

2022-2023 Funding Opportunity Question & Answer to Date 12.14.2021

Question by Most Recent Date	Response
If we are applying for funds to provide services to several community agencies, should they submit letters of support?	No. Simply detail the relationship in the collaboration section.
If our program changes significantly during the summer months, should we submit a separate proposal for summer?	If your program provides the same services in summer, but increases the frequency, submit 1 proposal for the entire year. Simply note in your program description and budget narrative the increased staffing levels or whatever is different. If the services are different and serve different individuals, you may consider submitting separate proposals. However, at the RFP stage, applicants cannot add new programs.
Our fiscal year is a calendar year. We do not have any confirmed funding for 2023 (January forward); should I list all funding in pending?	Yes, if you do not have dollars in place to operate any of the components starting July 1, 2022, put everything into Pending. Otherwise, enter what bits you have confirmed into the budget and everything else into pending. (Our funding year is July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023.)
If our partners do not wish to implement the program until summer 2023, is that a problem?	If we fund a program, it must be completed by the end of the funding year, which is June 30, 2023. You could submit a request to carry it over into the next funding year (2023-2024), but it's not guaranteed.
For the agency financials, are you looking for agency total revenue or total net?	The text field in the RFP was not fully displaying. I corrected it so it is clear we are looking for total revenue in the agency financials line.
Does UWGSC have a priority school district with which they would prefer we partner?	I cannot say that we have a specific expectation. I would point to our 3 prioritized groups (families in poverty, BIPOC or financially at-risk/A.L.I.C.E.) and our childhood/youth success strategies.
In the LOI webinar, you mentioned last year's funding range was \$9K-\$250K with an average grant size of \$70K. Our planned request, and what was submitted in the LOI, is our request reasonable?	Ask for what you need and justify the expense clearly. You know best. We do not have set parameters around that. You can change your request up until you submit it. We frequently do not fund at 100% of ask – typically it is 60-100% based on score.
Are UW Stark RFPs available annually for the same priorities?	Our priorities will remain the same until community conditions push them to change, so there is no set timeline. This is the second year for these priorities. We watch to see where public investments are made so we can fill gaps as they move around; community needs of course move a little slower in typical years.
If you become a funded agency, do you apply annually or are multi-year request cycles available?	All grantees must reapply at each funding opportunity. In a typical cycle, United Way funds for 2 years at a time. With COVID and lots of state/federal funding changes, fundraising challenges, atypical changes in community needs and difficulty in executing various programs because of COVID, we are only funding 1 year for the 2 nd year in a row.
Is there a side-by-side comparison of the strategies under each Investment Priority?	Yes, they are on the Investment Priority Information Sheets. Information Sheets can be downloaded from the Resource Center housed on the Agency Site or at uwstark.org/rfp under Important Documents.
How do I improve my RFP this year over last?	Use the help text available when you hover over the green question marks in the Request for Proposal (RFP). The help text content directly relates to recommendations made by previous applicants or reviewers last year.
Is there a convenient place to find the scoring rubric for this application?	The rubric is not available to applicants. The rubric is based on the Investment Priority Information Sheets & the quality of responses. See the green question marks for insights.

<p>If our program aligns with multiple strategies, do we select the one that best aligns? And referenced in the narrative other strategies to which it may align?</p>	<p>Yes, please select the strategy that best aligns and includes required indicators/outcomes you can report out on. You can only select 1 strategy. You can add additional Program Specific Measures (up to 5) that will allow you to display alignment with other strategies.</p>
<p>May success stories be parent evaluation data? EX: I saw an 80% improvement in my child's interest in STEM after program completion.</p>	<p>Yes, it can INCLUDE parent evaluation data, but it should not be the data point alone. The success story should include some information about the participant, so the reader gets a feel for who the participant is (8-year-old from northern Stark County who had difficulty with xyz. Their experience in the program was pdq. With that they were able to improve their xyz and felt Imnop about it). It should pertain to a specific participant, not an entire cohort.</p>
<p>Regarding Collaborations: No official MOUs this year?</p>	<p>The Collaborations section was combined with the Referral Sources section from last year. Now, it is up to the applicant to identify and describe the type of relationship the program has in the community, whether that is a source of referrals, an evaluator, or otherwise. Strictly siloed programs are not preferred.</p>
<p>Is the training being recorded so other staff can review it?</p>	<p>Yes. A link to the recording will be emailed to all applicants and posted to our website uwstark.org/rfp</p>
<p>If we decide not to submit an RFP for one of the programs for which we submitted an LOI, how do we remove it?</p>	<p>Open the Request for Proposals under the Apply/Report section in the Agency Site. Uncheck "Include". The site will update in a few seconds, changing the program status to Excluded.</p>
<p>Will we have to document and report on low-income status with regards to individual participants? We pull from schools in low-income school districts, but do not track individual income data for each student.</p>	<p>We have always asked for participant-level data. I understand it can be challenging to get that information if the child's parent/caregiver is not involved in either the child's enrollment or the program itself. In some circumstances, we have to rely on district level or zip code data.</p> <p>There should be an obvious reason for this. If not, UW will require participant-level data.</p>
<p>Where do I find the Program Specific Measures I used last year?</p>	<p>Under the Apply/Report section in the Agency Site, you will see Community Impact Allocations listed by funding year (2021-2022, 2022-2023). You can view your previous Request for Proposal details there.</p>
<p>And we may email you with specific questions during this process?</p>	<p>Yes. Please email adrienne.price@uwstark.org. While we cannot help applicants to craft their RFP, we can clarify procedural issues or point to existing sources for clarity. All Q & A will be posted to the Agency Site & our website.</p>
<p>On the Program Information page, the Number of Full Time Equivalent Program Employees does not allow decimals. How can I show less than 1 FTE?</p>	<p>The question only allows for whole numbers. It cannot be edited without disrupting applications that have already been accessed. Thus, I have added help text that clarifies that whole numbers are indeed required and to please clarify in the program description if it's critical information. I think it's fair to say that our reviewers will use that section to broadly understand how many staff are engaged, rather than judging salaries to the number of staff or a narrow something-else.</p>