

## Frequently Asked Questions

NOT-ES-22-005

### Administrative Supplements to Existing NIH Grants and Cooperative Agreements

**Q1.** Can we include cost of COVID testing and vaccinations in this opportunity? As of March 22, 2022 our efforts to service the uninsured and homeless in these communities have been severely crippled due to lack of funding for COVID testing from HRSA. For this segment of our community outreach our Center partners were able to get reimbursed for COVID testing and vaccinations, even if the person was uninsured. To be a complete COVID Recovery Center we feel that we need to be able to offer these services but cannot do so without the ability to reimburse the provider.

**A1.** No, this is not an allowed cost under our NOSI. The funding provided is to provide health and safety training activities, and to link to community organizations and other partners who can provide additional services such as testing, vaccinations, and mental health supports. Training and education can be provided regarding the benefits and risks associated with vaccinations as well as providing local guidance. Other groups may be able to provide vaccinations and testing free of charge with other funding sources.

**Q2.** Can the \$400,000 cap on budget be used over a two-year performance period. We feel strongly we can do this over two years and possibly over a single year but prefer the longevity of two years to service the communities.

**A2.** The supplemental funding opportunity per the NOSI is intended to be used within the parent grant's budget period. There is opportunity to request a no cost extension if funds are not fully obligated within the year. Budget request and workplan should reflect for the use of funds for the budget period.

**Q3.** In the previous funding cycles we focused on training in COVID topics. As we move forward, we see that this type of training is less appealing (COVID fatigue) and we expect our COVID Recovery Centers to focus more on COVID testing, vaccinations, mental health counseling, job search assistance and similar wrap-around services that are necessitated due to the COVID pandemic. How do we count those outreach opportunities? For instance, if we meet with a member of the community and offer job search assistance and bus passes to get to interviews, do we count that as a person assisted (approximately 30 – 120 minutes of assistance)? Or do we have to sit with them in a formal training class and discuss COVID hygiene techniques as we've focused on in the past?

**A3.** Our DMS has been updated to be able to report these types of informational sessions. Also report these types of activities under your RPPR section G.1 as well as your DMS progress reports so we ensure the activity is captured.

**Q4.** Based on the recent grantee meeting It sounds like the project will commence in September? Someone asked if pre-award money could be spent so we wouldn't have a lapse in current funding that ends in June. Have we received any clarification on that (start date or pre-award costs)?

**A4.** Consistent with your U45 grants and the NIH Grants Policy Statement, pre-award costs are allowable, but you also are responsible for the risks associated if your funding is less or not available.

**Q5.** Maybe I missed this in the NOSI, but how do we apply for the funding? Is that done online through ERA Commons?

**A5. Per the NOSI: [Application and Submission Information](#)**

If applying, you must submit using one of the following opportunities or their subsequent reissued equivalent.

[PA-20-272](#) - Administrative Supplements to Existing NIH recipients and Cooperative Agreements (Parent Admin Supp Clinical Trial Optional). This is intended for NIH recipients seeking additional funds for training and outreach responsive to the SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 outbreak that falls within the scope of an ongoing grant/cooperative agreement. All instructions in the [SF424 \(R&R\) Application Guide](#) must be followed. Please contact the eRA Help Desk if you have further questions.

**Q6:** Will there be pre-award costs to maintain training through June to September?

**A6:** Consistent with your U45 grants pre award costs are allowable, but you also are responsible for the risks associated if your funding is less or not available.

**Q7:** If we have Year 2 funding in our Notice of Award last year, we do not need to apply, or Just notify our intent to use the Year 2 award?

**A7:** If you have been awarded a supplement under the previous NOSI and you have year 2 funding due, then you must request the use of those 2nd year funds and you should be doing that now.

**Q8:** Do we have a performance period identified for this funding?

**A8:** Requests should be for the conduct of activities that can be completed by the end of the current project period.

**Q9:** Is this opportunity open to all grantees, regardless of whether we currently have COVID Recovery Center funds? Or just restricted to those who are not currently funded?

**A9:** This NOSI reissue is open to current WTP awardees (U45) that already have partnerships with local worker centers and community organizations in underserved and disadvantaged communities with higher than the national average COVID-19 transmission rates even if they did not previously apply to the original NOSI.

**Q10:** How do we decide whether to apply to PA-20-135 or PA-20-272?

**R10:**

- Per the NOSI: [PA-20-135](#) - Emergency Competitive Revision to Existing NIH Awards (Emergency Supplement - Clinical Trial Optional) - This is intended to provide funds for NIH grantees applying to expand the scope of their active grant. (Work on the supplement WILL NOT be aligned with the scope of work on the parent award.)
- [PA-20-272](#) - Administrative Supplements to Existing NIH Grants and Cooperative Agreements (Parent Admin Supp Clinical Trial Optional). This is intended for NIH grantees seeking additional funds for training and outreach responsive to the SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 outbreak that falls within the scope of an ongoing grant/cooperative agreement. (Work on the supplement WILL be aligned with the scope of work on the parent award.)

To determine if your project will be in scope or out of scope of the current grant, please contact your program official to discuss your plans.