**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** Center for Preparedness and Response



# **Grants Management Issues and COVID-19 Funding**

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March 26, 2020

# 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
- <u>www.cdc.gov/cpr/readiness/funding-covid.htm</u>
  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.

