

Below is a list of all applicant question submitted to RIVETS regarding RFP072021.

Is it permissible just to provide one service e.g. mental health?

RIVETS Response: Applicants should select a single funding category in which they intend to provide service. Providing a single type of service to address the selected need is allowable

Can you provide an updated link to the RI w-9?

RIVETS Response: http://www.drive.ri.gov/assets/documents/supportdocs/13_W-9%20Form%20Revised%20Aug%202015.pdf

Are you able to give me a sense of the top-end of these grants?

RIVETS Response: At the onset of each state fiscal year, the Rhode Island Governor and General Assembly allocate general revenue funding to support the Veterans Service Grant program at the Rhode Island Office of Veterans Services (RIVETS). RIVETS cannot advise on the pool of funding available until passage of the FY22 budget, however, over the last several years RIVETS has awarded a total of \$200,000 annually to various providers addressing needs in the Veteran community. In FY21, RIVETS made funding awards to 12 applicants, with the average award totaling approximately \$16,650. The FY21 awards ranged from \$2,000 to \$50,000, and were based upon project scope, service delivery, Veterans and family members impacted, etc. The total number of applicants awarded may change year to year.

Can the RIVets grant be used to fund stipends for staff?

RIVETS Response: RIVETS encourages potential programs to design budgets which account for direct program expenses. Including staff stipends within a budget proposal is not prohibited, but we advise applicants to thoroughly review the scoring criteria, with attention to the project scalability section, when preparing a program budget.

If we were to succeed in getting a grant for this upcoming PCVI year, would we be eligible to apply for the same funding again next year? Or do these grants tend to be a 'one-off'?

RIVETS Response: Receiving grant funding for one year does not affect your ability to reapply for a subsequent funding opportunity unless your program is awarded and then found to be non-compliant.

Is there an average grant size, and how many organizations are awarded?

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We are a state agency with an Office of Sponsored Projects that handles all grants. Are we considered a vendor? Will you be sending a grant agreement with terms and conditions once you choose the winning applicants?

RIVETS Response: Please read the below reply from the Division of Purchasing.

I believe this issue comes down to the terminology used. We use to the term “vendor” to describe any entity that the State needs to pay. In this case it would also mean grant recipient. URI is an state entity but is not a state agency as we interpret it (executive vs non-executive etc). As they have a separate URI specific accounting system they would need to register as a vendor and provide all of the required information. On the plus side, the University of Rhode Island is already a registered vendor so this has previously been provided.

There is no mention of Indirect Costs in the RFP. Is this a grant that will be able to charge indirect costs of 25% of the modified total direct costs of the budget?

RIVETS Response: This RFP requests programs designed under a cost-reimbursement model and seeks itemized invoices. Section 3.8 disallows rent and lease expenses. RIVETS encourages applicants to submit budgets for direct, program-related costs.

As a state agency, are we required to submit these documents including the Secretary of State Certificate of Good Standing?

RIVETS Response: Yes, please provide a Certificate of Good Standing. These documents are required by the RI Division of Purchasing and not a requirement that RIVETS can waive