

**CNP STARTUP AND EXPANSION GRANTS
REQUEST FOR APPLICATION
Questions & Answers**

1. Our program is always in a deficit because the reimbursement rates don't cover the cost of the program. It is ok to use the expansion grant to reimburse us for already planned advertising and/or mileage to transport food to sites? Or does it have to be for something new that we have never done before or purchased before?

Grant funds may be used for advertising of the SFSP. Grant funds may also be request for mileage, though ideally it is for new sites and/ or meal routes in rural areas.

2. Is the CNP start up grant and expansion grant put on hold or can we apply?

The SUE grant is now open and potential applicants are encouraged to apply.

3. What is the due date for this grant?

The due dates and times are listed in the Schedule Section of the RFA.

4. Regarding the CNP Startup and Expansion Grants Program. Section 3.1.2 of the RFA states that all questions must be emailed to the SPC; however, the program page includes a link to a question submission form (link to the form provided below for reference). Just to confirm, may questions be emailed to the SPC as well as be submitted via the online question form? Question form link: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/fbe7f6ee47a5411bbec6d49e57c6f66c>

Both ways are acceptable. SPC does a review of the questions submitted on the Smartsheet as well as submitted by email.

5. In reference to the ODE CNP Startup and Expansion Grant, Attachment D "Use of Funds" Part 3A. Would the following items be allowable under Transportation Related Purchases:

- Retrofitting a van with a lift gate for mobile meal operations
- Adding a power inverter to the cargo area of a van to transport food warmers for mobile meal operations.

Yes, both retrofitting a van with a lift gate and adding a power inverter to support the delivery of hot summer meals are allowable under Transportation related purchases.

6. In the grant will not pay for vehicles, but will it pay for a rental refrigerated truck?

The grant is unable to be used to pay for motorized vehicles. However, a non-motorized refrigeration trailer may be an eligible grant expense.

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7. Does the Startup and Expansion Grant operate monthly through 2025 (do people have a 1-month window to apply before the next cycle)? I have included an image below to better explain my thoughts:

Event	RFA open date (Applications will be accepted)	Questions/requests for clarification submission date	Answers to questions/requests for clarification posting date	Closing (Applications due)
Date	March 1, 2024	March 15, 2024	March 22, 2024	March 29, 2024
		April 12, 2024	April 19, 2024	April 30, 2024
		May 17, 2024	May 24, 2024	May 31, 2024
		June 14, 2024	June 21, 2024	June 28, 2024
		July 12, 2024	July 19, 2024	July 31, 2024
		August 16, 2024	August 23, 2024	August 30, 2024
		September 13, 2024	September 20, 2024	September 30, 2024
		October 11, 2024	October 18, 2024	October 31, 2024
		November 13, 2024	November 22, 2024	November 29, 2024

From the information included above, it looks as though there are 12-13 application windows that run for a month. If I were an applicant, would I plan to apply in a certain month? Please correct me if I somehow misinterpreted the chart!

This is a rolling solicitation for Applications related to the CNP Start Up and Expansion Grant. You may apply during any one of the monthly dates listed in the Schedule of the Request for Application (RFA). As an example. if you intend to apply for the month of June, if you have any questions, be sure they are submitted by the submission date of June 14th. The response to your question will be posted on June 21st, and your application must be submitted/received by June 28th. If you miss any of the dates for the month, you should consider applying for any following month available in the Schedule.

8. Is this grant similar to the annual renewal grant where we make the purchases then request reimbursement OR does ODE provide the funds and then we do reporting?

This is a reimbursement grant. Grantees may submit documentation and claims in EGMS as costs are incurred. However, a final claim will not be paid until all reporting requirements are met.

9. I'm looking for more clarification surrounding the expansion grant and what we could use if we reapply for the next biennium. Would we be able to use the funds awarded for the same items that were used on the last grant cycle? I'm specifically asking for our delivery driver position that the grant paid for and the miles from our rented truck.

Attachment D (Uses of Funds) describes what grant funds may be used for. In the case of labor costs, grant funds "are to be used for new staff, new hours, or new duties for existing staff when current duties are transferred to a different staff member." As for mileage, grant funds can be requested in separate biennium to increase participation in the program.