

AGENCY: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

TITLE: National Tribal Air Association Operations

ACTION: Request for Applications (RFA)

RFA: EPA-OAR-IO-13-01

CFDA: 66.034

SUMMARY: Formal Agency responses to questions regarding the subject RFA

DATE: February 20, 2013

Q1: Will EPA be using non-EPA reviewers for the review and selection process of this grant?

A1: No, only EPA reviewers will be evaluating the applications.

Q2: Do tribes in Alaska need to have a reservation/TAS in order to be eligible to apply for this grant?

A2: No. Tribes in Alaska can apply for this grant funding opportunity as long as they are federally recognized tribes and/or meet the eligibility criteria as stated on page 8 of the RFA. Federally recognized tribes do not need to have a reservation or treatment as a state status (TAS) to apply to this grant.

The following language is from pages 8 and 9 of the RFA

In accordance with CFDA 66.034, applications will be accepted from states, local governments, territories, Indian tribes, and possessions of the U.S., including the District of Columbia, international organizations, public and private universities and colleges, hospitals, laboratories, and other public or private non-profit institutions.

Non-profit organization, as defined by OMB Circular A-122, located at 2 CFR Part 230, means any corporation, trust, association, cooperative or other organization that: (1) is operated primarily for scientific, educational, service, charitable or similar purposes in the public interest; (2) is not organized primarily for profit; and (3) uses its net proceeds to maintain, improve and/or expand its operations. Note that OMB Circular A-122 specifically excludes the following types of organizations from the definition of “non-profit organization” because they are separately defined in the Circular: (i) colleges and universities; (ii) hospitals; (iii) state, local and federally recognized Indian tribal governments; and (iv) those non-profit organizations that are excluded from coverage of this Circular in accordance with paragraph 5 of the Circular. While not considered to be a “non-profit organization(s)” as defined by OMB Circular A-122, colleges

and universities, hospitals, state, local and federally-recognized Indian tribal governments are, nevertheless, eligible to submit applications under OMB Circular A-122 and this RFA.

For-profit organizations are not an eligible entity for this funding opportunity. Additionally, non-profit organizations described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that engage in lobbying activities as defined in Section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 are not eligible to apply.

Newly posted Q/As, as of 2/20/13

Q3: In the RFA there is a disclaimer stating that the grant amount may change depending on the budget. When will the actual amount be known?

A3: Please note the disclaimer is standard for all EPA funding opportunities. We do not anticipate any changes to the funding amount. However, if there are any changes or modifications to the NTAA grant solicitation, we will announce them via an amendment to the RFA and post the information publically on EPA's OAR grant website (http://www.epa.gov/oar/grants_funding.html) and www.grants.gov .

Q4: What happens if there is a drastic change in the funding amount for this grant?

A4: Any changes or modifications to the NTAA grant solicitation will be announced via an amendment to the RFA and posted publically on EPA's OAR grant website (http://www.epa.gov/oar/grants_funding.html) and www.grants.gov .

Again, we do not expect a significant change to the funding amount for the NTAA grant solicitation. However, we do acknowledge that we cannot guarantee the exact funding amount at this time.

Q5: Please provide more information regarding indirect cost.

A5: Applicants have the option to include indirect costs in their proposed NTAA budget. If selected for award and requesting indirect costs, applicants will need to prepare an indirect cost (IDC) proposal, if they don't have a current IDC with a federal cognizant agency). Applicants will need to submit their IDC proposal to EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment (OGD), IDC proposal guidance can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/ogd/recipient/EPATraineeIndirect.pdf> . In the past, OGD has typically added an administrative term and condition to the grant allowing the grantee to only drawdown direct funds until their IDC rate has been approved.

Applicants may submit their IDC proposal to EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment:

Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Grants and Debarment
Mail Code: 3901
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460
E-Mail Address: ogdweb.gad@epa.gov

Sample IDC proposal <http://www.epa.gov/ogd/recipient/sample1.htm>

Q6: Who will be the primary EPA contact for the NTAA grantee?

A6: The grantee of this award will work with various persons within EPA's Office of Air and Radiation. However, the administration of the grant will be mostly handled through one assigned project officer and one grant specialist.

Q7: Please provide more information regarding Task 3's address of the webpage?

A7: The NTAA currently has an operating webpage. The RFA outlines the website maintenance requirements. Applicants should outline their proposals according to the information detailed in Task 3. (Please see page 3 of the RFA).

Q8: Will there be an opportunity for the grantee to have NTAA members only communication?

A8: There are opportunities for the successful awardee to have members only communications. (Please see page 3 of the RFA).

Q9: Task 4 discusses an annual conference; is there an annual time frame when this conference is required?

A9: Historically, the grantee has achieved this conference requirement by supporting the National Tribal Forum in Air Quality, which typically takes place in the late spring. However, there is no annual time frame or set forum prescribed in the RFA. Applicants should outline their plans for accomplishing task 4 in detail in their proposals. (Please see page 4 of the RFA).

Q10: Does the targeted audience of the NTAA and this RFA include international Native American tribes (i.e. Canada or Mexico)

A10: No, the EPA works with the 565 federally recognized tribes to help these sovereign nations improve and/or address air quality on Indian land and in tribal communities.

Q11: Please clarify the use of supporting documentation.

A11: Support letters are welcomed as attachments to the proposed work plan. However these letters should indicate how the supporting organization will assist in the project (Please see page 15 of the RFA).