



Oklahoma State Department of Health
Creating a State of Health

Oklahoma Emergency Response Systems Stabilization and Improvement Revolving Fund FY12 Questions and Responses to Request for Proposal

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| 1 | <p>Statewide needs and public interest, the part about "Attestations to the benefit of the project to the public's interest shall be provided by appropriately credentialed consultant or other expert." Again, the requirement of an expert or consultant.</p> | <p>The RFP Attachment Section 2 has been amended to delete "Applicant shall not be considered as expert attestation or financial consultation" and clarifying language added.</p> |
| 2 | <p>Needs assessments may include reports from, example NHTSA, which I called, first to Oklahoma City, then to Ft. Worth TX. then to Washington D. C. and got some information on needs assessments. A 54 page NHTSA assessment of Oklahoma's EMS problems done in 2009 What we wanted from them was a statement that the I-44 corridor requires EMS coverage. And being we are the only one covering that area that it would need to be covered. Therefore, there is a need for us to stay in business.</p> | <p>The question is unclear. However, there are many resources available such as the 2009 NHTSA Assessment Report and other resources several of which are located on the Emergency Systems-EMS web page: http://www.ok.gov/health/Protective Health/Emergency Medical Services/Resources and Reports/index.html Additional reports from Bishop + Associates are found on the Emergency Systems-Trauma web page: http://www.ok.gov/health/Protective Health/Trauma Division/Reports from Bishop and Associates/index.html Other sources of assessment data may be available from sources such as State/Federal Departments of Highway Safety/Transportation.</p> |

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| 3 | Under the "Special Provisions" section of the OERSSIRF application website, the applicant is referred to instructions in "Attachment A". Is attachment A the application form? Where is it identified as such? | Attachment A is the Application Form and has been marked as such in an amendment to the RFP. |
| 4 | The application form on the website is a "pdf" file, not editable. Should the applicant simply write freehand, acquire a typewriter, or otherwise use the form as supplied? | There are no requirements defining the method of documentation on the RFP. The applicant may use any method they choose to provide legible information. |
| 5 | Is it acceptable to attach supplemental pages to the application? | It is acceptable to attach legible supplemental pages to the application. Place any supplemental pages under the appropriate tab for submission of the RFP. |
| 6 | How should applicants compute population density in a manner that is consistent with the letter and intent of the rule? OAC 310:642-5-1(2)(C) states "Points shall be awarded for projects <i>encompassing areas of lowest per-mile population density</i> as recorded by the United States Census Bureau.." The Department described two methodologies in the new application form on the state website. Both require that population density be computed by the largest population within the project area. It is unclear if that population density is for a "jurisdiction", as presented in "Section 3: Self Assessment", or for a county, as presented in "Section 6: Population Density". Each section refers the applicant to a different website | The RFP has been amended to read: "The population density of the project area shall be determined as recorded by the US Census Bureau 2000 Website in the link below. Identify all geographic areas in the proposed award area and document in the table below. Utilize the US Census Bureau 2000 data from this link: http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/GCTTable?_bm=y&-geo_id=04000US40&-box_head_nbr=GCT-PH1&-ds_name=DEC_2000_SF1_U&-format=ST-7 . A single density in the proposal area shall determine the population density factor for the project. Identify the single density in the proposal area for the project. |

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| 7 | <p>Section 6 has an explanatory sentence, "The county with the <i>highest</i> population density in proposal area shall determine the population density factor for the project." followed by a sentence fragment "considered the population density for the project area" It is unclear what is meant by this.</p> | <p>The sentence fragment has been removed.</p> |
| 8 | <p>How should applicants present the average distance from the project area to a trauma center as required by the rule? OAC 310:642-5-1(2)(C) states "Points shall be awarded for project areas where the <i>average distance between the furthest and closest points within the project area</i> to a trauma center classified by the State of Oklahoma or the American College of Surgeons as level I or II".</p> | <p>OAC 310:642-5-1(2)(C) is an incorrect citation for the awarding of points based upon the average distance between the furthest and closest points within a project area.</p> <p>See also response to #9.</p> |
| 9 | <p>Section 7 of the new application states "Give the mileage from <i>the most distant point with a physical address within the project area</i> to the closest Level I or II Trauma Center, as determined by utilizing this website: http://classic.mapquest.com/maps."</p> | <p>OAC 310:642-5-1(2)(D) states: "Points shall be awarded for project areas where the average distance between the furthest and closest points within a project area to a trauma center classified by the State of Oklahoma or the American College of Surgeons as level I or II". The RFP Attachment A Section 7 has been amended to determine the closest and most distant points within the project area, divide the total of the two mileages by a factor of two which equals the average distance to a Level I or II Trauma Center.</p> |

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| 10 | <p>How should applicants compute the matching rate consistent with the rule? OAC 310:642-5-1(2)(G) states "If the proposal proposes the use of matching funds, points shall be awarded consistent with the following formula: (i) 90% of the <i>requested_funds</i>: 90 points, (ii) 80% of the <i>requested_funds</i>: 80 points. The new application formula, however, states "Project Matching Funds shall be calculated as follows: Total matching dollars/<i>total project cost</i> = % project matching dollars. Attach documentation on letterhead from entity providing matching funds verifying matching fund commitment and amount." There is no reference in the rule to "total project cost". This formula disadvantages all applicants by diminishing their matching percentage. If an agency requests \$1000 and matches that amount with \$1000, it has achieved a 100% match. By the Department's formula, however, it would be calculated as \$1000 / \$2000, only a 50% match.</p> | <p>OSDH disagrees with comment. No amendment made to RFP related to this question.</p> |
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| 11 | <p>Where should applicants reflect the benchmark standards <u>(A) Significantly improved. (B) Improved. (C) Not Improved. (D) Worsened.</u> as required by rule, and where should the points earned by achieving benchmarks of previous projects be reflected? OAC 310:642-9-1 states "The Department shall perform an evaluation of the project within six (6) months of its completion, summarizing its effectiveness using benchmark measures identified in the proposal as required by 310:642-7-1(b)(3) (relating to content of proposals)."</p> <p>OAC 310:642-7-1(b)(3) requires the applicant to set forth "Benchmark measures for each of the following assessment levels: (A) <i>Significantly improved.</i> (B) <i>Improved.</i> (C) <i>Not Improved.</i> (D) <i>Worsened.</i>"</p> | <p>A scale for recording achieved benchmarks that includes the required terms has been added to Attachment A-Section 11.</p> <p>OAC 310:642-9-1 establishes the <u>Department will measure the success of a project within six months of completion.</u> The Applicant does not determine the benchmark status of previous projects.</p> <p>See also response to #14.</p> |
| 12 | <p>Why is the pre-proposal conference being held <u>during</u> the RFP period, effectively limiting proposal writers to a 17 day period to ensure a completely acceptable application?</p> | <p>There is no timeframe defined by rule for when the pre-proposal conference must be held other than OAC 310:642-3-2.(c): "<u>The submission period, including time for questions,</u> shall not be less than thirty (30) calendar days."</p> |
| 13 | <p>What state procurement rules pertain to minimum periods for grant guidance to be distributed?</p> | <p>There are no State Procurement Rules pertaining to minimum periods for grant guidance to be distributed.</p> |

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| 14 | Where does an agency subject to PE reflect the results of each previously completed OERSSIRF project? | <p>OAC 310:642-9-1. States “The Department shall perform an evaluation of the project within six (6) months of its completion, summarizing its effectiveness using benchmark measures identified in the proposal as required by 310:642-7-1(b)(3) (relating to content of proposal.) Project evaluations have not been completed by OSDH for the awards for FY11. The project period is not completed, and many projects are not yet completed.</p> <p>See also response to Question II, above.</p> |
| 15 | Please clarify whether the “funding amount requested” is the total project amount? or the remainder after matching funds are applied? | <p>The “funding amount requested” is the remainder after the matching funds are applied.</p> |
| 16 | <p>Shouldn't we just use the population density in our project area? From our standpoint, there are two major contradictions between the O.A.C 310:642 rules published on the website and the application.</p> <p>Rule= Population density (D): “Points shall be awarded for projects encompassing areas of lowest per-mile population density” Application=“identify the largest population density within the geographic area defined in Section 3.” (if this simply means the population density per square mile in our project area, no problem)</p> | <p>The RFP has been amended to read: “The population density of the project area shall be determined as recorded by the US Census Bureau 2000 Website in the link below. Identify all geographic areas in the proposed award area and document in the table below. Utilize the US Census Bureau 2000 data from this link: http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/GCTTable?_bm=y&-geo_id=04000US40&-box_head_nbr=GCT-PH1&-ds_name=DEC_2000_SF1_U&-format=ST-7 .</p> <p>A single density in the proposal area shall determine the population density factor for the project. Identify the single density in the proposal area for the project.</p> |

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| 17 | <p>Shouldn't we be using only the number of EMTs residing in our project area? Rule=EMTs (E): "Points shall be awarded for proposals encompassing project areas with fewer resident licensed EMTs" Application= "Number of EMT's shall be determined by the sum total of EMTs in all counties within the defined project jurisdiction." Our main problem is having enough volunteer EMTs because of our rural setting. We serve about 500 sq. miles with few EMTs residing in that area.</p> | <p>OSDH disagrees with comment. No amendment made to RFP related to this question.</p> |
| 18 | <p>The question is can the 522 districts also submit proposals to or just us as the ambulance service.</p> | <p>Yes, a 522 District may submit proposals in accordance with the definition of a "qualified entity at OAC 310:642-1-3.</p> |
| 19 | <p>Do we need to hire a consultant or expert to get two ambulances, as the budget doesn't allow us to pay for such things as this. An Expert wanted \$2500 up front, and the Consultant wanted \$1900.</p> | <p>There is no requirement to hire a consultant or expert. The RFP guidance in Attachment A-Section 2 has been amended to read "Financial or other expert attestations to the feasibility shall be provided. Credentials of person(s) providing attestations shall be submitted."</p> |
| 20 | <p>Form 070Sa 210 page 1 of 7, #7 asks for shipping location- whose shipping location?</p> | <p>No information or action is required from this section. Disregard #7 on the Solicitation Package Page 1 of 7 of the DCS/Purchasing-Form 070SA.</p> |

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| 21 | Are private assessments acceptable? Is a private assessment applicable to the statutory purpose? | O.S. 63-1-2512.1 states the fund “may be budgeted and expended by the Department for the purpose of funding assessment activities. . . “ . There is no further definition of the assessment activity. |
| 22 | What would an ideal packet look like (re: stapling, tabbing, etc.)? | An “ideal packet” contains all information following the instructions included in the RFP. |
| 23 | Under qualified purposes, access to training for front-line personnel. Can the purpose indirectly impact the front-line personnel, such as instructors? | The applicant must demonstrate how the proposed project will impact access to training front-line personnel. |
| 24 | Where does the attestation need to be submitted in the package? Please clarify the placement in the packet for any ancillary documentation - should it be at the end of the packet or another tab (i.e.: accounting spreadsheet, assessments); | The attestations are part of the General Approval Standards and Criteria and therefore should be placed under the tab for Section 2- General Approval Standards and Criteria. |
| 25 | If we advance our care, in providing ALS for other communities, would we need mutual aid in place before the grant is written? | The project should include appropriate timelines and benchmarks to address compliance with all Federal, State, and local laws and applicable Rules. |