 2 be a collaborator/partner?

A26: No, since the organization received funding as the lead agency in two grant cycles, it can only serve as a partner organization in this upcoming funding cycle.

Q27: Because the grant comes with an expectation for growth, are you looking for a projection of the growth we anticipate? If so, is there a timeline of when you expect the growth?

A27: We would emphasize sustainability over growth. What we want to encourage is work that does not end with the end of the grant cycle, but rather continues to inform policy and program development over time. For example, people with lived experience should continue to inform initiatives and to participate in planning, and should be considered for meaningful employment opportunities well beyond the life of the grant. PSE change by its very nature is largely sustainable, which is why we promote this change model.

Q28: Are you looking at a specific percentage of growth over the 2-year period?

A28: See answer above.

Q29: Quick question on the IHC appendices. On the Disclosure of Investment Activities in Iran form, we are not sure what the bid solicitation number and title (top line of form) should be.

A29: There is no bid solicitation number associated with this RFP. Please use "Inclusive Healthy Communities (IHC) Grant Program" as the title.

Q30: Quick question on the IHC appendices. On the Certification of Non-Involvement in Prohibited Activities in Russia or Belarus, we are not sure what the contract number (second line) is referring to.

A30: See above response.

Q31: The RFP states successful bidders will be paid quarterly. Is the first payment paid up front when the grant starts or 3 months later?

A31: The first payment cannot be made until the submission, review and acceptance of all post-award required documentation (see Section XII of the RFP) is complete. It is our intent to issue the first payment as soon as possible. However, based on variables which include grantee cooperation, we are unable to state precisely when the first payment will be sent.

Q32: Because the current IHC grant opportunity is a two-year grant, does that mean the next opportunity to apply will not be until 2025? Will the IHC grants run two-year cycles from now on?

A32: The Department of Human Services does not expect to issue an IHC Request for Proposals in state fiscal year 2024 (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024). It is currently undetermined if the IHC grants will continue a two-year cycle henceforth.

Q33: The RFP says that attending the workshops was encouraged but the application says that attendance was mandatory. Which was it? Can we submit evidence of viewing the video?

A33: The workshops are not mandatory; they are encouraged and optional. The application on the IHC website was incorrect and has been updated.

Q34: I submitted a LOI using the Rutgers online LOI portal but I have not received a confirmation email?

A34: Several organizations that submitted LOIs via the online portal have reported submitting the LOI but not receiving an email confirming receipt. In all of those cases, the Rutgers team worked with the applicants to find that the confirmation email is in their email spam folder. The Rutgers team urges all applicants that submitted LOIs to check their spam folders if they think they have not received a confirmation email.

Q35: I am reaching out in regard to the 2023 IHC grant application. I really like the idea of persons with disabilities serving as paid consultants as outlined in your RFP. Can you provide an example of how this was done in the past or how this might be executed presently? I want to make sure I am understanding this correctly for the grant application.

A35: In previous rounds of the IHC grant program, several grantees engaged consultants to assist with their initiatives. When grantees have issued requests for proposals for such consultancy services, we have encouraged them to use language that indicates a preference for a consultant that has worked on disability inclusion efforts previously and/or who has lived experience as a person with a disability, both of which may provide them with in-depth knowledge of needs associated with people with disabilities to address social determinants of health as well as needs associated with ensuring equitable access to inclusion of people with disabilities.