

**Coronavirus CESF
Questions and Answers**

January 8, 2021

Q: "I need some help figuring out how RFP F20-3144C-2A and RFP F20-3144C-2B are different from each other. After a quick read, they look virtually identical, except for the total funding amount available and number of anticipated awards."

A: RFPs for the Coronavirus CESF Round 2:

F20-3144C-2A is for By and For Organizations (Specific category of Non-Profits and those local Governments which have a history of working with those populations/organizations)

F20-3144C-2B is for everyone; Local Governments, Tribes and Non-Profits

Q: "I just want to confirm... Those of us awarded in Round 1... are we ineligible for Round 2?"

A: Yes, you are eligible, but not for the same activities. If in round 1 you received an award for an additional prosecutor, you could not request that again. But you could apply for another activity, e.g., the drop in vehicle maintenance funds from what was forecast.

Q: "I'm having a little bit of a hard time understanding the scope of this RFP. If you can, please give me a call so I can get some clarification"

A: Sorry, but under a competitive RFP, I can only answer clear questions whose answers can be provided to all other potential applicants. An open-ended discussion would be almost impossible to put into the question and answer report. I can say that the grants' purpose is to assist local governments, tribes, non-profits, and by & for organizations Prepare For, Prevent the Spread of, and Respond to the Coronavirus. Commercial organizations are not eligible to apply though they may join with eligible organizations to deliver services/supplies.

Q: "Can you clarify --- Would this grant cover costs related to coronavirus testing of inmates?"

A: Yes, this covering coronavirus testing of inmates is a valid expense under this award.

Q: "There seems to be two grant solicitations (3144C-2A and 3144C-2B) that are for the same purposes. Why are there two grant solicitations?"

A: F20-3144C-2A is specifically for 'By and For' organizations – the information required to demonstrate that an organization falls in this category and would therefore have less competition is different than the general solicitation, F20-3144C-2B.

Q: "Grant solicitation 3144C-2B states the grant period is March 1, 2021, through January 31, 2023, on the cover page but on page 6, it shows the grant ending January 31, 2022, unless extended. Is the end date actually January 31, 2022? The other grant solicitation (3144C-2A) shows an end date of January 31, 2023, and since both solicitations are so similar, I would've expected the same periods of performance."

A: The problem is that the initial award period expires on January 31, 2022. Normally an extension for another year (through January 31, 2023) is virtually automatic, but a new federal grant management system is not accepting input. We are working based on past experience and believe that the system will be fixed and the extension approved. What this causes are initial sub-awards for the shorter period, but a requirement to have all the information needed so that once the extension is in hand, we can quickly amend/extend the sub-awards.

Q: "Can you provide the link to where the responses to the questions can be found? The link in both solicitations is invalid."

A: Yes, it is the RFPs' Question and Answer document, posted at <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/serving-communities/crime-victims-public-safety/> about two inches from the bottom center.

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Q: "Will the grant cover funding/positions that were cut due to anticipated budget shortfalls even if there isn't a direct nexus to preparing for, preventing the spread of and responding to the Coronavirus?"

A: Yes, if your organization's budget/planning group or executive body has documented the reason for reducing funds from a previously established level, it is due to an actual or projected revenue shortfall.

Q: "The grant application states that "Most Medical Costs" are not eligible, I assumed vaccination would fall under that category, but since it says most, not all, I thought reaching out for clarification would be best."

A: Primary medical services are not authorized; they would drain the grant funds very quickly and benefit a very small number of individuals. However, vaccinations are authorized; they are directly in line with the purpose of the grant.

Q: "Can you confirm that the CFDA # for this grant is 16.034?"

A: Correct, CFDA is 16.034