

**J TUC Coordinating Center- Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice (CC-IPECP)**

**Technical Assistance Conference Call, July 3, 2012**

**Questions and Answers (grouped by themes)**

*Eligibility and Funding Preferences*

**1. Are professional associations eligible to apply?**

Yes, professional associations are eligible.

**2. For the statement "All applicants must include a school of nursing, does this mean as the primary applicant, or is as a consortium partner sufficient?"**

A school of nursing does not have to be the primary applicant.

**3. The guidance document does say very clearly that only one application per applicant is allowed. However, an applicant is defined as a consortium or partnership of entities. May an institution be named in more than one application if the partnerships/consortia for the different applications include different entities? Or may an institution only be included in one application, period?**

Applicants may submit only one proposal as the lead organization. However, applicants can be a partner within a consortia/partnership of more than one entity. For example, a university may submit only one application as the lead organization within a consortia or partnership of entities, however that same university may be a partner (not lead) within more than one unique consortia or partnership of entities.

**4. To qualify for the funding preference, will we need to meet all of the bullet points under each category?**

You only need to meet one bulleted criterion under each of the four funding preferences categories. The “or” qualifier between each bullet point indicates that only one criterion is necessary to meet the funding preference.

**5. What does the term “high rate” mean in regards to the funding preference for placing a high rate of graduates in practice settings located in medically underserved communities?**

The rate defining the threshold for “high” will be determined by calculating the median rate of graduates working in Medically Underserved Communities (MUC) preference eligible sites from the pool of applicants requesting the MUC Preference by demonstrating high rate. HRSA will compare the rate reported by the applicant to the median. The MUC Preference will be awarded to those applicants whose rates are greater than the median. The median will vary with each competition. The rates submitted by the

applicants and the calculated median will be used by HRSA during the review processes only and will not be released to the public.

### *Partnerships*

**1. Do the reviewers have a preference over which discipline should take the lead?**

There will be no preferences for one discipline over another. However the lead/primary award recipient has to meet all of the eligibility requirements.

**2. “I need clarification from you that inclusion of a preferred discipline would strengthen our application.”**

We are encouraging the partnerships or consortia to make their own determination of which components would strengthen their applications.

**3. Is the grant intended to fund a collaborative center for the entire US or is it intended to fund a center at a particular institution/consortia that will then serve as a model IPE Center for the rest of the country?**

The grant is intended to serve as a resource for unbiased, expert guidance to the health care community on issues related to Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice (IPECP). The CC-IPECP should provide infrastructure support for national IP research and evaluation activities to include data collection, analysis, and dissemination. It should also assist in creating new IPECP programs and/or enhance, expand, and link existing IPECP programs.

### *Funding*

**1. Although the funds provided by this announcement do not include student support, in terms of the 25% matching requirement, could that include student support/tuition provided by the educational partners for employees of the consortium applicants?**

Because student support is an unallowable use of federal funds, student support cannot be used to meet the matching requirement. Any costs that are unallowable for federal purposes would also be unallowable for matching costs.

**2. Is the \$800,000 annual budget inclusive of indirect costs, or is that the cap for direct costs only?**

Yes, the \$800,000/year budget is inclusive of both direct and the 8% indirect costs.

**3. What is the grant award period for Year One and subsequent years?**

September 30, 2012 – September 29, 2013 for Year One, and so on for subsequent years (September 30 through September 29 of the following year).

**4. Can the difference between the federally approved, institutional indirect cost rate and the allowed 8% of modified total direct costs limit be used toward the 25% matching requirement?**

Yes, unrecoverable indirect costs are an allowable way to meet the matching requirement.

*Sustainability*

**1. Would a plan for the consortium partners to create a self-insurance plan for employees to reduce organizational costs be considered a strength to include? This would be a secondary effect of building collaboration among education and clinical partners, and serve to strengthen the consortium.**

The cooperative agreement is to cover the costs of the grantee's becoming and serving as a resource to the field on IPECP, consistent with general grant objectives of providing a public benefit; the award is not intended as seed money for an institution to embark on a commercial venture.

**2. Which approach would strengthen our application in the minds of the reviewers, Technical Assistance being a part of their sustainability plan (charging institutions for expert advice and guidance) or to have TA as a part of the Center's activities that is expected to be provided to the "community" without cost?**

We would not want to see the grantee charging fees for services and activities whose costs are already covered by the grant. With the likelihood of foundation support as well, it appears that funds would not be in short supply to undertake the specified activities. An applicant's disclosure in a grant application of plans to collect such fees and its subsequent recommendation of approval by a peer review panel still does not mean it is approved by HRSA. If the grantee generates income due to the grant, for activities not covered by the grant, rules for program income would be in effect. In the event that publications are produced with grant funds, the copyrights would still vest with the authors of such publications, except that the grantee would have to cede back to HRSA the right to take such publications and distribute them as HRSA sees fit. However, after the grant is over, HRSA does not control or determine what services or fees the 'former' grantee may charge.

*Expanding/Maximizing Current Work*

**1. How should we utilize this Center to expand the currently funded work that we are doing?**

Applicants should make their own determination regarding the use of the coordinating center to leverage current/existing IPECP work.

## *Foundation's Role*

### **1. Should we include references to projects that could receive Foundation support within the Coordinating Center application?**

HRSA has determined that the FOA applicants should only reference projects that may be supported by the four private foundations in a manner which describes 'high-level' or 'overarching plans or ideas'. Applicants should not describe project details and should not reference a budget with regard to potential foundation projects. The four private foundations will engage the selected Center regarding potential funding and priorities after HRSA makes an award. Therefore, the HRSA funding and foundation funding (while concurrent) will be a completely separate and independent process.

### **2. Will foundation funding be concurrent with the HRSA funding?**

Yes, HRSA and foundation funding will be concurrent.

## *FOA Specific Questions*

### **1. How much flexibility is there in the number of pages submitted within the application?**

Applications must be complete, within the 80-page limit, within the 10 MB limit, and submitted prior to the deadline to be considered under this announcement. It is important to pay close attention to the page limitations, particularly in the case of the Subaward Budget. While SF-424 budget forms are not counted in the page limit, the budget justifications and narratives ARE counted.

### **2. What accreditation documentation is required for the application?**

School of Nursing and School of Medicine accreditation documentation is required. The applicant organization must provide a statement that the schools of nursing and medicine are each accredited, name their accrediting body, and state the date of accreditation for verification purposes (as Attachment 1, which is counted in the page limit). The full letter of accreditation is not required or encouraged.