



Grants Management Issues and COVID-19 Funding

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Agenda

- COVID-19 Funding Overview
- Timeline
- Submission Requirements
- Allowable Expenses and Prior Approval
- Other Considerations
- Resources



Coronavirus Funding

- On March 6, 2020, the President signed into law the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act
 - Included no less than \$950 million for grants and cooperative agreements
 - CDC activated CDC-RFA-TP18-1802 Cooperative Agreement for Emergency Response: Public Health Crisis Response (Crisis Response Cooperative Agreement)
- On March 16, CDC awarded \$570 million to state, tribal, local, and territorial health departments for initial response activities
 - Initial awards of \$25 million went to select jurisdictions

Current Timeline

- Performance Period: **March 16, 2020 - March 15, 2021**
- **March 16, 2020:** Notice of Awards (NOAs) issued
- **April 20, 2020:** Revised budgets, budget narratives, and letters due in GrantSolutions
- **April 30, 2020:** First monthly spending report due (and every month thereafter) Using end-of-month date will better align with your systems
- **May 4, 2020:** Work plans due in GrantSolutions
- **May 15, 2020:** Community intervention implementation plan summaries due (60 days) Additional guidance forthcoming
- **June 14, 2021:** deadline for all eligible expenditures to be liquidated

Submission Requirements

- Budget Narrative
- Work Plan
- Monthly Spending Report
 - Templates for these three have been uploaded as Grant Notes in Grants Management Module
- Letter on agency letterhead with signatures from jurisdiction's preparedness director, laboratory director, and state epidemiologist (or their designees) indicating all have provided input into plans, strategies, and investment priorities

Allowable Expenses and Pre-Award Costs

- CDC's intent is to be as liberal as possible under the law
 - Not limited by normal PHEP restrictions
 - Follow the scope of activities outlined in the guidance document
- Pre-award Costs
 - Any costs directly related to COVID-19 response activities that are allowable as outlined in the supplemental funding guidance can be reimbursed. This includes personnel costs.

Prior Approval Requirements

- Prior approval from CDC is required for alteration or renovation of nonfederal facilities that directly support activities in six domains of allowable activities
- **Not required** for reimbursement of pre-award costs
 - CDC stated on our call and in slides last week that prior approval **WAS** required, but now CDC will consider pre-award costs as part of the application submission as long as they fit the scope of this funding opportunity and are in accordance with federal cost principles

Other Considerations

- Overtime
 - Because overtime costs are a very likely and reasonable expense during the response to COVID-19, CDC will allow recipients to include projected overtime in their budgets. Recipients should estimate costs based on current real-time needs and must follow federal rules and regulations in accounting for the employees' time and effort.
 - Charging OT for staff normally funded by other programs is possible
 - Please note that this does NOT apply to any PHEP funding or any other Crisis Response Cooperative Agreement funding for hurricanes or opioids; it only applies to the COVID-19 awards.

Other Considerations, cont.

- Various funding streams available: PHEP, HPP, COVID-19, FEMA
 - Recipients will need to decide which funds to use and track appropriately for audit purposes, especially if there are split costs
 - COVID funds CANNOT pay the 25% share of FEMA reimbursements
- Equipment rules: follow jurisdictional procurement guidelines
- Tribal and partner funding
 - Cherokee Nation was funded under this award
 - Funding for other tribes and partner organizations will be awarded by the Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support (CSTLTS)
- Supporting other federal entities (e.g., IHS hospitals/clinics) is not allowed
 - Providing federal response funds to other federal entities would amount to supplementing their appropriations, which is not allowed

Other Considerations, cont.

- REDCap system is being developed now to accommodate COVID-19 funding requirements
 - Work plans and financial reports will be included
 - For now continue to use GMM and email
 - No need to submit user names until system opens
- Project Officers
 - CDC is working to hire full-time project officers for this funding
 - Current team are business analysts doing a great job of filling in
 - Remember that this is NOT PHEP, so while we want those POs informed, they are not your principle source of information or action

Resources

Several online resources exist:

- www.CDC.gov/coronavirus
CDC's main page for information, resources, tools, and tips
- www.cdc.gov/cpr/readiness/funding-covid.htm
Crisis Response Cooperative Agreement funding information, including FAQs
- www.cdc.gov/grants/public-health-emergencies/covid-19/index.html
Grants information pertinent to COVID-19; includes link for temporary reassignment of personnel

THANK YOU

For cooperative agreement questions, please contact:
DSLRCrisisCoAg@cdc.gov

For general COVID questions please contact:
Preparedness@cdc.gov

For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

