QUESTION: What is priority vs general applicants? Is it just if we want to get our application in sooner or are certain organizations selected as “priority” ones?

ANSWER: The Public Health Institute (PHI) has not provided any organization a designation as “priority” or “general” prior to receipt of applications for this RFA cycle. Each organization or applicant is able to determine their designation based on the date their application is received.

**Priority:** Applications received on or before **July 14, 2023** by **11:59 pm Eastern Standard Time (EST)** will receive a priority designation. This means applications will receive priority consideration for funding. In addition to this, the period of performance for priority applicants is anticipated to be the following: 08/01/2023 – 02/14/2026.

**General:** Applications received after July 14, 2023 (EST) and on or before **July 28, 2023** by **11:59 pm EST** will receive a general designation. After funds have been allocated to selected priority applicants, applications received for general consideration will be considered for funding. In addition to this, the period of performance for general applicants is anticipated to be the following: 09/01/2023 – 02/14/2026.

QUESTION: While we understand the need for cost share in Yr. 2 for salary and benefits for Fellows, could you please clarify the budget ceiling for federal funds for this activity?

ANSWER: PHI did not provide a ceiling in the RFA because we would like applicants to make their financial proposals based on the scope of work outlined. The cost reasonableness of applications will account for 30% of total scores, this consideration includes cost share.

QUESTION: If we had an interested team but they needed a few more days to get in their submission, would an extension be possible, beyond July 28th?

ANSWER: Extensions will not be granted to any interested applicants beyond established deadlines in the RFA. Proposal teams are encouraged to aim to submit their applications in alignment with the dates and times provided in the RFA.
QUESTION: Do you know if the required fellow’s salary landed between $47K and $52K?

ANSWER: Fellows will receive a salary of $50,000 during the first year of their fellowship. Applicants are asked to budget for up to a 4% merit increase in the second year for fellows amounting to $52,000 during their second year. Fringe benefits for fellows should be aligned to the applicant’s organizational norms.