

DFOP0018151 - EXBS Legal & Regulatory Support

1. Can EXBS please confirm that for-profit entities are eligible to apply for all of the above awards, recognizing that no fee or profit is allowed and work must be at-cost?
 - a. For-profit entities are eligible to apply at no fee/indirect cost nor profit.
2. Related, can EXBS please confirm that for-profit entities are exempt from the requirement to submit a financial audit, and that this requirement pertains to non-profit and academic entities.
 - a. For-profit entities are eligible to apply at no fee/indirect cost nor profit.
3. Can EXBS please confirm exactly how to submit proposals? Should it be via email or a portal?
 - a. As stated in Section 7 of the NOFO, all proposals must be submitted through the MyGrants portal.
4. Could you please clarify what is meant by selecting at least one or more ACN/EXBS Maturity Model capabilities for the proposal?
 - a. Disregard - this is already done by EXBS in the NOFO.
5. Confirming that proposal should use 15-point Open Sans font?
 - a. Correct.
6. Would DOS EXBS allow 10-point font for tables and graphics?
 - a. The use of 10-point for tables and graphics is permitted.
7. Are activities for all LOEs expected to be within the 15 page 15-point font proposal narrative?
 - a. 15 pages per line of effort.
8. Does the 15-page proposal limit and 2-page SOW limit apply per-LOE or to the full application?
 - a. Per line of effort.
9. In the Introduction to the Organization you mention that the applicant need to include “information on all previous grants from the State Department and/or U.S. government agencies. Could we just choose a shortlist of projects that are most relevant to the LOEs under the NOFO?
 - a. Yes.

10. In the Project Methods and Design section of the proposal narrative, is the Logic Model part of the 15 pages limit?
 - a. Yes
11. Under the Project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan section of the proposal narrative, would you want us to describe the how we plan to monitor and measure progress against the indicators? Or would you want us to also include a Project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for all three LOEs?
 - a. In the submitted Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for the award, include proposed indicators and how the applicant intends to monitor and measure them. Applicants do not need to submit separate M&E Plans for each LOE.
12. Can we include the Project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan as an attachment?
 - a. Yes
13. Is there a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan template to follow?
 - a. No
14. Is there a specific template for the Risk Assessment?
 - a. No
15. Under section 4. Risk Assessment it mentions that the proposal should include a participatory needs assessment which is not part of the scope of the activities under each of the LOEs. Is this a separate in-depth assessment or just project kick-off engagements?
 - a. To clarify, the proposal should address that recipient needs will be identified with participation from the target audiences; great detail is not required in the proposal but compelling and innovating approaches should be considered.
 - b. During the period of performance and for each of the LOEs, the implementer will need to perform some degree of assessment of facts and circumstances to determine ideally tailored assistance activities to execute during the period of performance; a complete and candid version should be available to EXBS. In an appropriate manner, identified needs should be discussed with the target audience in a participatory fashion to increase buy-in and likelihood of self-sustained progress.

16. Under the SOW section, it is noted that “SOWs that contain quantitative estimates of expected outputs, outcomes and indicators of success for each component will be considered more competitive”. How is this different than the Project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan?
- a. As the SOW summarizes content from the full proposal, it should clearly tie together the activities and the expected outputs, outcomes, and indicators of success.
17. Do you have any templates to use for the SOW?
- a. Yes, one will be attached with the supporting documents.
18. LOE 2 references approximately \$515K and \$490K for its two components. Is that split a requirement or an illustrative estimate?
- a. Applicants should propose with those as approximate budgets for each component.