

2021 Impact Grant Questions & Answers

Q1: Is a vendor bid for proposed work required or necessary as part of the Impact Grant proposal?

A1: No, a formal bid from a vendor is not required to be included in the proposal. We do recommend, however, that applicants include support to substantiate the reasonableness of any construction-related estimates.

Q2: Is Question 7 of Appendix B only applicable to Accessibility & Facility Improvement proposals?

A2: Yes, Question 7 of Appendix B only applies to applicants with proposals related to accessibility and facility improvements. Applicants submitting proposals for other areas of focus may skip this question or write in “N/A.”

Q3: Would purchasing the building that is currently being leased be considered under Accessibility & Facility Improvements?

A3: Yes and no. Simply purchasing the building that is being leased would not constitute an improvement. However, the merits of purchasing the building to make improvements, which significantly impact the provider’s reach or effectiveness, that can only be made by the owner, might be considered under Accessibility & Facility Improvements.

Q4: Will the presentation shown at the December 14th Question & Answer session be available?

A4: No, the presentation that was used for the Question & Answer session summarizes details that are included in the Impact Grant Request for Proposal. No new or additional information was shared in the presentation.

Q5: Are applicants required to include more than one bid in proposals related to facility improvements?

A5: No, applicants are not required to include multiple bids with facility improvement proposals. It is, however, up to applicants to demonstrate the reasonableness of their estimates.

Q6: Is redoing the parking lot at the building we own considered a building improvement?

A6: Yes, any indoor or outdoor structural improvements that enhance the location will be considered under Accessibility & Facility Improvement.

Q7: What types of proposals fall under the focus area, Immediate Access to Care for Mental Health Needs?

A7: The intended focus of Immediate Access to Care for Mental Health Needs are proposals that address long wait times associated with accessing regular mental health care for first-time patients. Immediate access in this context does not include care associated with mental health crisis.

Q8: Our proposal falls under two different areas of focus. Should we submit two proposals or combine them?

A8: It depends. If the proposal includes two different focus areas that are interdependent, i.e., intended outcome can only be achieved if the entire proposal is funded, we recommend combining the proposal under the most relevant focus area. If the intended outcome related to one part of the proposal (under one focus area) can be achieved independently of the other part (under a different focus area), the proposal can be broken down into two separate proposals and submitted under different areas of focus or combined and submitted under the most relevant focus area.

Q9: Our aging facility is in desperate need of facility improvements that many funders are not willing to consider as an investment. Would this be a good fit for a proposal under the Accessibility & Facility Improvements or would it be better to focus on programmatic needs that improve access or workforce strategies?

A9: We expect the Impact Grant process will be a highly competitive one for a limited amount of dollars. That said, we recommend applicants consider how proposals will be scored to help determine which proposals might score most competitively. Please refer to Section 1.E. Evaluation for the point distribution. Proposals will receive a percentage score out of the total points possible to make all submissions comparable.

Q10: We are seeking additional training for a school resource officer to enhance the focus on mental health issues faced by our youth in school. Would such a proposal meet the impact grant eligibility requirements?

A10: Training, in this instance, may indeed improve access to children's mental health services. Therefore, such a proposal could be submitted by organizations that currently provide services in the SWIA MHDS Region, such as nonprofit organizations; for-profit organizations; residential providers of mental health, intellectual, and developmental disability services; Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics or Community Mental Health Centers; providers that are approved to bill Iowa Medicaid for MHDS; and hospitals located in the SWIA MHDS region.