

Frequently Asked Questions
Funding Opportunity Announcement: Living Well – Model Approaches for
Enhancing the Quality, Effectiveness, and Monitoring of
Home and Community Based Services for
Individuals with Developmental Disabilities
HHS-2017-ACL-AOD-DNIQ-0221

Letter of Intent:

Q: Are letters of intent mandatory?

A: No, they are just helpful for ACL to plan for the review.

Application mechanics

For questions about submitting the application, please call Grants.gov at
800-518-4726

Eligibility

Q: Who can apply for the Funding Opportunity Announcement?

A: Domestic public or private non-profit entities including state and local governments, Indian tribal governments and organizations (American Indian/Alaskan Native/Native American), faith-based organizations, community-based organizations, hospitals, and institutions of higher education. (FOA, pp. 11-12)

Q: Are partnerships possible with private entities or private nonprofit organizations?

A: Yes (pp. 11-12)

Collaborative Partners:

Q: Are both a state agency and a self-advocacy organization required partners?

A: Yes (FOA, pp.7-8)

Q: Can an organization be a partner on more than one application?

A: Yes

Key Program Components

Q: Is there a template for Memoranda of Understanding?

A: No

Q: There are a lot of goals and objectives in the FOA. Is there a component that is more important than the others?

A: This will be a large project with a lot of components on pages 5 through 8. Although they are all important, they are sequential and do not have to be accomplished at the same time. Please use both this section and the criteria pages 21 through 23 to assess the importance of the different components of the program.

Q: Are there certain expectations that certain models must take place within the five year time line?

A: The whole FOA should be read to understand ACL's full intent for the project. The approach should allow enough time for models to be tested and replicated.

Funding Restrictions

Q: Can the funds be used for construction projects?

A: No. (p.19)

Evaluation Criteria

Q: Is the budget narrative counted in the fifteen-page narrative?

A: No (p.14)

Q: Is the work plan included in the 15-page limit?

A: No (p.14)

Q: How does the applicant comply with the 15-page limit for the narrative?

A: The applicant should be concise, but do not assume the reviewers have prior knowledge of your organization.

Q: Under organizational capacity, what is meant by 'authority'?

A: Authority means members of the partnership should have the ability and expertise to implement the approach that is in their application. (p. 8 under Community Monitoring)

Q: How does ACL define monitoring in the context of this FOA?

A: There is a definition section beginning on page 8.

Q: Is there any time for planning in year one?

A: There is nothing in the FOA that prevents an applicant from taking some time to plan, but the approach section of your application should lay out a clear plan on how the components outlined in the FOA will be met?

- Q:** Are states expected to incorporate this model into the HCBS plan?
A: No.

What happens next?

- Q:** Will scores of the applications be available to applicants after the review?
A: Your application's score will not be made available, but a summary of the reviewers' comments on your application will be. Please contact Kathy Cargill-Willis at Katherine.cargill-willis@acl.hhs.gov.
- Q:** What will happen after the review?
A: The Administrator of the Administration for Community Living will make the final decision on the awards based largely on recommendations of the panels. (FOA, p. 24)