

HHSC HCC Rural Expansion RFA Vendor Questions & Answers
HHS0006795

No.	RFA Section #	Page #	Associated Topic or Language	Question for the State	Response
001	2.4.4	p. 11	Community collaborative start-up costs and infrastructure development	Regarding Section 2.4.4 - Optional Project Services and Activities (p. 11), A. Community Collaborative start-up costs and infrastructure development: Can you provide more examples of what may be included, please?	Start-up costs and infrastructure development may include the example items listed on page 11 of the RFA. Additional examples of start-up and infrastructure costs may include costs associated with: IT, supplies, equipment, or costs that are necessary for the collaborative to function.
002	3.5.2, 3.6.3	p. 22, 23, 37	Delivery of the solicitation response	Section 3.6.3 Delivery (p. 23), states, “Respondent must correctly deliver Solicitation Responses by one of the methods below,” which includes email to pcsbids@hhsc.state.tx.us if small in size (what constitutes “small in size”?). It also lists an option to use the Online Bid Room as described in Exhibit 1. However, only the USB option is mentioned elsewhere (Section 3.5.2 [p. 22] and Article IX. Application Submission Checklist [p. 37]). Please clarify our options.	Small in size would constitute a response that is able to be safely submitted via email and in one email. The submission of the USB delivery can be done via the Bid Room (mail delivery) or hand delivery. There are several options for application submittal for convenience.
003	3.5.2, 3.6.3	p. 22, 24	USB copies of the response	Section 3.5.2 (p. 22) refers to a USB submission for the “Original” solicitation response and two (2) additional USBs labeled “Copy.” However, Section 3.6.3, Submission Option #3 (p. 24) mentions only one copy.	Section 3.5.2 is correct and one “original” and two copies should be sent, potentially including a fourth version that includes any information that the respondent would wish to have redacted in the event of an open records request.

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004	3.5.2, 3.6.3	p. 22, 24	Entire PDF in one PDF file vs 4 parts separated into folders on a USB drive	Immediately below Section 3.6.3, Submission Options #3 (p. 24), is sub-point a. which states, “Each USB must contain <i>one</i> file named “Original Proposal” that contains the Respondent’s entire proposal in search portable document format (PDF).” This differs from the instructions in Section 3.5.2 (p. 22) to have four (4) parts on each flash drive separated by folders. Please clarify.	The instructions in Section 3.5.2 are correct and should be utilized.
005	3.6.3	p. 23-24	File format, multiple files or single file	Section 3.6.3 (pp. 23-24) appears to be the only place that describes the required format of the file(s) in PDF. If this section is removed or modified due to its inconsistencies with other submission instructions, should it be assumed that each file must be PDF’d? In that scenario, must only one PDF file exist in each of the 4 parts folders? Or may multiple PDF’d files exist in each folder?	Multiple PDF’d files should exist in each folder.
006	Form A	Tab 4, Question 3	Attachment of additional pages when forms don’t capture or show full content when PDFd	Form A, Tab 4, Question 13: Even though the field allows entry of all our contracts with HHSC listed by contract number and program name, the field size does not expand to show all of them. While visible in Excel with a mouse up/down inside the field, the list becomes truncated and not fully accessible when PDF’d. May we use the field to reference an additional document that lists them in their entirety?	Yes, with a note to reference Question 13.
007	6.5	p. 30	Required use of Exhibit H	Exhibit H (Certification Regarding Lobbying) is not on the Checklist but is mentioned as a required document in 6.5 (p. 30). Please clarify this requirement.	Please complete Exhibit H as part of your application packet. An updated checklist will be posted in Addendum 4.

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008	Form B, Section 6.C	p. 7 of Form B	References Form F which is missing from RFA package.	Form F was not included in the RFA package. Are its questions included in their entirety in Form A's Project Design section?	Yes, all required questions are included within the forms provided. The reference to "Form F" was in error.
009	2.2.1 compared to announcement found on https://apps.hhs.texas.gov/PCS/HHS0006795/	p. 7	Maximum award	According to the RFA announcement posted on https://apps.hhs.texas.gov/PCS/HHS0006795/ , the maximum award is \$72,727 for 12 awards totaling \$872,712. Section 2.2.1, p. 7, anticipates 10 to 12 awards. Would awards proposed for significantly higher amounts, such as \$300,000 or \$400,000 to a single awardee be considered? Or should bids stay at or below \$72,727?	Applicants may submit a proposal for any amount up to the maximum total available without losing consideration for funding. The maximum award for a single entity is dependent on the number of awardees and funds requested. Maximum potential funding to a single awarded entity would be equal to the total funding available.
010	2.4	p. 9	Program Requirements	Do we have to serve 2 counties?	Yes, and the two counties must each have a population of 100,000 or less. <i>[See RFA 2.4 Program Requirements]</i>
011	2.4	p. 9	Program Requirements	Can we serve only one county with a population less than 100k?	No. At least two counties must be served, each with populations of 100,000 or less. <i>[See RFA 2.4 Program Requirements]</i>
012	2.4	p. 9	Program Requirements	If we serve 2 counties, do they have to be contiguous?	There is no requirement that the counties be contiguous however it must be demonstrated that the collaborative will be equally available and functional in both counties for the target population. <i>[See RFA 2.4 Program Requirements]</i>

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013	2.4.4	p. 11	Optional Project Services and Activities	Can we use hotels as a diversion from homelessness, if there are no homeless shelters available?	The use of hotels as a diversion from homelessness can be proposed as part of the continuum of housing services provided. <i>[See RFA 2.4.4 Optional Project Services and Activities]</i>
014	2.2.1	p. 7	Available Funding	On an annual basis, what is the maximum any one entity can be awarded from HHS? And/or what is the total amount available statewide?	Anticipated total funding per State Fiscal Year is \$872,718. The maximum for any entity is dependent on the number of awardees and funds requested. Maximum funding to a single awarded entity would be equal to the total funding available. <i>[See RFA 2.2.1 Available Funding]</i>
015	7.2	p. 33-34	Funding Match	Does the private cash match have to derive from within the counties to be served?	No, it does not. <i>[See RFA 7.2 Funding Match]</i>
016	7.2	p. 33-34	Funding Match	Does the private cash match have to be committed before the application is submitted?	No, it does not. <i>[See RFA 7.2 Funding Match]</i>
017	7.2	p. 33-34		In light of the financial impacts of COVID-19 and the increasing amount of homelessness, can the private cash match requirement be waived, in order to allow for other sources of match (e.g. government or in-kind)?	Identifying and securing match is a required component of the RFA submission packet. Any allowances or waivers as a result of COVID-19 or other factors should not be considered for the purposes of this application process and identifying sources for match. State, Federal, or local government funds and in-kind match will not be considered acceptable

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					types of match. <i>[See RFA 7.2 Funding Match]</i>
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