Forest Products Financial Assistance Program (FPFAP) 2019
Questions and Answers

(Current as of 10/9/2019) - FINAL

All questions related to the FPFAP competitive process are required to be in writing to energy_policy@commerce.wa.gov to ensure an equitable process.

Some edits may have been made to avoid project-specific details in the original question, but otherwise, questions are presented as submitted.

The most current questions and answers are at the beginning of the document in BLUE.

1. The link for the DOR Compliance Status form goes to several different forms, and it's not clear which is required for this application. Can you specify which form needs to be filled out for the DOR Compliance Status?
   A. We need a screen shot of the results of your business search indicating your status with DOR is current.

2. Which entity needs to fill out the Debarment Certification Form (applicant or primary consultant)?
   A. The applicant needs to fill out the form.

3. Which entity is intended to fill out the Risk Assessment survey (applicant or primary consultant)? What is the correct contract number, and should the full project amount be entered as the award amount or only grant request?
   A. The applicant needs to fill out the form and the full grant request should be entered. Award amounts are the amounts that are actually awarded after the application review period, if selected.

4. Is it acceptable to list only key staff expected to be involved in the project under the Staff Qualifications and Experience section?
   A. Generally, yes. This section is to demonstrate adequate project management.

5. For the DOR compliance letter at is supposed to be attached to the proposal submittal, there are several links beyond the one you provided. Do you want us to print out the Business Lookup file on the link you supplied?
   A. Yes. Please provide the results of the business lookup to indicate current status.
6. We are in the process of establishing a nonprofit to pursue a biochar production facility to absorb unmerchantable woody material from forest health treatments. I just became aware of your grant opportunity, and clearly we are not prepared to apply for it. Will there be more such grants in the future? If so, can you tell me what the funding cycle will be?
   A. If the available funds are not fully distributed this round, there may be another round. Feel free to sign up for email updates on the FPFAP webpage.

7. Please list the funding sources that can be used for matching funds - or, if quicker, please list sources that cannot be used as match.
   A. No other sources of federal funding can be used as match. Loans, private investors, or non-federal grants can be used, for example.

8. Just to clarify, I understand that ______ would be eligible for the grant? Our non-profit company, ______, is working with ______ to help develop a Techno-economic model of high-value by-products from a wood chip to biofuel process. Our corporate participants are ____________ and ____________. Unfortunately, a glitch precluded us from attending the kickoff meeting and so __________ is now unable to submit the application within the deadline. I’m hoping __________ can take the lead on the application while ___________ would still support the study with in-kind labor. I look forward to hearing from you.
   A. Applicants need to self-determine if they are eligible for the grant by reviewing the Notice of Funding Opportunity and application. The webinar, presentation, and transcript are on the website at: https://www.commerce.wa.gov/growing-the-economy/energy/forest-products-financial-assistance/
   Just FYI, the deadline to submit the application is 5:00 PM Pacific Time October 10, 2019
   Missing the webinar does not prevent an entity from applying

9. Q: Can we have a joint application? It would be with a municipality and a non-profit.
   A. There must be a lead applicant, although partners can be identified in the application. Successful applicants will go under contract with one contractor per awardee, with partners identified in the scope of work.

10. Q: If a project is in design phase; are there any limitations on what funds can be used for? Such as professional services (architects, engineers), contracts, hard costs, etc?
    A. There are currently no limits on budget categories for professional services, although all contracts are subject to negotiation for reasonableness, applicability, and feasibility for each budget category.

11. Q: I would like to know where I can locate the Department of Commerce’s Indirect Cost Rate Agreement/Overhead Policy? The NOFO does not outline applicable Indirect Cost Rates and I was unable to locate a policy on your website. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Please advise.
A. Commerce does not have an indirect policy for contracts. Indirect is negotiated on a case by case basis. All contractors are required to adhere to the Office of Financial Management’s Generally Accepted Accounting Principles at:
https://www.ofm.wa.gov/sites/default/files/public/legacy/policy/80.20.htm. This information is subject to change, as this topic is currently under additional discussion and development. Please check back.

12. Q: On the bidders’ conference transcript you referenced a running Q&A document for program questions. Has this been activated and if so, could you please direct me?
   A. Your email was replied to directly because you would not be able to receive the response if you didn’t know where to look. Here is the reply for the benefit of other applicants: The Q&A document will be posted on this page under the application link: https://www.commerce.wa.gov/growing-the-economy/energy/forest-products-financial-assistance/

13. Q
   A. Answer

14. Q
   A. Answer

15. Q
   A. Answer

16. Q
   A. Answer

17. Q
   A. Answer

18. Q
   A. Answer

19. Q
   A. Answer

20. Q
   A. Answer

21. Q
   A. Answer
22. Q
   A. Answer

23. Q
   A. Answer