

# ONE CHATTANOOGA RELIEF AND RECOVERY NOFO

*Questions and Responses*  
May 2021

*Version 5*

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**CITY OF CHATTANOOGA**  
MAYOR TIM KELLY

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## Introduction

This document contains questions of interest to applicants, generally, that have been submitted. We will make every effort to update this document within 2 business days of receipt of a question that pertains to the general applicant pool.

*All questions submitted using the form available at*

*<https://www.fedgrantassist.com/chattanooga>*

*by May 20, 2022 will have answers posted on in a revised version of this document no later than May 27, 2022. Substantially similar questions will be combined to reduce redundancy.*

If you have a particular question about your application that is unique to your project please email it to [chattanooga@fedgrantassist.com](mailto:chattanooga@fedgrantassist.com).

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## Questions and Responses

No.	Topic	Question	Answer
1.	<b>Attachments</b>	<b>Are applicants limited to 4 outcomes?</b> If an applicant has more than 4 outcomes, is that something that could be attached as an Appendix item?	You may have more than 4 measurable outcome, but we urge you to use the form to submit the 4 most impactful and relevant outcomes =
2.	<b>Attachments</b>	<b>If the project schedule has more details than the space allows, should an applicant attach a more detailed schedule as an Appendix item?</b>	We understand that the milestones page of the application is at a much higher level than a normal project plan. For the application, we are not requesting the detail of the full project plan. We are just trying to get a brief summary of the major activities that will occur in each quarter. To standardize the process, we are trying to avoid the submission of multiple appendices.
3.	<b>Background</b>	<b>Since there have been 240 applications submitted, why are other (new) applications being accepted?</b>	240 applications were submitted, and after removing duplicate applications the total was 226. Various factors influenced this decision on the part of the administration including the initial application's compliance with federal requirements, the level of detail in applications, and the alignment of applications with a cohesive vision for generational change in Chattanooga. New applications are being accepted so

No.	Topic	Question	Answer
			as to maximize the potential of the additional guidance provided by the CERC Framework Report to spark transformative initiatives.
4.	<b>Budget</b>	Are Staffing budgets allowed as a part of the programs?	Yes.
5.	<b>Budget</b>	Can furniture, furnishings, fixtures and appliances be included in the ARP funds request?	Yes.
6.	<b>Budget</b>	I am applying for funding for specific roles at our organization, so that amount goes into the “salaries” line under “amount requested from the city.” <b>Is the total budget amount specifically asking the total salaries amount for the roles I’m applying for or for the entire organization?</b>	The total amount would be the total amount of the salaries you are requesting, and not the total salaries of the organization.
7.	<b>Deadlines</b>	On page 6 of the NOFO, it says that the "funds will span two fiscal years: all quarters in FY23 and quarters 1 through 3 of FY24 (7/1/22 - 9/30/24). In the virtual webinar, the presenters said the project	Yes, 12/31/2024 is the correct end date. Please disregard the 9/30/24 date as that was the product of earlier federal guidance. 12/31/2024 is the correct end date.

No.	Topic	Question	Answer
		<p>period would run through 12/31/24 and on page 23, the NOFO states all funds must be expended by 12/31/24. Is 12/31/24 the correct end date?</p>	
8.	<b>Deadlines</b>	<p>The date of May 27th for questions responses with a grant deadline of June 3 is challenging Is there anyway to answer questions earlier?</p>	<p>We will make every effort to update this document within 2 business days of receipt of a question that pertains to the general applicant pool.</p>
9.	<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Does broadband infrastructure improvements include radio stations?</p>	<p>Not necessarily, but it may. This depends on the intended outcome of the use of the funds. Please note in the NOFO that Chattanooga has not chosen to emphasize broadband expansion. Please refer to the list on page 31 of the NOFO for a list of the federal categories that Chattanooga is seeking applications for.</p>
10.	<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>How many chances are there to apply?</p>	<p>There is not a set limit on the number applications that an organization is allowed to submit. It is not anticipated that another round of applications will be accepted after June 3, 2022.</p>

No.	Topic	Question	Answer
11.	<b>Eligibility</b>	I have told been it will take 4-6 weeks to obtain the SAM registration – will this make me ineligible to apply?	No. You will be eligible to apply. However, it is important that you apply now for your SAM ID as it must be in place in order for the City to enter into a grant agreement.
12.	<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Our organization is a public, not-for profit, state-controlled institute of higher education. We have more than 500 employees. Based on the eligibility information listed on page 7 of the NOFO, it appears that we would be eligible based on the first bullet, but because we have more than 500 employees, it appears we may NOT be eligible based on the second bullet. Can you please clarify if we are eligible?</p> <p><b>Will any proposals from be excluded since the organization has &gt; 500 employees?</b></p>	No. This is an error in the NOFO. The 500 employee limit was intended to apply to private for-profit business applicants.

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13.	<b>Form Problem</b>	There seems to be something off in the calculations in the budget section of the application and my numbers do not add up. What should I do?	This has been addressed in the current version of the NOFO available at <a href="https://www.fedgrantassist.com/chattanooga">https://www.fedgrantassist.com/chattanooga</a> , but an earlier version did contain a formula error. If you have already largely completed the application and would like us to correct the calculation in your copy, you can email <a href="mailto:chattanooga@fedgrantassist.com?subject=Please Correct Budget Formula">mailto:chattanooga@fedgrantassist.com?subject=Please Correct Budget Formula</a> . We will return the corrected formula within 1 business day.
14.	<b>Framework</b>	Can you speak to how you see K-12 teaching and learning as a fit for the spokes on the framework?	K-12 is intended to be included in the “spoke” Build a Universal Path to Early Learning and Provide High Quality Childcare. “Too often, gains made in early learning are lost due to the absence of engaging post curricular care for older students. Therefore, we must also provide safe, healthy, and engaging pre- and post-school spaces for children throughout their educational journey.” P12 of CERC Framework Report.
15.	<b>Framework</b>	What about one project that spans two spokes?	This is welcomed and ideal. You should find the boxes for the “spokes” in the framework allow each box to be checked.

No.	Topic	Question	Answer
16.	<b>Governmental Applicants</b>	Our organization is not a 501(C) 3. We do have a SAM registration, but we aren't non-profit and we are an agency of state government. Are we eligible to apply for a workforce development project?	Yes. Please refer to p.8 of the NOFO for additional eligibility information.
17.	<b>Grant Terms</b>	On page 21 of the NOFO, item E.2.6.b states that “subrecipients shall hold harmless and indemnify the City of Chattanooga...” As an instrumentality of the state, our organization is unable to agree to this term.  <b>At the proposal stage, may we seek exception from the hold harmless language?</b>	Yes, this may be negotiated with the City if the grant is awarded to your organization.
18.	<b>Grant Type</b>	<b>Are pre-award expenditures allowed?</b> For example expenditures made prior to 7/1/22 that are in alignment with the allowable budget categories? Or, must all costs be incurred after the 7/1/22 start date for the award?	Pursuant to CFR § 200.458 Pre-award costs:  Pre-award costs are those incurred prior to the effective date of the Federal award or subaward directly pursuant to the negotiation and in anticipation of the Federal award where such costs are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the scope of work. Such costs are allowable only to the extent that they

No.	Topic	Question	Answer
			<p>would have been allowable if incurred after the date of the Federal award and only with the written approval of the Federal awarding agency. If charged to the award, these costs must be charged to the initial budget period of the award, unless otherwise specified by the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity.</p>
19.	<b>Grant Type</b>	<p>Do contractors performing work on properties in the ARP funding request have to follow Davis Bacon wage regulations and certifications?</p>	<p>Neither the Davis-Bacon Act or Davis-Bacon Act related provisions requirements apply to projects funded with ARPA funds, however grant funds are used on a construction project in conjunction with funds from another federal program that requires enforcement of the Davis-Bacon Act would be subject to those regulations.</p>
20.	<b>Grant Type</b>	<p>Is this a reimbursement grant, or will all funding awarded to an organization be available up front?</p>	<p>Funding will be made available by the City in accordance with individual organizational needs. There will be provisions released following the award to allow for upfront disbursement based on organizational need and project type.</p>
21.	<b>Grant Type</b>	<p>Is this funding subject to Federal or local procurement thresholds?</p>	<p>Funding will be subject to Federal procurement thresholds. Awardees shall adhere to following purchasing requirements:</p>

No.	Topic	Question	Answer
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain three (3) verbal quotes for purchases of goods and services less than \$25,000;</li> <li>• Obtain three (3) written quotes for purchases between \$25,000 and \$250,000; and</li> <li>• Solicit formal sealed bids and competitive proposals for purchases above \$250,000.</li> </ul> <p>Awardees shall maintain records on all use of project funds, including but not limited to invoices, receipts, payments, payroll records verifying time worked on project, purchasing, selection of contractors and vendors, and any other project-related information for five (5) years after funds have been spent.</p>
22.	<b>Grant Type</b>	<p>Some of the properties we would like to develop are held by a development corporation that the organization owns and were originally purchased or built with HUD funds. <b>Is the organization allowed to use ARP funds to renovate these properties, or is there an exclusion about layering HUD and ARP funds?</b></p>	<p>There is not an exclusion unless the original HUD funds required a non-federal match. In that case ARPA funds cannot be used for as the non-federal match amount.</p>

No.	Topic	Question	Answer
23.	<b>Grant Type</b>	Will the properties that ARP funds are used to renovate have liens placed on them for the amount of funds used?	No.
24.	<b>Other</b>	On page 31 of the NOFO, there are some expenditure categories listed that have an "*" and/or "<" symbol (#1.4, 2.1, 2.29, and 2.31). We did not see these referenced elsewhere in the NOFO or the original ruling. <b>Is there additional guidance and/or notes related to those categories with those notations?</b> We were curious about the notations with those specific expenditure categories.	There are not additional notes related to those categories. Those are remains from an earlier draft that should have been removed.
25.	<b>Selection</b>	Do you have any estimates on the number of applications you expect to fund?	This will depend on the size and quality of requests. There is not a set number.
26.	<b>Submission</b>	How do I remove the application from the NOFO?	It is fine to return the full PDF of the NOFO with the application section completed if you've already completed it in the longer version.

No.	Topic	Question	Answer
27.	<b>Submission</b>	Where do I find a link to submit my application on the portal?	<p>A shortened version with only the application and instructions is available <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <hr/> <p>There is not an upload link. Each Organization seeking consideration for relief funds related to this NOFO must submit a response. All applications and supporting documents must be submitted electronically to: <a href="mailto:chattanooga@fedgrantassist.com">chattanooga@fedgrantassist.com</a></p> <p>Fax or hard copy applications will not be accepted. Completed applications must be submitted in their entirety by 5:00 PM on June 3, 2022.</p>