



Administration for Community Living

Center for Innovation and Partnership

Addressing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in SMP State Programs
HHS-2022-ACL-CIP-MPSA-0088
07/18/2022

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. What are key dates related to this funding opportunity?**
 - a. Date for Informational Conference Call: 05/31/2022
 - b. Due Date for Letter of Intent: 06/06/2022
 - c. Due Date for Applications: 07/18/2022
- 2. How can I access the informational call PPT and recording?**
 - a. The PPT and recording files will be sent via the SMP Listserv, as well as by using the following link:
 - i. <https://acl.gov/grants/addressing-diversity-equity-and-inclusion-smp-state-programs>
- 3. Will recipients be flat funded or will funding amounts differ?**
 - a. ACL will make decisions on this based on the quantity, quality, and content of applications received. All awards will be between \$75,000-150,000.
- 4. Do you anticipate this being a one-time funding opportunity? Or might it occur again in the future to identify additional promising practices (beyond these initial 8 or so awards)?**
 - a. The funding supporting this activity is one-time funding which we do not anticipate receiving again in the future (at least not for the same purpose). However, depending on how things go there may be funding set aside from our base SMP support funding for similar activities in the future.
- 5. Is this opportunity preferred for state programs, or can local projects apply as well?**
 - a. Only current direct SMP grantees are eligible to receive this funding opportunity. If local entities are interested in getting involved, they should reach out to their state SMP grantee counterparts to participate in plans included in the current grantee's application.
- 6. My firm plans on submitting a proposal for the grant opportunity detailed in the subject line, but I cannot locate the conference call information.**
 - a. Thank you for reaching out. Please keep in mind that this opportunity is open to current Senior Medicare Patrol grantees only. You are still welcome to join the informational call if you think this requirement may apply to your organization.
- 7. Can funding cover an equity planning process or is it designated only for project implementation?**
 - a. Applicants under this announcement are required to both design and implement activities which measurably enhance SMP program efforts. However, diversity, equity, and inclusion analysis and gap identification may be useful parts of this process and appropriate uses for funding, depending on states' existing knowledge on this subject.
- 8. Is it allowable for states to partner on their diversity, equity, and inclusion plans within their applications?**
 - a. Yes, partnering is allowable with the following caveats/additional details:
 - i. Each state must submit its own application. Multiple states' applications cannot be combined into one.

- ii. Each state SMP application must be able to stand on its own. Applications will be read and reviewed independently. Funding for one state does not ensure funding of partnered state(s).
- iii. Applications should clearly indicate how you will manage the project both alone and with your partner SMP/s. This should be done to give the reviewers an idea of what you would do if your application is funded without your partners'. Similarly, you should also indicate clearly what you would do with your partners if you are all funded. It is okay to provide more than one set of possible outcomes within your application to illustrate the two scenarios.
- iv. Discussions with SMP Program Manager and PO will be held post-award as need to adjust workplans and budgets is identified. However, each application should provide clear understanding and structure for the work you are proposing both with and without potential partners. We cannot allow complete overhauls of workplans and budgets post award.
- v. Partnered states must mutually agree to partnership plans and should reflect this agreement both within their independent applications and Letters of Commitment from Key Partners.

9. How is diversity being defined for this funding opportunity?

- a. Please use the [Executive Order On Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government](#) as a guide in better understanding the current administration's focus:
 - i. "For purposes of this order:
 - 1. (a) The term "equity" means the consistent and systematic fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals, including individuals who belong to underserved communities that have been denied such treatment, such as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality."
 - 2. (b) The term "underserved communities" refers to populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life, as exemplified by the list in the preceding definition of "equity."