

DIVISION OF VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES

CENTERS
FOR DISEASE
CONTROL AND
PREVENTION



NATIONAL CENTER FOR EMERGING AND ZOO NOTIC INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Welcome!

We will begin shortly.

Strengthening Training, Evaluation, and Partnerships in the Prevention and Control of Vector-Borne Diseases

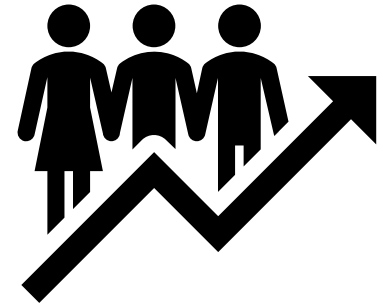
NOFO: CK23-0005

Informational Webinar

Division of Vector-Borne Diseases

National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases

January 10, 2023



Introductions

- Division of Vector-Borne Diseases/Program
 - Sue Visser, DrPH, MS; Associate Director for Policy and Extramural Program
 - Jeff Borchert, MS; Assistant Director for Extramural Programs
- Office of Grant Services (OGS)
 - Jon Messick, M.A.; Lead Grants Management Specialist
 - Benita Bosier-Ingram, MBA, MHA; Grants Management Specialist



Webinar Etiquette and Notes

- This webinar is being **recorded** and will be made publicly available.
- **Please use the Q & A** feature for all questions about the NOFO.
 - Please upvote questions!
- Please **do not use the chat** for questions about the webinar content.
- A **mini web-survey** will pop up when the webinar ends to collect your name, institution, and email address.

Division of Vector-Borne Diseases

VISION: Create a future where vector-borne diseases no longer threaten public health

MISSION: Reduce illness and death due to vector-borne diseases

GOAL 1: Identify and detect vector-borne pathogens that cause disease in people

GOAL 2: Understand when, where, how often and how people are exposed to vector-borne pathogens

GOAL 3: Prevent exposure to vector-borne pathogens and mitigate consequences of infection

GOAL 4: Implement vector-borne disease diagnostics, surveillance, control and prevention programs developed in goals 1-3

NOFO Purpose



- Build the vector-borne disease prevention and control workforce and its capacity, improve adoption and evaluation of vector-borne disease prevention control programs, tools, and technologies, and facilitate partnerships between academic institutions and federal, local, state, territorial, Tribal public health agencies and/or other interested parties

NOFO Purpose

Fund organizations that:



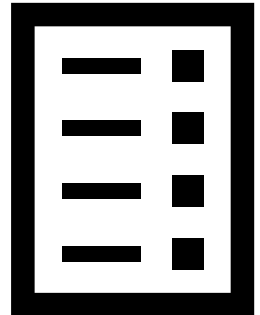
- **TRAIN** - Increase opportunities for students and professionals to receive training in vector-borne disease (VBD) prevention and control; this must include training
 - University/college-based students
 - Currently practicing vector-borne disease prevention and control professionals
- **EVALUATE** - Evaluate the impact and effectiveness (non-research) of existing or commercially available vector-borne disease prevention and control tools, technologies and programs
- **PARTNER** - Build partnerships among institutions and organizations in the vector-borne disease community to accomplish the activities proposed in Strategies 1 and 2

Cooperative agreements versus other funding mechanisms (e.g., contracts or grants)

- A financial assistance support mechanism used when there will be *substantial* Federal programmatic involvement
- Substantial involvement means that the awarding office program staff will collaborate or participate in project or program activities as specified in the NOFO
 - Responsibility for project management, control, direction, or performance is shared by the assisting agency and the recipient
 - Assisting agency has the right to intervene, including interrupting or modifying project activities
- All workplans will receive feedback from DVBD's technical monitors and subject matter experts and workplans should be revised to respond to this feedback

NOFO Operational Goal

- To establish a roster of organizations that are pre-identified and pre-approved for rapid funding to address vector-borne disease threats through the program strategies
- Approved-But-Unfunded (ABU) list of grantees
 - Will be utilized by CDC to effectively respond to, manage, and address the identified public health threats or emerging challenges or opportunities

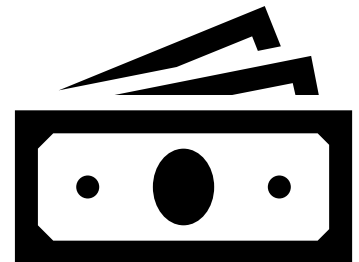


Evaluation versus Research

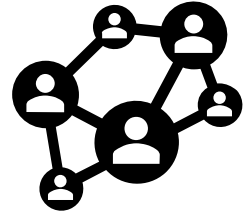
- What is the difference between evaluation and research?
 - In the field of Public Health, evaluation is distinct from research
 - The definitions of evaluation and research are published in the NOFO and are as follows (www.cdc.gov/evaluation/):
 - **Evaluation**: Purpose is to determine effectiveness of a specific program or model and understand why a program may or may not be working. *Goal is to improve programs.*
 - **Research**: Purpose is theory testing and to produce generalizable knowledge. *Goal is to contribute to knowledge base.*

Funding Strategy

- ~5-10 applicants will initially be awarded, depending on need and availability of funds
- Recipients will respond to ALL program strategies
- Pre-approved organizations may be funded once CDC has determined a public health threat exists and funding is available
- Limited funding available at the time of this announcement; additional funding will be contingent upon the availability of appropriations, at CDC's sole discretion; CDC will provide additional guidance to those on the ABU list as to when this NOFO will be implemented
- No ceiling on the 5-year funding opportunity
- ABU recipients may be funded out of rank order



Applicant Eligibility



- Open/maximum competition
- Strongest applicants will demonstrate the ability to:
 - Improve and standardize VBD prevention and control training and education for each targeted VBD prevention and control professional and student group
 - Note: for this NOFO, VBD prevention and control professionals and students may include those in or students of the following fields: human or veterinary medicine, entomology, vector control, public health, and environmental health
 - Increase the number of VBD students and professionals are trained
 - Evaluate new and improved vector control programs, tools, and strategies
 - Build new or strengthen collaborative activities between universities and college community with federal, state and local agencies
 - Reach populations that may be lower income, in rural areas, and/or members of minority communities that might experience higher rates of vector-borne diseases or adverse outcomes



Target Population

- For ABU, will vary depending on the particular public health threat(s) funded
- This cooperative agreement should directly impact the health of the public, through prevention and control activities within vector-borne disease field
- Seeks to fund organizations that reach:
 - Student and occupational groups related the prevention and control of vector-borne diseases (e.g., sanitation workers, hospital associations, healthcare workers, healthcare correctional workers, purchasing organizations, facility design and engineering associations, entomologists, vector control professionals, and occupational health and safety professional associations)

Program Strategies / Required Activities

1. **TRAIN**– Increase opportunities for students and professionals to receive training in vector-borne disease (VBD) prevention and control
 - a) Conduct training and educational needs assessments for VBD prevention and control professionals and students to develop and maintain readiness across the existing VBD workforce
 - b) Define training and education goals for VBD prevention and control programs
 - c) Train undergraduates, graduate students, or post-doctoral fellows
 - d) Train and educate VBD prevention and control professionals
 - e) Develop and implement an evaluation and performance monitoring/improvement plan to evaluate impact of training programs
2. **EVALUATE**– Evaluate the impact and effectiveness of VBD prevention and control tools, strategies, and programs
 - a) Evaluate the operational use of approved VBD prevention and control tools, strategies, and programs

Program Strategies / Required Activities

3. **PARTNER**– Build partnerships among relevant stakeholders to accomplish the activities proposed in Strategies 1 and 2
 - a) Establish collaborative partnerships in VBD prevention and control, involving relevant partners needed to develop and implement training and evaluation activities
 - b) Examples include: vector control organizations; universities; healthcare organizations; state, tribal, territorial, city, and county health departments; local vector control organizations; professional organizations; private industry or relevant federal agencies such as CDC, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Federal Drug Administration (FDA), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Park Service (NPS), and/or Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

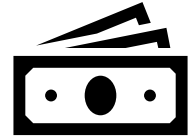
General Work Plan Guidance

- Planning budget: \$1,750,000 for the first 12-month period
- 5-year high level budget
- Plans and activities should align with all three program strategies in the logic model
- Applicants should be able to revise the plans and activities in the work plan based on supplemental guidance issued by CDC for future PH threats, depending on PH need and funding availability
- Plan and activities should reflect the strategies, outcomes, evaluation, and performance measures described in the NOFO
- References included in page limits
- No required format for CVs or refs

Application Review: Objective Review Criteria

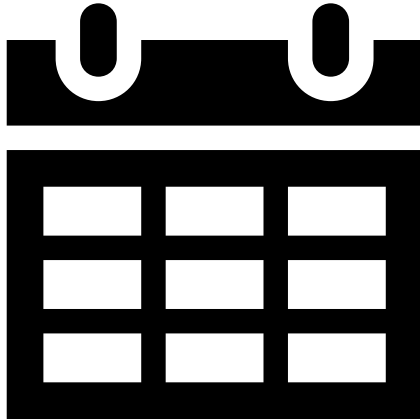
i. Approach	Maximum Points: [35]
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- To what extent does the applicant clearly identify their training goals and objectives? (5 points)- To what extent does the applicant clearly identify their evaluation goals and objectives? (5 points) How clearly does the work plan identify and quantify existing operational gaps and the root cause of the training and evaluation gaps to be addressed? (5 points)- To what extent does the applicant clearly describe their proposed approach to accomplish activities in support of the three program strategies? (5 points)- To what extent has the applicant described their approach to use a health equity lens to engage target populations and decrease health disparities among populations at increase for risk for vector -borne diseases? (5 points)- To what extent does the applicant clearly describe estimated timelines for completion of all performance and work plan activities as well as obligation and liquidation of funds within the budget and period of performance? (5 points)- <input type="checkbox"/> To what extent does the applicant provide description for the likely success of their proposed approach? (5 points)	
ii. Evaluation and Performance Measurement	Maximum Points: [25]
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- For each targeted program strategy, how well do the planned activities (short -term, intermediate, or long -term) align with successfully addressing the problem or gap within the target population? (10 points)- To what extent is evidence provided that demonstrates that the activities and outcomes can be achieved during the period of performance? (5 points)- How clearly does the evaluation and performance monitoring plan include the assessment and monitoring of appropriate performance metrics? (10 points)	
iii. Applicant's Organizational Capacity to Implement the Approach	Maximum Points: [40]
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- To what extent does the applicant describe in detail the type(s) of professional groups or occupational categories they can reach, the extent of their reach, and how the organization relates to the prevention and control of infectious diseases in the U.S.? (5 points)- To what extent does the applicant demonstrate existing organizational capacity to conduct training, performing implementation evaluations, and establishing collaborative partnerships to conduct trainings and evaluations? (10 points)- To what extent does the applicant demonstrate existing organizational capacity to implement and evaluate the use of vector -borne disease tools, programs, and strategies? (10 points)- To what extent does the applicant provide evidence of existing organizational capacity for program and staffing management; performance measurement, and evaluation systems; financial reporting systems; communication, technological, and data systems required to implement the activities in an effective and expedited manner; physical infrastructure and equipment; and workforce capacity to successfully execute all proposed strategies and activities based on the planning scenario? (10 points)- To what extent does the applicant demonstrate existing organizational capacity to establish and manage partnerships with other organizations to conduct training and implementation evaluations? (5 points)	

Budget Summary



- Budget Considerations (not scored)
 - To what extent is the proposed budget consistent with stated program strategies and planned program activities?
 - To what extent is the proposed budget adequately justified?
 - Detailed one year budget (plan to \$1,750,000)
 - Total budget for 5 years

NOFO Timeline



- 11/21/22: NOFO posted
- 12/22/22: *Optional* LOIs due
- 1/10/23: Potential applicant webinar
- 2/3/23: Applications due
- 6/30/23: Anticipated award date

NOFO Contacts

**Program Office
(NCEZID/DVBD)**

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**(NEW) Grants Staff Contact
(OGS)**

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Grants Management Specialist
Office of Grants Services
ula8@cdc.gov**

Questions?



PROTECTING AMERICA'S SAFETY, HEALTH, AND SECURITY

Questions received to date

- There is a lot on training students including graduate students, but how does the CDC reconcile training graduate students when there isn't a research component (i.e., how are students to be funded without a project? Is it expected they will be funded through other sources or cost share?)
 - Funding can be used to conduct *evaluation* projects, but not *research* projects
- Can these funds be used to support products for vector control for evaluation? It is clear that the project team are not to deploy any control methods, but can they provide the product and/or expertise to the end-user?
 - These funds can be used to procure the vector control products needed to conduct the evaluation (note: the applicant may need to partner with a partner organization/entity that has the authority to use vector control products in the jurisdiction).

Questions received to date (continued)

- The NOFO states "Implement and evaluate vector surveillance tools and programs" Can you expand on that? Evaluate for what? Effectiveness? Adoption?
 - Evaluations of effectiveness or adoption would be responsive.
- Is the IDC rate 8% or should we use the "negotiated IDC" with the University?
 - Since the NOFO doesn't specify this is a designated "training" NOFO (identified by the type of program U50), then the applicant's rate agreement should be used.

Questions received to date (continued)

- Would creating and incorporating a business model as part of this grant proposal be received favorably by the CDC or would this be viewed more like using taxpayer dollars for a commercial gain?
 - Ok to include a business plan in a proposal, as long as it doesn't conflict with the goals of the NOFO and doesn't generate income for the program.
- If we have an ABU for another CoAg with potentially overlapping activities but we have never received funding, are we eligible to receive an award through this NOFO?
 - Yes, an organization can apply under this NOFO and receive an award. However, once they receive an award, they would need to decline future funds under other ABUs, if they are recommended for future funds with overlapping scope.

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.

