



**ILLINOIS
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

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2025 RESTORE, REINVEST, AND RENEW (R3) PROGRAM
Service Delivery Grant
NOFO # 2378 – 030124

RESPONSE TO APPLICANT QUESTIONS (Posted every Friday)

Posted: April 5, 2024

Question Received 4/1/24

For the last NOFO, we were able to wait and do the prequalification steps after it was announced whether we would be receiving an award. This time the instructions say that we cannot submit until we are prequalified. Why is that?

Response

Newly amended Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) administrative rules require applicant prequalification. 44 Ill. Admin Code 7000.70. Applicant organizations must be prequalified at the time of submission. Applications from organizations that have not been prequalified will not be accepted.

Question Received 4/1/24

I am a grant writer and currently registered as an Amplifund user. If I submit an application on behalf of a different non profit than the one I previously represented, do I need to create another account?

Response

Individuals responsible for completing the application should represent the organization in an official capacity. They also must be registered via the GATA Grantee GATA Portal and identified as an AmpliFund user in that capacity.

Question Received 3/29/24

I want to confirm the only non profit -501C3 - organizations are eligible to apply to this grant application.

Response

Eligible applicants include organizations certified by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, a local unit of government, a faith-based organization determined to be tax-exempt by the IRS, a local business, or a community or neighborhood organization that does not have 501(c)(3) status.

Question Received 3/28/24

Where on the budget template should we include transportation expenses (bus cards) for workforce development training participants? Additionally, on what sheet should participant stipends, housing assistance, and childcare assistance be itemized?

Response

As a general rule, items needed for program participants, such as bus passes and stipends, should be listed on the Supplies sheet in the Budget. List housing and childcare assistance expenses that will be paid directly to a vendor through a contractual agreement on the Contractual sheet.

The [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#) is a great resource for understanding allowable costs. See Section 3.9 for an overview on how to categorize allowable costs in your budget.

Question Received 3/28/24

What budget categories are eligible for Base when determining Indirect Costs?

Response

The budget categories will vary by grantee. Refer to the GATA language regarding indirect costs here: <https://gata.illinois.gov/indirect-cost.html>

Question Received 3/27/24

For the program we are applying for, the employees do reside in an R3 zone. However, because our work overall takes place in multiple locations, and due to the nature of the work, there is not a requirement for all programming employees to live where our sites are located. Additionally, we have over 300 employees. Will we be penalized if we state that fewer than 50% of our employees live in in R3 zone to be served?

Response

Employees are not required to reside in an R3 zone and applicants are not required to seek local preference points for certifying their employees' places of residence.

Question Received 3/25/24

We are writing the R3 Service Grant to include several partners in the area. How do I know if they will be a Subaward or if they should be a Collaborator?

Response

Members of a collaborative application may receive subawards. Subawardees and subcontractors play different roles in executing a program plan. See NOFO page 30 for more information. Also, see [the Checklist for Contractor/Subrecipient Determinations](#).

Question Received 3/25/24

I understand that we are required to hire a staff attorney for the civil legal aid category. My question is whether we need to have the attorney already on staff by the time we apply or whether we can apply with the plan to hire an attorney if we receive a grant.

Response

Yes, you can apply prior to hiring an attorney. Include the to-be-hired attorney in your staffing plan.

Question Received 3/24/24

Is there a cash match requirement and what is it based on?

Response

A cash match is not required for this funding opportunity.

Question Received 3/24/24

I want to confirm that we can list multiple sub-applicants on one application (we are considering an application with up to 2 sub-applicants).

Response

Yes, you can list multiple sub-applicants in one application.

Question Received 3/24/24

Can we submit a separate application of our own in that same zone and still be listed as a sub-applicant on the other application?

Response

You all cannot serve the same population in that region and be a sub applicant.

Question Received 3/24/24

It is our understanding that we can be the lead applicant for different applications as long as they are in different zones. Is that correct?

Response

Yes, you may serve as the lead applicant in multiple applications as long as the applications request funds to provide services in separate R3 zones.

Question Received 3/24/24

I can find the applications in the NOFO, but I need the word or character counts for the questions.

Response

There are no word or character count requirements in the narrative fields.

Question Received 3/24/24

What is meant by "years of service provision" in the funding table? Is that experience providing similar services throughout the agency or specific to R3 funding/programs?

Response

Service provision refers to how many years of experience the applicant has in providing any of its proposed services, not just R3-funded services.

Posted: March 29, 2024

Question Received 3/22/24

Is it possible to receive from you an emailed copy of the R3 application/questions to this email address?

Response

The application is fully contained within the AmpliFund system and must be completed in that system. For reference, application materials and the list of applicant questions and answers, updated weekly, are available on ICJIA's website ([ICJIA | Restore, Reinvest, and Renew Notice of Funding Opportunity Service Delivery NOFO # 2378-030124 \(illinois.gov\)](https://www.icjia.state.il.us))

Question Received 3/21/24

Is there flexibility to start a grant in perhaps November rather than July 1st?

Response

The program period of the grant will start July 1, but successful applicants may start their programming at a later date if necessary. Any delay in the start date of the programming will not result in an extension of the end of the program period.

Question Received 3/21/24

I saved the Budget Template spreadsheet as a pdf doc, and see a page that I don't see in the spreadsheet, "Consultant Services and Expenses." In revisiting the spreadsheet, it looks like it should be between Subcontracts and Subawards and Rent and Utilities, but it isn't. I see a line "Contractual Narrative." Perhaps this section is supposed to be accessible via this cell/anchor (see red arrow). I can't figure out how to access it.

Response

The budget template must be completed and submitted in its current form as an Excel document. PDF versions will not be accepted.

Question Received 3/21/24

Can we provide services in partnership with this school if 60% of students come from R3 Zones? Would we have to filter out students who reside outside the Zones?

Response

Yes, you can provide services in partnership with the school with 60% of participants living in an R3 zone. No, you would not have to filter those students who reside outside of an R3 zone according to their zip code.

Question Received 3/20/24

NOFO Language Referenced (p12): "Funds also may be used to repair or make limited renovations to property owned by nonprofit organizations to make the spaces safe and accessible for program participants or to provide more usable space for programming (such as the installation of private rooms for counseling, installation of sports equipment, or other program-specific construction)."

Question: Does the above language apply to government entities; language references "nonprofit organizations"?

Response

Yes, this also applies to government entities. The language is meant only to preclude for-profit enterprises from using the funds this way.

Question Received 3/20/24

Would the construction of an extension to an existing Transitional Housing and/or Permanent Supportive Housing location through the Problem-Solving Courts be considered an "expansion" and therefore an allowable cost or defined as "new construction" and prohibited?

Response

The use of the word 'expansion' here refers to expansion of a program, not of a building. The construction of an extension to an existing structure is not an allowable cost for this NOFO.

Question Received 3/20/24

I can find the applications in the NOFO, but I need the word or character counts for the questions. Can you send me the application, please?

Response

There are no word or character counts for the narrative fields to be answered within the application. The application is fully contained within the AmpliFund system and must be completed in that system. For reference, application materials are available on ICJIA's website ([ICJIA | Restore, Reinvest, and Renew Notice of Funding Opportunity Service Delivery NOFO # 2378-030124 \(illinois.gov\)](#)).

Question Received 3/20/24

I have been trying to view the live event today, but it does not appear active on Facebook or LinkedIn. Is this still happening?

Response

Yes, the live event took place on Wed. 3/20. You can view it on the organization's facebook page via the link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/ICJIA>

Question Received 3/20/24

Within the same region can an organization lead on an application but also be a named partner on a collaborative application with a different priority area?

Response

Yes, an organization can lead an application and partner within a collaborative with a different priority area.

Question Received 3/20/24

I have a question regarding the Tier Level on Appendix C: Funding Table. How do you define "service provision"? Is this how long our organization has provided any programs/services or services under an R3 grant?

Response

Service provision is defined as the number of years an organization has provided the same type of services they are proposing in their application. The number of years of services does not have to be a part of services provided through an R3 grant.

Posted: March 22, 2024

Question Received 3/17/24

How would we know if we are in an eligible R3 zone?

Response

There is an interactive eligibility map that you can use to determine that information. I linked it below:

<https://www.r3.illinois.gov/eligibility>

Question Received 3/17/24

Our organization is in its 3rd year with an overall annual budget between \$2 million and \$3 million. We meet all of the other requirements but seem to be ineligible because our budget is too much for Tier 2 but our service period is too short for Tier 3. Can you please confirm that we are NOT eligible to apply for this opportunity as an organization with a \$2.6 million budget in our 3rd year of service provision? If I'm incorrect, can you please clarify for which tier we would be eligible to apply?

Response

The NOFO instructions state that "Tier 2 will be comprised of applications from agencies with two to five years of service provision OR whose agency annual budgets are under \$2 million" p.32. Based on the info provided below you all would be considered Tier 2 based on the number of years of service provision.

Question Received 3/15/24

Can our existing program, which is in year 2, submit for a different funding goal priority area but still for the alternative school program?

Response

No, if you are proposing a program in the same R3 funding region as your current project.

Question Received 3/15/24

If we have received the grant in the past, are we allowed to apply for the same programming in this new grant offering? Can we use these funds to continue to grow the existing program?

Response

If you received an R3 grant for service delivery in the past that is no longer active, you are allowed to apply for the current NOFO. You cannot apply for the R3 NOFO for service delivery in the current R3 funding region that you have an active grant in.

Question Received 3/13/24

Is there a method we should use to determine which one would be best to apply under? There seem like there could be programs that would overlap between both.

Response

As this is a competitive NOFO, ICJIA staff is unable to advise organizations on how to craft their proposals, or if their proposed activities align with the priorities outlined in the NOFO. I can confirm that organizations can propose activities that cross multiple priority areas. It is not required that you choose one area of focus.

Question Received 3/13/24

When will the R3 notice of awards be made for the applications that are submitted by the April 30th 2pm CST deadline?

Response

A number of factors, including the volume of applications, the number of reviewers we can recruit, and eligibility determinations by ICJIA staff, make estimating the date that awards will be announced quite complex. At this time, we estimate this to occur in June of 2024.

Question Received 3/12/24

Is the open grant a drawdown or reimbursement grant?

Response

This is a reimbursement grant. ICJIA also offers some advance payment options to grantees that qualify.

Question Received 3/12/24

I am writing to inquire about the ICJIA grant. Are organizations that provide programming in public schools to at risk youth eligible to submit an application?

Response

Yes, organizations working in public schools are eligible to apply for this R3 NOFO as long as the service population resides in and/or service delivery is provided in an eligible R3 zone.

Question Received 3/12/24

My organization does not yet have a SAM.gov account, but we will be signing up for one. I see on the SAM.gov website that DUNS has been replaced by UEI numbers. Since we are young enough of an organization to not have a DUNS number, will this UEI be an acceptable replacement?

Response

You are right that the UEI has replaced the need for a DUNS number. You will need to register for a SAMS.gov account in order to have a UEI assigned to your organization. This Federally assigned unique identifier is an acceptable replacement for a DUNS for the purpose of applying for the R3 NOFO.

Question Received 3/7/24

As current grantees of a 3 year funding agreement, will we need to apply to the NOFO that has just been released for 4/30? Or is this opportunity just for a new cohort of applicants?

Response

Current grantees do not need to apply for the NOFO to continue their existing award. This NOFO is for a new cohort of applicants..

Posted: March 15, 2024

Question (Received 3/6/24)

For the Youth Development program priority, what does the age category of 18+ include? Would it include emerging adults 18-24?

Response

Yes, the Youth Development age category of 18+ includes emerging adults ages 18 to 24 years old.

Question (Received 3/6/24)

Can we apply under two categories, for example Youth Development and Economic Development? Or do we need to focus on one category?

Response

Yes, proposed programs may provide services in more than one category or priority area. However, organizations can not submit more than one application per region. All proposed service categories may be described in a single application.

Question (Received 3/6/24)

Are there zip code/zone restrictions for participants? For example, if we applied for a Youth Development grant within the zone where our office is located (60623) could we only serve participants within that zip code? We recruit from the direct geographical area around the program, but we don't limit participants based on their zip code or zone.

Response

Applicants may propose to provide services within a designated R3 zone or to residents of any other designated R3 zone for grant eligibility.

Question (Received 3/6/24)

It would be great to connect with you via Zoom or phone to discuss further and see if our organization is a good fit for funding. Are you free in the next week or so to chat?

Response

Due to the competitive nature of this solicitation, applicants may not discuss this opportunity directly or indirectly with any ICJIA employee other than the respondent of this email address: CJA.R3Questions@illinois.gov.

Questions may be submitted **until 2:00 pm CST, on April 25, 2024**. All substantive questions and responses are posted weekly.

Question (Received 3/6/24)

If our official address is outside the eligible area, but our project and our clients are within the eligible area, are we eligible to apply?

Response

Yes. Applicants proposing to provide services within a designated R3 zone or to residents of any other designated R3 zone are eligible to apply for a grant.

Question (Received 3/6/24)

I saw that R3's 2025 Service Delivery Grant is open, and the funding is available for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. Our organization is a current recipient of the R3 grant. Our initial program period is 7/1/2022 - 6/30/2023 but it has been extended to 7/1/2022 - 6/30/2025. We are thinking of expanding our existing reentry program with street outreach and clean energy-related training and placements. Are we eligible to submit an application for 2025 grant given that we are a current R3 recipient? Or will we have another chance to extend our R3 program after it ends on 6/30/2025?

Response

Current grantees are allowed one service delivery grant per region. Your organization may apply for service delivery grants to serve another R3 region through this NOFO. To be notified of all future grant opportunities, subscribe to ICJIA's email list.

Question (Received 3/7/24)

We are a current R3 grantee. Are we eligible to apply for a different program?

Response

Yes, you are eligible to apply for a different program as a current grantee. For example, if you have a current grant for planning, you may apply for service delivery funding. If you are a current service delivery grantee, you may apply for another service delivery grant in another region. Organizations may only apply for one grant per region.

Question (Received 3/7/24)

Our current grant is for the Chicago North Region. Could we apply with our Elgin office to serve the Elgin R3 zones 1501-1506?

Response

Yes, applying for grants to provide service delivery in an R3 region that is different from the region you currently serve is allowable.

Question (Received 3/8/24)

We are planning to apply for R3 funds this year, and we have two locations of service we are interested in applying for. I wanted to confirm that they are separate regions, and therefore require two separate applications. I also wanted to ask if submitting more than one application would affect our likelihood of receiving a grant.

Response

Please see the Region Map on page 41 of the NOFO to identify regions. Each application submitted will be competing with others submitted within that R3 region, by tier. Funding will be divided among successful applicants based on available funds until funding is exhausted or until all applications selected for funding have been awarded.

Question (Received 3/10/24)

Is there a limit or recommendation on the number of applications we can or should submit, especially if considering multiple extensions or expansions of our program?

Response

Single applications may propose to provide services in multiple R3 zones. Proposed programs may provide services in more than one category or priority area. However, organizations may not submit more than one application per region.

Posted: March 8, 2024

Question (Received 3/1/2024)

Do legal services for low income and socially disadvantaged entrepreneurs and businesses, also known as business law services, qualify for funding under this NOFO as civil legal aid?

Response

See NOFO pages 38-39 for information on eligible program participants. Only services provided to program participants as listed in p. 38-39 of the NOFO are eligible for funding under this NOFO.

Question (Received 3/1/2024)

Is Table X on pages 38-39 an exhaustive list of services that are eligible as civil legal aid? We ask because we do not see any mention of legal services to low income and socially disadvantaged businesses in any of the listed categories, also known as business law or entrepreneurial law services.

Response

Yes, the table on pages 38-39 is an exhaustive list of allowable civil legal aid services.

Question (Received 3/1/2024)

Would 100% of the violence prevention programming have to occur within the R3 funding regions? Or could we request a different % of funding based on the programming that is conducted in these regions? There are schools not within these regions but take students from R3 eligible districts-would violence prevention programming in those schools be eligible?

Response

Yes, 100% of the R3 violence prevention programming has must occur within an R3 funding region or to those provided to students who reside in an R3 zone.

Question (Received 3/2/2024)

We are currently operating under the R3 Planning grant, as the Planning Grant does not end until June of 2025, are we able to apply for the Service grant now?

Response

If your organization is currently operating under an R3 planning grant you can apply for Yes, current R3 planning grant grantees are eligible to apply for 2025 the current R3 NOFO for service delivery grants.

Question (Received 3/2/2024)

We are seeing a staggering increase in firearm injury and mortality in undocumented individuals here on the South Side. Would it be possible to apply for the R3 funding opportunity with this population in mind?

Response

Organizations that serve undocumented individuals may apply for funding under the terms of NOFO eligibility and its other guidelines.

Yes, this population is an eligible population to receive R3 services under this NOFO as long as the proposed program is otherwise eligible for R3 funding.

Question (Received 3/4/2024)

We were not able to attend the March 1st Technical Assistance Webinar. Can we receive a copy of the deck and a recorded copy of the webinar?

Response

Yes. Access the slides and other information here: [R3 NOFO Instructions and Appendices](#).

Other resources can be found on the R3 website at <https://r3.illinois.gov/resources> The technical assistance webinar presented on March 1, 2024, at 2pm is now available on the R3 website at this link: [R3 | R3 NOFO Instructions and Appendices \(illinois.gov\)](#), under the heading of “R3 NOFO Technical Assistance.”

Other resources can be found on the R3 website at <https://r3.illinois.gov/resources>

Question (Received 3/4/2024)

I'm starting an application for the R3 grant and had a question about who to list as Primary Contact in AmpliFund. As the grant manager, can I be primary contact or does it need to be our CFO as official AOR? The NOFO does not specify this, but wanted to be sure.

Response

Organizations should make decisions around primary contacts internally. The primary contact will receive all NOFO-related communication related to the NOFO and grant awarding decisions. Appoint the primary contact with that in mind.

Question (Received 3/4/2024)

Can an organization who received funding in the 1st round for service delivery and in the 2nd round for Capacity Building apply in this round for another service delivery project?

Response

Yes, first round service delivery and second round capacity building grantees may apply for 2025 R3 service delivery grant funding. Yes, an organization who received funding in the 1st round of service delivery and 2nd round for capacity building may apply for this round of R3 for service delivery.

Question (Received 3/5/2024)

In a collaborative application, which organizations' budget and experience is used to make the tier determination?

Response

In a collaborative application, the applicant organization's budget and length of amount of experience in providing services is used to make the considered in identifying the appropriate tier determination.

Question (Received 3/5/2024)

If the applicant is a unit of local government, is the “annual agency budget” the budget for the entire governmental entity or that of the department or division managing the R3 project?

Response

The annual budget of the entity submitting the application should be provided. For example, if a specific municipality were to submit an application, that municipality’s budget would be considered regardless of which department would carry out the project. The annual agency budget is for the entity that is officially submitting the application, so if the application is being submitted by the county (for example), the agency budget would be the county’s budget, regardless of which division of the county will carry out the project.

Question (Received 3/5/2024)

Can a collaborative apply for more than one area? If yes, will a new application be required for each area?

Response

The word *area* is a little ambiguous. There are *R3 zones*, census tracts deemed eligible for R3 funds, and *R3 regions*, 12 regions across the state that form separate pools of competition for grants.

The word ‘area’ is a little ambiguous, so for clarification, note that there is a distinction between “R3 zones,” which are the census tracts deemed eligible for R3 funds, and R3 funding regions, which are the twelve regions of the state that form separate pools of competition for these funds. An application (either single or collaborative) may propose to serve multiple R3 zones within the same R3 region under one application. However, if the proposal seeks to serve R3 zones in different funding regions, the applicant would need to submit a different application for each funding region. Only one application per region, per applicant, can be submitted. Any subsequent applications within the same region will be disqualified.

Question (Received 3/5/2024)

Am I required to have registered with SAM.gov to qualify for this grant?

Response

Yes, registration on SAM.gov registration is a requirement. You can review the full list of requirements [here](#), or, r3.illinois.gov and by downloading the R3 NOFO information packet at <https://icjia.illinois.gov/grants/funding/r3-nofo-service-delivery-nofo-2378-030124/>.