

Applicant Questions and Answers

RFA Number		RFA/Grant Name		
HHS0013263		HIV Prevention Services		
PCS Grant Specialist Name			PCS Grant Specialist Email	
John Norton			John.Norton2@hhs.texas.gov	
+/- Row	#	Reference	Applicant Question	Agency/Program Response
<input type="checkbox"/>	1		Reading through the RFA: HIV Prevention Services, I was wondering if PrEP medication is an allowable budget item?	No, PrEP medication is not an allowable cost under this RFA.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	RFA Section 7.1, Schedule of Events RFA Section 7.8, Applicant Conference	I would like to attend the webinar for the RFA for HIV Prevention Services. Please send log in information.	The instructions on how to attend the Applicant Conference can be found in Section 7.8, Applicant Conference, of the RFA.
<input type="checkbox"/>	3		I represent the City of ██████ and we are currently funded for the State HIV Prevention Grant under two distinct funding opportunities: Funding Opportunity 2, which pertains to Core HIV Prevention Programs, and Funding Opportunity 3, encompassing PrEP and nPEP Programs. Upon reviewing the RFA, I couldn't find any reference to these specific funding opportunities. Could there have been changes made in this regard? Furthermore, it has come to my attention that the current funding allocation for ██████ under the CAP is \$ ██████. However, we are currently in receipt of \$ ██████ in funding. Please let me know if you need additional information.	All current grant opportunities are posted on the HHS Grants website at https://resources.hhs.texas.gov/rfa . Eligible Activities are listed in Section 2.5, Eligible Activities, of the RFA. Anticipated levels of funding are summarized in Article V, Section 5.1 of the RFA.
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	Section 7.1, Schedule of Events	Will the slide you just went over be sent out to the agency?	The Applicant Conference PowerPoint presentation was posted as the Attachment to Addendum 1 on the HHS Grants RFA website (https://resources.hhs.texas.gov/rfa/hhs0013263). Please note that Section 7.1, Schedule of Events, states: "Each Applicant is responsible for checking the HHS Grants RFA Website and Procurement Forecast for updates".
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	Section 1.1, Executive Summary, Page 5	After reviewing the RFA, we have the question of whether this RFA will replace our current or possibly continue our contract with DSHS, namely contract number ██████	All current grant opportunities are posted on the HHS Grants website at https://resources.hhs.texas.gov/rfa . Existing awarded grants will adhere to the contract end dates as specified within those respective contracts.
<input type="checkbox"/>	6		The RFA No. HHS0013263, is this an additional funding opportunity for 2025 for state HIV Prevention or the only HIV Prevention funding opportunity from the state for 2025?	All current grant opportunities are posted on the HHS Grants website at https://resources.hhs.texas.gov/rfa .
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	RFA Section 7.1, Schedule of Events RFA Section 7.8, Applicant Conference	I never received a notice or link for the Applicant Conference. Did the Applicant Conference take place? If so, how were interested parties supposed to gain access to that conference?	The instructions on how to attend the Applicant Conference can be found in Section 7.8, Applicant Conference, of the RFA. The Applicant Conference PowerPoint presentation, held on October 24, 2023, was posted on the HHS Grants RFA website (https://resources.hhs.texas.gov/rfa/hhs0013263) as the Attachment to Addendum 1.

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+ -	8		Is this RFA replacing the current HIV Prevention Services with the five different funding opportunities?	All current grant opportunities are posted on the HHS Grants website at https://resources.hhs.texas.gov/rfa . Existing awarded grants will adhere to the contract end dates as specified within those respective contracts.
+ -	9		I have not had a chance to delve into the new RFP, so my apologies if it outlines this, but we currently have HIV prevention funding that just got extended through 2024. The new RFP appears to be for significantly less and I am wondering if this RFP is for funds that would be separate/in addition or in place of the kind of funding we are currently receiving.	All current grant opportunities are posted on the HHS Grants website at https://resources.hhs.texas.gov/rfa . Existing awarded grants will adhere to the contract end dates as specified within those respective contracts.
+ -	10		This confused us a little. Do we have to fill out an application for this extension addendum?	The purpose of "Texas HHSC PCS Solicitation Notification, RFA HHS0013263 HIV Prevention Services - Addendum 1" email notification was to notify potential Applicants that Addendum 1 for RFA HHS0013264 HIV Prevention Services has been posted on the HHS Grants Website (https://resources.hhs.texas.gov/rfa/hhs0013263). Please refer to PCS 121, Solicitation Addendum Acknowledgement Form, for Addendum acknowledgement instructions.
+ -	11		Will there be another applicant conference? Notice of the RFA, which included notice of the applicant conference, was sent on 10/25. The conference, which was notes as highly recommended, was held on 10/24 - after the notice was sent. Thank you for assistance with this matter.	The instructions on how to attend the Applicant Conference can be found in Section 7.8, Applicant Conference, of the RFA. The Applicant Conference PowerPoint presentation, held on October 24, 2023, was posted on the HHS Grants RFA website (https://resources.hhs.texas.gov/rfa/hhs0013263) as the Attachment to Addendum 1. Please note that Section 7.1, Schedule of Events, states "Each Applicant is responsible for checking the HHS Grants RFA Website and Procurement Forecast for updates".
+ -	12		I'm hoping you can help answer a few questions for me regarding this funding. Is this announcement going to be replacing the HIV prevention funding that is currently expiring in December 2024? If so, can you explain the substantial decrease in funding available per award? We are currently funded at just over \$██████████ and it looks like the maximum award for which we would be eligible (as a tier 3 jurisdiction) is \$125,000, while the anticipated award is \$71,429. Is this reduction due to funding at the federal level, or is DSHS changing the way federal funding is being dispersed to local jurisdictions? This is a quite significant reduction in funding. This anticipated amount of \$71,429 is not enough to fund even one position, let alone the infrastructure that would be required to support the staff. Consequently, I do not know if we will be permitted to apply for this funding, and goodness knows we need it. ██████████ has one of the highest syphilis rates in the state, and our HIV numbers have been on the rise this year. We've already been told our DIS funding is not being renewed due to funding cuts made during debt ceiling negotiations. We desperately need the services in our area, and we're working really hard to care for our community with what we do have. Any insight into what's causing the reduced funding would be helpful to us as we look for ways to sustain our program.	All current grant opportunities are posted on the HHS Grants website at https://resources.hhs.texas.gov/rfa . A full list of all eligible HSDA's is provided in Appendix 1, Texas Counties in HIV Service Delivery Areas (HSDA).

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+	13		<p>This question is not regarding the RFA but it has to do with the informational session about the RFA.</p> <p>We didn't get the notice of the RFA until October 25, 2023 and the informational session was provided on October 24, 2023.</p> <p>This means we didn't know about the informational session since we got notice of the RFA the day after. Also, there we didn't receive any notification of the informational session that was taking place.</p> <p>The questions are: 1. Is there a reason we weren't notified of the informational session for the RFA? 2. When will the next informational session going to be provided? 3. Is there an on demand (recording) of the session for us to listen to?</p>	<p>The instructions on how to attend the Applicant Conference can be found in Section 7.8, Applicant Conference, of the RFA.</p> <p>The Applicant Conference PowerPoint presentation, held on October 24, 2023 was posted on the HHS Grants RFA website (https://resources.hhs.texas.gov/rfa/hhs0013263) as the Attachment to Addendum 1.</p> <p>Please note that Section 7.1, Schedule of Events, states "Each Applicant is responsible for checking the HHS Grants RFA Website and Procurement Forecast for updates".</p>
+	14		<p>When will responses to questions be posted?</p>	<p>In addition to "PCS 134-G Applicant Questions and Answers" attached with Addendum 2, additional questions or requests for clarifications can be submitted to the Sole Point of Contact by November 15, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Central Time per Section 7.1, Schedule of Events, of the RFA. The tentative date for responses to questions remains December 6, 2023.</p>
+	15		<p>I am needing to find out if we need to fill out this application for the extension or if this email was just to inform us.</p> <p>I sent this email on 10/27 and still have not heard back. Please advise if there is anything I need to do for our program.</p>	<p>The purpose of "Texas HHSC PCS Solicitation Notification, RFA HHS0013263 HIV Prevention Services - Addendum 1" email notification was to notify potential Applicants that Addendum 1 for RFA HHS0013264 HIV Prevention Services has been posted on the HHS Grants Website (https://resources.hhs.texas.gov/rfa/hhs0013263).</p> <p>Please refer to PCS 121, Solicitation Addendum Acknowledgement Form, for Addendum acknowledgement instructions.</p>
+	16		<p>We have followed the instructions on page 53 of the RFP to provide what is required in order to ask questions. Each questions has the information needed to locate the source of our inquiry.</p> <p>1. For Form C, it says to limit the narrative to 8 pages. Do these 8 pages include the questions on page 1? Meaning do we only have 7 pages for our response?</p> <p>2. For Form D, it says to limit the narrative to 4 pages. Do these 4 pages include the questions on page 1? Meaning do we only have 3 pages for our response?</p> <p>3. For Form F-1, it says to limit the narrative to 3 pages. Do these 4 pages include the questions on page 1? Meaning do we only have 2 pages for our response?</p> <p>4. For Form F-2, it says to limit the narrative to 5 pages. Do these 8 pages include the questions on pages 1 and 2? Meaning do we only have 3 pages for our response?</p> <p>5. Section 8.5, paragraph D. directs us to include page numbering for each section of the Application. Does this mean that Form C will have its own page numbers starting from page 1, and Form D will have its own page numbers starting from page 1, and so on?</p>	<p>Form C: Respondents may choose to leave the questions in the 8-page narrative or remove them and only provide answers. All of the pages on this form should be numbered starting from page 1.</p> <p>Form D: Respondents may choose to leave the questions in the 4-page narrative or remove them and only provide answers. All of the pages on this form should be numbered starting from page 1.</p> <p>Form F-1: Respondents may choose to leave the questions in the 4-page narrative or remove them and only provide answers. All of the pages on this form should be numbered starting from page 1.</p> <p>Form F-2: Respondents may choose to leave the questions in the 4-page narrative or remove them and only provide answers. All of the pages on this form should be numbered starting from page 1.</p> <p>Section 8.5 paragraph D: Each form should have its own page numbers starting from page 1.</p>

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<input type="checkbox"/> + <input type="checkbox"/> -	17	Section 1,3 Statutory Authority, Page 13	Language, topic, section heading being questioned: Federal Funding Source and Other Prevention Programs Question: Agency is a current recipient of DSHS HIV Prevention Routine Screening funding. Is this funding replacing Opt Out/routine screening funding, or is the funding mechanism just though the same cooperative agreement 6 NU62PS924529-05-03?	All current grant opportunities are posted on the HHS Grants website at https://resources.hhs.texas.gov/rfa .