

SSAU RFP 2024-003
LGBTQIA2S+ Services Official Questions and Answers

All questions should be directed to the RFP Authorized Contact Person: Helen Howell at APHCompetitions@austintexas.gov or in the PartnerGrants database by no later than Thursday, November 14, 2024, 3 PM CST.

Question No.	Questions	Answers
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<p>Notice: PartnerGrants notification emails come from this address austin.grants@mail.webgrantscloud.com. This includes notifications regarding application submission, negotiation, and withdrawal. Please ensure from this address go to your inbox and not Spam, Junk, etc.</p>		
<p>RFP 2024-003 LGBTQIA2S+ Services Questions and Answers</p>		
1	Do we need to provide both priority services (Mental health services and Peer support: peer counselors providing support groups) to qualify for this grant?	No. While Peer Support is a form of Mental Health Services, an agency can provide Peer Support and/or other forms of Mental Health Services to meet the priority categories for this funding.
2	Can agencies qualify if they do not align with either priority service, but do align with additional programming?	Yes, agencies who provide comprehensive solutions to meet LGBTQIA2S+ community needs effectively, including but not limited to services listed in the Scope of Work page 3, will be considered for funding.
3	Does each pre-bid meeting include the same content?	Yes, both pre-bid meetings for this RFP include the same information.
3	Will links in the Pre-Bid Powerpoint slides be live when the slides are posted?	Yes, all links are also available in the Scope of Work and in PartnerGrants.
4.	How are the maximum funding request limits and available funding amounts related to the Budget and Narrative; do agencies need to reflect the 6-month and 12-month funding amounts in their Budget and Narrative?	<p>Agencies can request up to \$153,643 total for April 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026 (18 months) in their Program Budget and Narrative. Agencies don't need to indicate which line items will be billed within the first 6 months (April 1, 2025 – September 30, 2025) versus the following 12 months from October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026.</p> <p>Please be aware that up to \$153,643 per contract is available for the first 18 month period, but future renewal options periods will be for 12 months each, for \$102,429 each period.</p>
<p>RFP Frequently Asked Questions</p>		
1	Regarding providing emergency services in the event of a natural disaster, how would that look? Has that happened before, like during COVID? Do you have	This is standard language in most City contracts. A past example is APH coordinating with an agency to provide a vaccine clinic or to hand out water during a boil order or hurricane. More often, this looks like pivoting

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	any examples of how orgs pivoted to provide those services?	the way standard services are provided to continue to these services to the community (i.e., In person services to virtual services during the COVID pandemic).
2	Is there a definition of quasi-government agency?	A quasi-governmental agency is an agency that provides specific services that are at times overseen by the government - like a school district, university or, at times, Workforce Solutions.
3	Will the second pre-bid meeting be the same content or additional content?	The second pre-bid meeting will be the same content and will only vary based on audience questions. Those questions will be posted with answers the solicitation website.
4	If you submit multiple proposals, could you receive multiple awards?	Correct, multiple proposals could result in multiple awards.
6	If this program already has one contract with APH (e.g., a contract through the Early Childhood RFP), can the program also be awarded a contract through this RFP?	Yes, an agency can be awarded multiple contracts with APH via multiple RFPs.
7	Are no PDFs allowed for any documents submitted as part of our proposal?	Word .doc or .docx is required for your Proposal. PDFs are allowed for supplemental documentation (i.e., annual reports, policies).
8	Are there any guidelines/recommendations for cost per participant? How will that impact scoring?	There are no guidelines for cost per client. Cost per client only impacts scoring so far as the reasonableness of the explanation of the amount. (IE. High cost per client does not lower scoring if the reasoning for the amount is sound).
9	Are we able to negotiate the income threshold for eligibility for services beyond 250% FPL?	No, at or below 250% FPL is the current required income limit for City funded Social Services.
10	Where can we find more information on livable wages?	The Scope of Work, section VII. Principles of Service Delivery and Best Practices, contains info on livable wages for program staff, including this link from the City. This website states that the current livable wage in Austin is \$28.08. Below that, the small text indicates that Austin is "off-target," with an average below \$28.08 and the next reasonable improvement is \$22.20. For reference, the City of Austin currently pays a minimum wage of \$21.63 per hour.

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		The Proposal question on livable wages for staff details that the City is seeking regarding consideration of livable wages for your staff. It's an open-ended question.
11	When we list the Type of program in the Intent to Apply, is that the same as the Category referenced when you say 'one Category' per application?	The type of program is the same as the service category.
12	Will Pre-Bid slides be available for review?	Pre-Bid slides will be available for review on the competition website and on PartnerGrants (under this funding opportunity).
14	Are there specifics indicating an allowable and unallowable cost for programming?	Please see Exhibit B3, section 10 – Allowable and Unallowable Costs (around page 21 in this packet). This exhibit, plus others, and the Boilerplate, are posted on the competition website. Also see the Program Budget and Funding Summary, first tab – Instructions, for non-exhaustive list of allowable expenses per line item.
15	Do applicants submit application materials on Austin Finance Online or in PartnerGrants?	APH is only accepting proposals through the Partnergrants database, as noted on the competition website. This site contains all info and instructions to apply for this funding opportunity. RFP announcement emails from Purchasing, with links to Austin Finance Online direct applicants back to the Workforce Readiness RFP website.
16	Our organization did not submit an Intent to Apply prior to the due date, can we still apply?	APH does not accept applications for funding after the Intent to Apply deadline.
17	Are applicants to create an application for the Intent to Apply Form, and then another, separate application for the rest of the application? Or should they be combined into one application?	The Intent to Apply form (which is the Pre-Application stage in PartnerGrants) is separate from and comes before your application. Once your Intent to Apply is approved, you will receive a notification email from PartnerGrants and PartnerGrants will give you access to submit the rest of the application. Your Application in PG includes RFP documents 1-4 (Offer Sheet, Proposal, Budget, and COA Certifications and Disclosures).
18	What are guidelines for supplemental attachments in the Intent to Apply?	The Intent to Apply supplemental attachments are optional and up to your discretion.

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		You will have ample opportunity to describe your program and submit any required and optional attachments via your Proposal and Budget (RFP forms 2 and 3).
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