



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**REQUEST FOR GRANT PROPOSAL # 34301-39224
AMENDMENT # 1
FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE HEALTHY SMILES
LOAN REPAYMENT INITIATIVE FUNDING
OPPORTUNITY**

DATE: NOVEMBER 6, 2023

RFGP # 34301-39224 IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

1. **This RFGP Schedule of Events updates and confirms scheduled RFGP dates. Any event, time, or date containing revised or new text is highlighted.**

EVENT	TIME (Central Time)	DATE (all dates are state business days)
1. RFGP Issued		CONFIRMED
2. Notice of Intent to Propose Deadline	2:00 p.m.	CONFIRMED
3. Written "Questions & Comments" Deadline	2:00 p.m.	CONFIRMED
4. State Response to Written "Questions & Comments"		CONFIRMED
5. Proposal Deadline	2:00 p.m.	November 13, 2023
6. State Completion of Organizational & Technical Grant Proposal Evaluations	2:30 p.m.	November 17, 2023
7. State Scoring of Grant Budgets	3:00 p.m.	November 17, 2023
8. Evaluation Notice Released		November 20, 2023
9. Contractor Contract Signature Deadline		November 22, 2023
10. Effective Start Date of Contract		December 1, 2023

2. **State responses to questions and comments in the table below amend and clarify this RFGP.**

Any restatement of RFGP text in the Question/Comment column shall NOT be construed as a change in the actual wording of the RFGP document.

QUESTION / COMMENT	STATE RESPONSE
1 Two members of our Board of Directors are employees of two of the state medical schools. Will the be a disqualifier for this proposal?	No.
2 Conflict of Interest: A member of the staff is a board member for the Tennessee Charitable Clinic Network. Would this be a conflict of interest for this grant?	No.
3 Will TDOH stipulate the timing for payments of the incentive amounts to awardees? As an example, if the full award were made to a dentist during the term of the grant, any funds for default would have to be recovered by our agency after the grant ended with the possibility of the grantee being at risk for attempting to collect payments for default and incurring legal fees after the end of the grant period. Likewise, the grant period is too short to make quarterly/yearly loan payment on behalf of awardees after each year of a recipient's obligation completion to minimize default.	Yes, the State ask that all payments are made by the end of the grant term to the awardees. The timing of payments to awardees will be determined by the grantee in conjunction with the State to ensure the grantee is not liable for any fees associated with attempting to collect payment in the instance of default.
4 Will grant be paid in one lump sum to determine distribution time to recipients.	Yes, the grant will be paid in one lump sum at the start of each Fiscal Year for the duration of the program.
5 Renewal Options- This grant contract may be renewed upon satisfactory completion of the Term. The State reserves the right to execute up to one (1) renewal options under the same terms and conditions for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months each by the state, at the State's sole option. In no event, however, shall the maximum Term, including all renewals, extensions, exceed a total of (60) months. If this grant can only be extended for one renewal not to exceed 12 months, what is the reference to the 60 months max?	No contract term can exceed 60 months.
6 A4.b. - Develop all Healthy Smiles' policies and procedures in conjunction with counterparts at the State, including but not limited to: application procedures. Which entities or individuals would be "counterparts at the state" for this grant?	The Office of Strategic Initiatives Healthy Smiles Initiative workgroup will serve as counterparts at the state for this grant to ensure ongoing alignment.
7 A.5.c. - Since this grant time frame is 7 months, will grant reports be expected throughout the 3 years for dentists, etc.?	No, reports will only be expected during the term of the contract.
8 B.b.2. - This grant contract may be renewed upon satisfactory completion of the Term. The State reserves the right to execute up to one (1) renewal options under the same terms and conditions for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months each by the	No contract term can exceed 60 months.

QUESTION / COMMENT	STATE RESPONSE
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9 C.1.c.iii. - With this short grant period, it may be difficult to place a new dental graduate (considering a May graduate and time to obtain licensure and start work on/before June 30, 2024) Does the grant consider a signed employment contract with actual work to start after June 30, 2024? If so, could a prorated incentive installment be made after the end of the grant period once the dental professional has officially started work?	The current funding ends on June 30, 2024. If funding is approved after the June 30 th date, an amendment will be completed to add additional time to the contract.
10 Would the TDOH be willing to share the hiring salary ranges and job descriptions for dentists, hygienists, and assistance in the health department clinics to help with recruitment?	Yes, salary ranges, and job descriptions can be made available for dentists, hygienists, and assistants in the health department clinics to help with recruitment.
11 Can we receive a listing of all the dental clinics operated by the TDOH? If a TDOH clinic is not located in a HPSA dental shortage area, would that clinic be ineligible for a placement under the provisions of this grant?	Yes, visit https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/oralhealth/clinics.html for a listing of dental clinics operated by the Department of Health. No, that clinic would not be ineligible for placement. However, preference should be given to addressing vacancies in a health professional shortage area and then should be expanded to other safety net dental clinics.
12 What are the expectations for recruitment to health departments? If we are unsuccessful in recruiting dentists to the health departments in the first half of the 7-month time frame in the first contract term, may we recruit to free and safety net dental clinics?	Recruitment efforts should primarily focus on addressing vacancies in health department dental clinics and then should be expanded to other safety net dental clinics. Dental professionals receiving loan repayment should provide care in areas of high need and support training of additional dental students. Preference should be given to in-state graduates.
13 Can any of these funds be used for retention or only recruitment?	Yes, funds can be used for targeting the earliest stages of recruiting students into dental professions, training them to practice in underserved communities, and providing recruiting and retention incentives for service in high need populations.
14 Are there expectations of percentage in the of dentists vs hygienists/assistants are recruited?	No, there are no specific expectations for the percentage of dentists vs. hygienists/assistants to be recruited.
15 Is there a percentage limitation for administrative indirect costs in this grant?	Respondents may have an approved indirect cost rate and if not, the rate is 15%.for this grant.

3. **RFGP Amendment Effective Date.** The revisions set forth herein shall be effective upon release. All other terms and conditions of this RFGP not expressly amended herein shall remain in full force and effect.