



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

March 9, 2021

ADDENDUM #2

Rhode Island

Rhode Island's Health Equity Zone Initiative – RFP# 2021RIDOH002

NOTICE TO VENDORS:

Attached are questions and answers from the HEZ Workshop held on Thursday March 4, 2021.

RFP Application Deadline has been Extended to 3/22/2021 at 4:00 pm.

Updated list of communities that are eligible to apply.

- 1. Can one agency apply to serve as the backbone for more than one HEZ?**
Yes.
- 2. Location of Collaborative Demographic Form**
The reference to the collaborative demographic form located on page 17 of the RFP has been removed. Therefore, you are not required to submit a collaborative membership demographic form.
- 3. When including charts, is smaller font with single spacing appropriate?**
Yes.
- 4. Is it correct that the Providence neighborhoods identified would be two separate Health Equity Zones?**
Yes, the two zip codes would form two separate Health Equity Zones.
- 5. How many Health Equity Zones will receive funding?**
It depends on the number and quality of applications. There is a total of \$1,000,000 available to fund full HEZ grants and Capacity Building grants. Awards will be determined based on a the scoring system included in the RFP.
- 6. For the 02905 and 02906 communities identified in the RFP, one of those is located in both Providence and Cranston correct?**
Yes, the 02905 zip code spans Providence and Cranston. However, only the part of 02905 that is located in Providence is eligible for funding. There is already a Health Equity Zone covering that area in Cranston.
- 7. Can faculty from colleges or universities apply for Health Equity Zones?**
We recommend reading the eligibility criteria in the RFP for what organizations are accepted as viable backbone organizations of a Health Equity Zones.
- 8. Page 17 of the RFP refers to a Collaborative Member Demographic Form, but I can't locate it.**
The reference to the collaborative demographic form located on page 17 of the RFP has been removed. Therefore, you are not required to submit a collaborative membership demographic form.
- 9. Could you elaborate on what the "Local Collaborative for Health Equity" means on page 17?**
Most Health Equity Zones have built upon existing collaboratives or groups. If you are planning to apply with an existing group, include that information in your application.
- 10. Do all members of the community action team need to be subcontractors?**
Not all members of the community action team will function as subcontractors.
- 11. What are the page limits for Section F underneath capacity building on page 25?**
The page limit for Section F on page 25 is two (2) pages.
- 12. Could you explain the difference between the Health Equity Zone and Capacity Building grants?**

Communities will need to determine whether they have the adequate structure/capacity/experience to support the development of a full Health Equity Zone. If the community requires additional time and resources to build this capability, then the best route forward may be to apply for a Capacity Building grant.

13. MBE/DBE forms are not applicable to nonprofit organizations correct?

Complete the form as “not applicable” if it that does not apply to your situation. If the form is not completed, points will be deducted from your overall score.

14. Is it acceptable for someone to apply for two areas, with one as a Health Equity Zone and the other as a capacity building grant?

Yes, that would be acceptable.

15. Attachment of SAMS/DUNS letter are you referring to the online required attachment?

Yes, if you print the info from SAMSA.gov it is sufficient.

16. Would it be possible to have an extension on the deadline for submitting proposals?

We are able to extend our deadline to Monday 3/22/21 at 4:00. Unfortunately, in order to meet a 7/1/21 contract start date, we cannot provide significantly more time for submission.

17. Is the intent behind the Capacity Building grant that the recipient would be fully funded as a Health Equity Zone afterward?

No, receipt of a capacity building grant does not guarantee a future HEZ award. Capacity Building grantees would need to apply for HEZ funding when it becomes available.

18. Depending on whether you apply for funding as a Capacity Building grant or Health Equity Zone, will it limit the future funding opportunities that you receive?

Capacity Building grantees may not be eligible for funding that is made available to HEZs.

19. Was it an oversight that Smithfield is not on the list? North Smithfield is included on the list of eligible communities, but not Smithfield.

The 02917 zip code, which includes part of Smithfield, is currently part of the Tri-County Health Equity Zone.

The following communities are eligible to apply for Cohort 3 HEZ grants and Capacity-Building grants under this RFP (update to Page 9 of RFP and Addendum 1)

- Burrillville
- Coventry
- Foster
- Lincoln
- Warwick
- North Smithfield
- Cumberland

- Tiverton
- Warren
- East Greenwich
- Scituate
- Middletown
- Portsmouth
- Providence zip code 02905
- Providence zip code 02906 (Mt Hope neighborhood)