

STATE OF OREGON



COVER PAGE

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EARLY LEARNING AND CARE

EARLY CHILDHOOD EQUITY FUND

BIRTH THROUGH FIVE LITERACY GRANTS

Request for Grant Applications (“RFA”)

58800-00010740

Date of Issue: 7/2/2024

Closing Date and Time: 8/2/2024, 5:00 PM PT

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SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 PURPOSE

The State of Oregon, acting by and through its Department of Early Learning and Care (“Agency”), is issuing this Request for Grant Applications (“RFA”) from interested and eligible providers to participate in and deliver services under the Early Childhood Equity Fund Program (ECEP) for Birth through Five Literacy activities for the 2024-2025 program year.

Additional details are included in the Scope of Activities section.

1.2 GRANT AMOUNT AND DURATION

Agency anticipates the award of multiple Grant Agreements (each a “Grant”) from this RFA, in an estimated amount of up to \$4.7 million total. Each applicant may request up to a maximum amount of \$200,000. The one-time awards will last through the state fiscal biennium (June 30, 2025).

1.3 ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a Birth Through Five Literacy Early Childhood Equity Fund grant, applicants must respond to this RFA according to the instructions. Tribal Nations need not apply to this RFA – they will use a separate, non-competitive process.

Eligible applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be currently receiving Early Childhood Equity Fund (ECEP) grant funds from Agency as a grantee in good standing pursuant to a valid Grant Agreement;

OR

- Be a culturally specific organization or operate a culturally specific early learning program within Oregon’s borders,
- Demonstrate experience providing outreach, support, and resources to children and families who experience systemic disparities,
- Provide outreach, support, and resources to children and families who experience systemic disparities because of two or more of the following factors:
 - Race
 - Ethnicity
 - English language proficiency
 - Socioeconomic status
 - Geographic location (urban, rural, neighborhoods), and;
 - Have people in leadership positions in the organization (e.g., directors, managers, and board members) that belong to the cultural community served.

1.4 SCHEDULE

The table below represents a tentative schedule of events. All times are listed in Pacific Time. All dates listed are subject to change.

Event	Date	Time
Pre-Application conference – English & Spanish	7/10/24	3:00pm
Questions / Requests for Clarification	7/11/24	5:00pm
Answers to questions/ requests for clarification issued (approximate)	7/15/24	
Closing (Applications due)	8/2/24	5:00pm
Issuance of notice of intent to award (approximate)		
Award protest period ends	7 calendar days after notice of intent to award	

1.5 SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT (SPC)

The SPC for this RFA is identified on the Cover Page, along with the SPC’s contact information. Applicants must direct all communications related to any provision of the RFA, whether about the technical requirements of the RFA, Grant requirements, the RFA process, or any other provision only to the SPC.

SECTION 2: AUTHORITY AND SCOPE

2.1 AUTHORITY

Agency is issuing this RFA pursuant to its authority under HB 3198. ORS 417.781.

2.2 DEFINITION OF TERMS

For the purposes of this RFA, capitalized words will refer to the following definitions:

- **“Addendum”** or **“Addenda”** means an addition to, deletion from, a material change in, or general interest explanation of this RFA.
- **“Affected Applicant”** means an Applicant who would be eligible for a Grant in the event their protest was successful, and who is protesting because Agency failed conduct an evaluation of Applications in accordance with the criteria or process described in this RFA.
- **“Applicant”** means an entity who submits an Application in response to this RFA.
- **“Application”** means a written response to this RFA.
- **“Birth Through Five Literacy Plan” (“BTFLP”)** means a plan sponsored by House Bill 3198 to provide investments to expand culturally specific literacy programs.
- **“Closing”** means the date and time specified in this RFA as the deadline for submitting Applications.
- **“Evaluation Committee”** means the group of people who will evaluate and score Applications submitted in response to this RFA.
- **“Culturally Specific Early Learning Program”** or CSELP means a program that is designed to serve a particular cultural community and is primarily staffed and led by

members of that community and designed by or adapted by members of the cultural community that it serves.

- **“Culturally Specific Organization”** or CSO means an organization that serves a particular cultural community and is primarily staffed and led by members of that community; these organizations demonstrate intimate knowledge of lived experience of the community, including but not limited to the impact of structural and individual racism or discrimination on the community; knowledge of specific disparities documented in the community and how that influences the structure of their program or service; ability to describe the community’s cultural practices, health and safety beliefs/practices, positive cultural identity/pride/resilience, immigration dynamics, religious beliefs, etc. and how their services have been adapted to those cultural norms.
- **“State”** means the state of Oregon.

2.3 OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND

Oregon is an increasingly diverse state, and our young children are leading the way. Oregon’s nearly 275,000 young children under the age of six are more linguistically, racially and ethnically diverse than the older child and adult population. A quarter of Oregon’s young children speak a language other than English at home.

Diversity is an asset and Oregon intends to build an early learning system that recognizes this to ensure more children and families have access to culturally responsive early learning opportunities.

House Bill 3198 directs DELC to implement a Birth Through Five Literacy Plan that will fund culturally specific early literacy programs for children from birth to age five, to provide training and coaching for direct service staff in early literacy, and to develop and expand language revitalization efforts by federally recognized Indian Tribes within in Oregon's borders.

The grants awarded pursuant to this RFA will use \$4.7 million of the Birth Through Five Literacy funds to enhance early literacy activities being performed by current Early Childhood Equity Fund grantees or similar organizations.

2.3.1 GOALS

Through the Birth Through Five Literacy Plan and use of Birth Through Five Literacy funds in accordance with HB 3198, DELC aims to award grants to current ECEF grantees or similar organizations to close opportunity gaps for children and families who experience systemic disparities because of any combination of factors, such as race, income, zip code, or language through funding of culturally specific organizations that are committed to providing early learning services rooted in culture, home language, and lived experience.

In furtherance of that goal, as described below, grantees must perform activities that carry out the purposes of the Birth Through Five Literacy Plan and that align with the outcomes and

indicators that exists across kindergarten readiness and culturally-specific parent and child support programs, as described in HB 3198. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Increasing early literacy for children from birth through 5,
- Reducing early literacy disparities for historically underserved student groups,
- Increasing support to parents and guardians to enable them to be full partners in the development of their children’s literacy skill and knowledge development; and
- Increasing access to early literacy support that is research-aligned, culturally responsive, student- centered, and family-centered,

2.4 SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES

Allowable Activities:

Existing ECEF grantees must build on and expand current ECEF activities to:

- Develop and/or deliver early literacy resources and materials through ECEF-funded parenting education and parent-child interaction activities. Enhance and/or expand on existing literacy-related activities;
- Develop and/or deliver culturally relevant early literacy training and professional development activities for both early childhood and early grade educators (kindergarten through third grade), providers, and/or other staff that would benefit from literacy training opportunities;
- Conduct community engagement activities to identify community-specific gaps in early literacy activities to further inform the development of DELC’s Birth Through Five Literacy program.

New applicants that meet ECEF eligibility criteria but are not receiving ECEF grant funds must:

- Develop and/or deliver culturally relevant early literacy training and professional development activities for both early childhood and early grade educators (kindergarten through third grade), providers, and/or other staff that would benefit from literacy training opportunities;
- Conduct community engagement activities to identify community-specific gaps in early literacy activities to further inform the development of DELC’s Birth Through Five Literacy program.

Funds may be used for staffing only if approved by Agency and if application articulates the need for a limited duration position and/or ability to sustain with other funding sources.

Non-allowable Activities:

Grant Funds may not be used for capital expenditures, such as building new or remodeling facilities, or to supplant existing federal or state funds.

Limitations on use of funds for staffing; only acceptable if plan articulates the need for a limited duration position and/or ability to sustain with other funding sources.

2.5 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Anti-discrimination

Programs shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, home language, country of origin, immigration status, ability, special needs, religion, gender expression, sexual orientation, family composition, housing status, military status, and cultural background and experience in any of its activities or operations.

Program Reporting

Programs are required to submit monthly, quarterly, and end of year reports to DELC using the tool(s) provided by DELC. This is further specified in Attachment A Sample Grant, Exhibit A, Statement of Work.

Fiscal Reporting

Programs are required to submit funding and expenditure information for purposes of verifying programs' fiscal viability, and to show that the Early Childhood Equity Fund grant was spent as intended within acceptable expenditure categories. DELC has the right to examine and review any and all of the program's records, documents, accounting procedures, and practices related to this grant.

Early Childhood Equity Funding

Grants are legally binding agreements between the funded program and DELC. Providers will deliver Birth Through Five Literacy services according to defined programmatic and fiscal expectations.

SECTION 3: PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

3.1 GRANT PROCESS

3.1.1 Public Notice

The RFA, including all Addenda and attachments, is published on Agency's website at <https://www.oregon.gov/delc/programs/Pages/early-childhood-equity-fund.aspx#BirthThroughFiveRFA>

as well as in the State of Oregon's electronic procurement system at (oregonbuys.gov). RFA documents will not be mailed to prospective Applicants.

Agency will advertise all Addenda on its website and in OregonBuys. Prospective Applicants are solely responsible for checking Agency's website or OregonBuys to determine whether any Addenda have been issued. Addenda are incorporated into the RFA by this reference.

3.1.2 Questions/ Requests for Clarification

All inquiries, whether relating to the RFA process, administration, deadline, or method of award, or to the intent or technical aspects of the RFA must:

- Be emailed to the SPC;
- Reference the RFA number;
- Identify Applicant's name and contact information;
- Refer to the specific area of the RFA being questioned (e.g., page, section, paragraph number, etc.); and
- Be received by the due date and time for questions/ requests for clarification identified in the Schedule.

3.1.3 Pre-Application Conference

A pre-Application conference will be held at the date and time listed in the Schedule. Prospective Applicants' participation in this conference is highly encouraged but not mandatory.

The purpose of the pre-Application conference is to:

- Provide an additional description of the project;
- Explain the RFA process; and
- Answer any questions Applicants may have related to the project or the process.

Statements made at the pre-Application conference are not binding upon Agency. Applicants may be asked to submit questions in writing.

3.1.3.1 Attendance at Pre-Application Conference

Registration is not required to attend a pre-Application conference. The pre-Application conference can be access at the following link:

Pre-Application conference (English and Spanish)

Link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/16057000840?omn=1615219842>

3.1.1 Application Due Date

Applications and all required submittal items must be received by the SPC on or before Closing. Applications received after Closing will not be accepted. All Application modifications or withdrawals must be completed prior to Closing.

Applications received after Closing are considered LATE and will NOT be accepted for evaluation. Late Applications will be returned to the respective Applicant or destroyed.

3.1.2 Application Submission

Applicant is solely responsible for ensuring its Application is received in accordance with the RFA requirements before Closing. Agency is not responsible for any delays by transmission errors or other mistaken delivery. Only complete Applications submitted by Closing will be scored. Applications submitted by any means not authorized may be rejected. Only the following submission option is permitted for this RFA:

Email. An electronic version of the **complete** Application must be emailed to the SPC. Only complete Applications submitted by Closing will be scored. SPC will respond via email to confirm receipt.

3.1.1 Modification or Withdrawal of Applications

Any Applicant who wishes to modify or withdraw an Application already received by Agency must do so prior to Closing. Applicant must submit its modification or request to withdraw to the SPC using one of the manners listed in the Application Submission section. Modifications must denote the specific change(s) to the Application submission. All requests must reference the RFA number.

3.1.2 Application Rejection

Agency may reject an Application for any of the following reasons: Applicant fails to substantially comply with all prescribed RFA procedures and requirements;

- Applicant makes any contact regarding this RFA with State representatives such as State employees or officials other than the SPC or those the SPC authorizes, or initiates inappropriate contact with the SPC;
- Applicant attempts to inappropriately influence a member of the Evaluation Committee; or
- Application is conditioned on Agency's acceptance of any other terms and conditions or rights to negotiate any alternative terms and conditions that are not reasonably related to those expressly authorized for negotiation in the RFA or Addenda.

3.2 APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Application must address each of the items listed in this section and all other requirements set forth in this RFA. Applicant must describe how activities will be completed. An Application that merely offers to fulfill the project will be considered non-responsive to this RFA and will not be considered further.

The application is comprised of five sections:

- Eligibility criteria that Applicant must meet in order to apply;
- General application Questions that eligible Applicant must respond to (Attachment C);
- Questions specific to the Applicant's organization;
- Questions specific to the Applicant's program proposal and;
- Proposed staffing plan, budget and budget narrative (Attachment D).

3.2.1 Eligibility Criteria (Not Scored)

All organizations must meet the eligibility criteria as established in OAR 414-575-0015. To be eligible for award, applicants must meet all requirements in 2.1.1 through 2.1.3. Please respond to the following questions. Your response to these questions will determine if the organization is eligible to apply for the Birth Through Five Literacy Fund grant opportunity.

3.2.1.1 Do you represent a culturally specific organization or operate a culturally specific early learning program? (Y/N)

3.2.1.2 Does the organization provide outreach, support and resources to children and families who experience systemic disparities because of two or more of the following factors?

- a. Race (Y/N)
- b. Ethnicity (Y/N)
- c. English language proficiency (Y/N)
- d. Socioeconomic status (Y/N)
- e. Geographic location (urban, rural, neighborhoods) (Y/N)

3.2.1.3 Do people in leadership positions in the organization (e.g., directors, managers and board members) belong to the cultural community (ies) served? (Y/N)

To be eligible for award, applicants must meet all requirements 3.2.1.1 through 3.2.1.3.

3.2.2 General Information (Not Scored)

Please provide the following information about the Applicant organization. This section must be complete in order for the application submission to be successful.

1. Legal name of Applicant organization:
2. "Doing business as" (DBA) name (if different from legal name):
3. Federal ID# or Tax ID#:
4. Address of Applicant agency
Street address:
City:
State:
Zip code:
County:

3.2.3 Applicant Contact Information (Not Scored)

Please provide the contact information for the following individuals in the organization.

1. Primary contact person for this application:

Name:

Title:

Email:

Phone Number:

1. Authorized budget contact person for issues and questions about the budget:

Name:

Title:

Email:

Phone Number:

2. Authorized individual to sign grant agreement. Indicate the address where the grant agreement should be sent:

Name:

Title:

Email:

Phone Number:

Mailing Address:

3.2.4 Culturally Specific Criteria (40 Points)

ECEF funds Culturally Specific Organizations (CSO) and Culturally Specific Early Learning Programs (CSLEP) that focus on closing opportunity gaps for children and families who face historical and current inequities due to factors such as race, income, zip code, or language. ECEF grantees are committed to providing early learning services rooted in culture, home language, and lived experience.

Please explain how your organization aligns with the ECEF description of culturally specific organizations and/or programming. (20 points)

- Describe the community in which the organization operates.
- Please describe how the people in leadership positions in the organization reflect the culture of community(ies) served

Describe the current services offered by the organization. (20 points)

- What activities or services are currently being provided that support early literacy development?
- Describe the populations prioritized and served through the current activities or services.

3.2.5 Program Proposal Description (40 Points)

- What activity(ies) are you requesting funding for? Please select all that apply: Develop and/or deliver early literacy-focused resources and materials for distribution. (Only if applicant is an existing ECEF grantee.)
- Develop and/or deliver culturally relevant early literacy training and professional development activities for both early childhood and early grade educators.
- Community engagement activities to identify community-specific gaps in early literacy activities to further inform the DELC 2024 Birth Through Five Literacy plan.
- In up to 250 words, please describe the activity(ies) you are requesting funding for:

Please describe how your organization will use Birth Through Five Literacy funds to support the development of early literacy skills through implementation of the allowable activities. How will you ensure that your literacy support is culturally responsive and centered on the needs of students and families?

3.2.6 Budget, Budget Narrative and Allocation Proposal (20 Points)

Please complete Budget and Budget Narrative found in Attachment D, Budget.

3.2.7 Applicant Information

All Applications are public record and are subject to public inspection after Agency issues the notice of intent to award.

SECTION 4: EVALUATION

4.1 RESPONSIVENESS DETERMINATION

Applications received prior to Closing will be reviewed for responsiveness to all RFA requirements. If the Application is unclear, the SPC may request clarification from Applicant. However, clarifications may not be used to rehabilitate a non-responsive Application. If the SPC finds the Application non-responsive, the Application may be rejected, however, Agency may waive minor mistakes in its sole discretion.

4.2 EVALUATION CRITERIA

Responsive Applications meeting the requirements outlined in the Application Requirements section will be evaluated by an Evaluation Committee. Evaluators will assign a score of 0 to 10 for each evaluation criterion listed below in this section.

SPC may request further clarification to assist the Evaluation Committee in gaining additional understanding of Applications. A response to a clarification request must be to clarify or explain

portions of the already submitted Application and may not contain new information not included in the original Application.

SCORE	EXPLANATION
10	OUTSTANDING – Application meets all requirements and Applicant demonstrates in a clear and concise manner a thorough knowledge and understanding of the subject matter and project. Applicant provides insight into its expertise, knowledge, and understanding of the subject matter.
6 – 9	VERY GOOD – Application provides useful information, while showing Applicant’s experience and knowledge of the subject matter and project. Applicant demonstrates above average knowledge and ability with no apparent deficiencies noted.
5	ADEQUATE – Application meets all requirements in an adequate manner. Applicant demonstrates an ability to comply with guidelines, parameters, and requirements, but does not put forth additional information.
1 – 4	FAIR – Application meets minimum requirements, but Applicant does not demonstrate sufficient knowledge of the subject matter.
0	POOR – Application is unacceptable and does not meet the requirements set forth in the RFA. Applicant does not demonstrate knowledge of the subject matter.

4.3 POINT AND SCORE CALCULATIONS

Scores are the values (0 through 10) assigned by each evaluator.

Points are the total possible values for each section as listed in the table below.

The SPC will average all scores for each evaluation criterion. The average score will be used as a percentage multiplier of the maximum possible points for that criterion. 1=10%, 5=50%, 9=90%, etc.

EXAMPLE:

Applicant A receives scores of 10, 9, and 8 for a criterion worth 50 points. The SPC averages 10, 9, and 8 for a score of 9. 9 is used as a 90% multiplier to the possible points of 50. 50 multiplied by 90% is 45. Applicant A’s points for the criterion is 45.

Points possible are as follows:

SECTION REFERENCE	EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS POSSIBLE
3.2.4	Evaluation Item 1: Program Proposal Description	40

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant’s response provides a brief description of how the organization will use funds to support the development of early literacy skills • Applicant's response identifies how proposed activities will increase literacy for historically underserved populations • Applicant's response describes how parents and guardians will be supported to be full partners in their children’s literacy development • Applicant describes how activities will be culturally responsive and centered on the needs of children and families 	
3.2.5	<p>Evaluation Item 2: Budget, Budget Narrative and Allocation Proposal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant’s budget is reasonable and appropriate for the scope of the proposed entity and activities • Applicant provides narrative that describes how activities will support literacy for historically underserved groups 	20
3.2.9	<p>Evaluation Item 6: Culturally Specific Criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant describes the community in which the organization operates • Staff and leadership see themselves and their organization as accountable to the communities they serve • Applicant describes current programs and services being provided that support early literacy development 	40
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE		100

4.4 RANKING OF APPLICANTS

The SPC will total the points for each Application. SPC will determine rank order for each respective Application, with the highest point total receiving the highest rank, and successive rank order determined by the next highest point total.

SECTION 5: AWARD AND NEGOTIATION

5.1 AWARD NOTIFICATION PROCESS

5.1.1 Award Consideration

Agency, if it awards a Grant, will award a Grant to the highest ranking Applicant(s) based upon the scoring methodology and process described in the Evaluation section. Agency may award less than the full scope described in this RFA.

AGENCY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO NOT SELECT ANY OR ALL APPLICANTS UNDER THIS RFA IF AGENCY DETERMINES IN ITS SOLE DISCRETION THAT A SELECTION SHOULD NOT BE MADE.

5.1.2 Notice of Intent to Award

Agency will notify all Applicants in writing that Agency is awarding a Grant to the selected Applicant(s) subject to successful negotiation of any negotiable provisions.

5.2 INTENT TO AWARD PROTEST

5.2.1 Protest Submission

An Affected Applicant will have 7 calendar days from the date of the notice of intent to award to file a written protest.

If Agency receives only one Application, Agency may dispense with the evaluation process and intent to award protest period and proceed with Grant negotiations and award.

5.2.2 Protests must:

- Be emailed to the SPC;
- Reference the RFA number;
- Identify Affected Applicant's name and contact information;
- Specify the grounds for the protest; and
- Be received within 7 calendar days of the notice of intent to award.

5.2.3 Response to Protest

Agency will address all timely submitted protests within a reasonable time and will issue a written decision to the Affected Applicant. Protests that do not include the required information may not be considered by Agency.

5.3 SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

5.3.1 Business Registry

If selected for award, Applicant must be duly authorized by the State of Oregon to transact business in the State of Oregon before executing the Grant. The selected Applicant must submit a current Oregon Secretary of State Business Registry number or an explanation if not applicable.

All corporations and other business entities (domestic and foreign) must have a Registered Agent in Oregon. For more information, see Oregon Business Guide, How to Start a Business in Oregon and Laws and Rules: <http://www.filinginoregon.com/index.htm>.

5.3.2 Insurance

Prior to execution of a Grant, the apparent successful Applicant must secure and demonstrate to Agency proof of insurance coverage meeting the requirements identified in the RFA or as otherwise negotiated.

Failure to demonstrate coverage may result in Agency terminating negotiations and commencing negotiations with the next highest ranking Applicant. Applicant is encouraged to consult its insurance agent about the insurance requirements contained in Insurance Requirements (Exhibit B of Attachment A, Grant Agreement) prior to Application submission.

5.3.3 Taxpayer Identification Number

The apparent successful Applicant must provide its Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) and backup withholding status on a completed [W-9 form](#). Agency will not disburse any Grant funds until Agency has a properly completed W-9.

5.4 GRANT NEGOTIATION

By submitting an Application, Applicant agrees to comply with the requirements of the RFA, including the terms and conditions of the Sample Grant (Attachment A), with the exception of those terms reserved for negotiation. Applicant must review the attached Sample Grant and note exceptions. Unless Applicant notes exceptions in its Application, Agency intends to enter into a Grant with the successful Applicant substantially in the form set forth in the Sample Grant. It may be possible to negotiate some provisions of the final Grant; however, many provisions cannot be changed. Applicant is cautioned that Agency believes modifications to the standard provisions constitute increased risk and increased cost to the State. Therefore, Agency may consider the scope of requested exceptions in the evaluation of Applications.

Any Application that is conditioned upon Agency's acceptance of any other terms and conditions may be rejected. Any subsequent negotiated changes are subject to prior approval of the Oregon Department of Justice.

In the event the parties have not reached mutually agreeable terms within 30 calendar days, Agency may terminate negotiations and commence negotiations with the next highest-ranking Applicant.

SECTION 6: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

6.1 GOVERNING LAWS AND REGULATIONS

This RFA is governed by the laws of the State of Oregon. Venue for any administrative or judicial action relating to this RFA, evaluation, or award is the Circuit Court of Marion County for the State of Oregon; provided, however, if a proceeding must be brought in a federal forum, then it must be brought and conducted solely and exclusively within the United States District Court for the District of Oregon. In no event shall this section be construed as a waiver by the State of

Oregon of any form of defense or immunity, whether sovereign immunity, governmental immunity, immunity based on the eleventh amendment to the Constitution of the United States, or otherwise, to or from any claim or from the jurisdiction of any court.

6.2 OWNERSHIP/ PERMISSION TO USE MATERIALS

All Applications submitted in response to this RFA become the property of Agency. By submitting an Application in response to this RFA, Applicant grants the State a non-exclusive, perpetual, irrevocable, royalty-free license for the rights to copy, distribute, display, prepare derivative works of and transmit the Application solely for the purpose of evaluating the Application, negotiating a Grant, if awarded to Applicant, or as otherwise needed to administer the RFA process, and to fulfill obligations under Oregon Public Records Law (ORS 192.311 through 192.478).

6.3 CANCELLATION OF RFA; REJECTION OF APPLICATIONS; NO DAMAGES

Agency may reject any or all Applications in whole or in part, or may cancel this RFA at any time when the rejection or cancellation is in the best interest of the State or Agency, as determined by Agency. Neither the State nor Agency is liable to any Applicant for any loss or expense caused by or resulting from the delay, suspension, or cancellation of the RFA, award, or rejection of any Application.

6.4 COST OF SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION

Applicant must pay all the costs in submitting its Application, including, but not limited to, the costs to prepare and submit the Application, costs of samples and other supporting materials, costs to participate in demonstrations, or costs associated with protests.

SECTION 7: LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT A: SAMPLE GRANT

ATTACHMENT B: SAMPLE GRANT AMENDMENT (EXISTING AGREEMENT)

ATTACHMENT C: GENERAL APPLICATION QUESTIONS

ATTACHMENT D: BUDGET