



Procurement and Contracting Services

Request for Proposals for American Indian Tribal Arizona AHEC Regional Center

ADDENDUM #1

**Please mark all proposal submission
Envelopes with the following information**

**Sealed RFP # L192215
Due on April 30, 2022 no later than 2:00 PM, MST**

Attendees:

Corey Hemstreet, Health Program Manager, Arizona Advisory Council on Indian Health Care, (AACIHC) Kim Russell, Director, Arizona Advisory Council on Indian Health Care (AACIHC) Michael Allison, Retired

The following questions were received prior to the close of the Technical Question period on April 15, 2022 at 12:00 PM MST:

1. I could not see in the RFP or the attachments the price/budget amount. In the 2019 Central AHEC RFP the price/budget was noted in Addendum #1 at \$600,000. In the 2021 Southeastern AHEC the price/budget was noted at \$612,000.

Answer: These two RFPs were reflective of both state and federal funding. The funding provided with this RFP is from state only.

2. Can an existing board serve as the Advisory Board?

Answer- Yes

3. With the understanding that the board may change?

Answer - Absolutely. Each year every Center is asked to provide a list of their board members, including the Board President. The Board President of each Center serves on the AHEC advisory board.

4. Is the \$250k solely from state funds or a combo of Fed/State?

Answer: Yes, only state funding

5. Does the excel worksheet and the tabs count toward the page limit?

Answer: No

6. Is there a certain amount of each type of professional (MD, Nurse, Pharmacy, MPH, etc.) to be filled?

Answer: No, not for this RFP, as it is only state funding.

7. Considering that schools, especially tribal schools, that may have more strict COVID restrictions, is it acceptable to partner with non-tribal schools (k-12) to achieve the pipeline activities?

Answer: Yes

8. Can the budget reflect costs to procure CEUs for the health professionals we are providing education to? And if the workforce (e.g. CHWs) does not need CEUs can the budget cover registration fees for training purposes?

Answer:

9. The excel workbook does not count toward the page count, correct?

Answer: Correct, the workbook does not count toward the page limit.

10. Hypothetically, if no one applies for the RFP, what are the next steps?

Answer: We'd have an internal discussion on next steps, which we have not yet done. Due to the funding level, we'd follow policy for issuing an additional RFP.

11. For the CBET, are the sites hospitals, FQHCS and can they be health departments?

Answer: Yes, yes, and yes. It should be any location that is prepared to provide community-based training for a health professions student/trainee.

12. Can the Continuing Education component also focus on Behavioral health workers such as MSWs, LISWs, etc.?

Answer: Yes

13. Can the budget be used to cover student housing and other related costs?

Answer: Yes, the budget may be used for expenses associated with supporting a trainee completing a community based educational training experience. This could include housing, travel, or meals, as well as other support that might be needed.

14. How many vendors will be selected?

Answer: 1 vendor

15. I have one question that popped up. Will this recording be available afterwards?

16. Answer: No, the session is not recorded but the questions and answers will be issued as an addendum by Procurement and Contracting Services.

17. And the corresponding PPT?

Answer: Yes, this could be shared.

18. If we are not accepting federal funds, do we still have to abide by federal regulations?

Answer: Presently Arizona AHEC does not have federal funds for the American Indian AHEC, though we plan to pursue in the future. You will see throughout the RFP the word “should” encourages these areas with the eye toward future federal funding opportunities, but these are not required.

19. In regards to the RFP for the 6th AHEC, we just wanted to verify that based on how we fill out Exhibit A, that ASU will be generating Exhibit One and sending it back?

Please note, Attachment C posted on the website has been changed to the title of Exhibit One.

20. The RFP and worksheet mentions the following three universities UA, ASU, and NAU. We have students from ATSU, U of Phx, Midwestern, Pacific University, and a few others. Please confirm that we are limited to students from the following programs and all others would not qualify.

Answer: This proposal is not limited to UA, ASU and NAU. Section 1.7 of the contract template indicates that applicant may provide/assist in the “placement of health profession students from other U.S. based health profession education institutions including but not limited to technical, allied health programs within community, public and private colleges or universities.” Section 5.4.3.1 of the worksheet identifies that CBET trainees can be from an accredited health profession program and this is not limited to UA, ASU or NAU. The name of the institution and the discipline of the trainee should be entered in Columns C and D.

Section 5.4.3.2 of the worksheet identifies that the AHEC Scholars are identified by the RHPP Program in which they are enrolled, and an interdisciplinary cohort is assigned to a specific center by the Program Office. These scholars are not selected by any center; however, the worksheet indicates that the applicant would provide them with a community, center-based experience.

21. We do have RN students from these schools (UA, ASU, NAU) and others. However, nursing students mentioned are at a graduate level. Please confirm that RN students are excluded under this program.

Answer: RN students are not excluded from this program. Section 1.6 of the contract template specifies that “(applicant) may provide and/or assist in the placement of health profession undergraduate or non-RHPP graduate students from University of Arizona, Arizona State University, and Northern Arizona University, in community-based experiential training.” As specified in Section 1.4 of the contract template, the applicant may also collaborate with RHPP graduate-level students that may have CBET rotations that are arranged by their respective programs. As specified in Section 1.7 of the contract template, other health profession students matriculated at any institution within the U.S. may have CBET rotations that are

arranged by a center. A projection of these trainees by discipline and their institution should be reflected in Section 5.4.3.1 of the worksheet in Columns C and D

22. We work closely with UA Rural Health Professions Program. Since this RFP is under UA, is there a conflict of interest? Does the UA Rural Health program receive funds from AzAHEC for students in?

Answer: The Rural Health Professions Programs (RHPP) programs are supported by AzAHEC and funding is distributed to nine RHPP programs within UA, ASU and NAU. There is not a conflict of interest if AzAHEC funds your program in addition to a program with whom you are working collaboratively. The question may relate to the Center for Rural Health, which is not a funded AzAHEC Program.

23. For Pathways, is this for Gila River Indian Community (tribal members) only? Or is it open to other Natives and non-Natives? Likewise, under question 1, many clinical students are not Native American.

Answer: The pipeline programs described in this proposal is not limited to any specific tribe. There are two different types of pipeline programs described in Section 5.4.3.3.1 of the contract template. The first is for students in grades K-8 and the second is for students grades 9-16. Both programs are open to Natives and non-Natives. Trainees, including clinical students who are identified in Question 1, may be either Native or non-Native.

End of addendum, all else remains the same.