

**NYS Department of State
Division of Community Services
Community Services Block Grant
NEW YORK STATE CONSOLIDATED FUNDING APPLICATION
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS
Request for Applications #13-CSBG-12**

RFA Updates

There are no updates to the RFA at this time.

Questions & Answers

The responses to questions included herein are the official responses by the State to questions submitted by potential applicants and are hereby incorporated into RFA #13-CSBG-12 issued on June 17, 2013. In the event of any conflict between the RFA and these responses, the requirements or information contained in these responses will prevail.

Q1: For the Workforce Development programs, one of the requirements is to be a Community Based Organization. The presenter mentioned that this was a very specific group of organizations, and I'm wondering if my organization fits. We serve many smaller communities, mostly within Monroe county, and have a board of directors of whom more than half do live in our service area. I feel like the CBO being asked for in this program serves only one community, a smaller one than "Monroe County." Please let me know what your definition of a Community Based Organization entails.

Answer: The definition of Community Based Organization (CBO) is provided at NY Executive Law Section 159-e(4), which provides:

“Community based organization’ shall mean any organization incorporated for the purpose of providing services or other assistance to economically or socially disadvantaged persons within its designated community. Such organization must have a board of directors of which more than half of the members reside in such designated community.”

Additionally, for the purposes of this RFA, all CBO applicants are required to demonstrate that their organization currently provides federally-funded or state-funded services to low-income persons, and has existed continuously as a CBO or CAA for at least 5 years. All CBOs will have a 501(c)(3) status.

Q2: In connection with the Community Services Block Grant program funding being offered through the current CFA round, please clarify whether WIAs that are 501(c)(3) organizations, are eligible to apply for this workforce development funding, or if the 501(c)(3) organizations eligible must *also* be a Community Action Agency or a Community-Based Organization.

Answer: WIA organizations must be either a Community Action Agency or a Community-Based Organization as described in this RFA. Also, please see the answer to Question 1 above.

Q3: The RFA states that services and activities must take place “within an area identified as an Opportunity Area by a Regional Economic Development Council”.

Where can we find a list of identified communities that are Opportunity Areas within a region? The Strategic Plan for our region (Western NY) does not reference Opportunity Areas.

Answer: Each Regional Council has published a document describing their general approach to the Opportunity Area. Some, but not all, of the Regional Councils have a plan that is geographically focused. Thus, applicants should review these documents and link their proposal to the agenda outlined therein.

The applicant must go to the web site (below) and click on their region on the map. When their region has loaded, the applicant will find on the right side of the page in blue-Regional Opportunity Agenda. Click on this link for the respective region’s agenda. For example, Long Island is targeting Wyandanch as their opportunity area for 2013. The website is: <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/>

Q4: I have been filling out the RFP for Education/Workforce Development; specifically the job placement and Retention project. It states that I need to fill out the m/wbe forms which seem to pertain to individuals who are using contractors/builders. I am running a program so I am a little confused. Am I filling out the correct RFP? The one I have been working on states that I will be working with SNAP participants. Again, I am not building anything, so it is a little confusing.

Answer: The Workforce Development RFA does not have a requirement that SNAP must be included in the work plan. Please refer to the Office for Temporary and Disability Assistance website for information related to this grant opportunity: <http://otda.ny.gov/contracts/2013/SNAPOPS/>

Q5: I am in the process of filling out the consolidated Funding Application and ran into a little snag. I am interested in applying for the Education/Workforce Development; specifically Job Placement and Retention. I am getting conflicting info between the overview material where it states the max award is \$100,000 with a local share match of 25%. And in the actual application (in regards to working with SNAP participants) it states we can apply for \$300,000 with an equal match. Maybe I am looking at two different things but I think I have been following the directions carefully. Also, when I tried to retrieve the paperwork for attachments that need to be filled out, I go to the website designated for it and am unable to download any of the paperwork.

Answer: The DCS RFA does not require SNAP-related activities, the Workforce Development RFA may be found at http://www.dos.ny.gov/funding/rfa-13-csbg-12/RFA_6-13.pdf and the application maybe accessed at <https://apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa/>.

Please refer to the Office for Temporary and Disability Assistance website for information related to this grant opportunity: <http://otda.ny.gov/contracts/2013/SNAPOPS/>

Q6: As I was reviewing the documents posted on the Department of State Website, I did not see any budget forms, either to download as attachments or included in the Application Instructions for this RFA.

This is the link to the webpage I was viewing: <http://www.dos.ny.gov/funding/rfa-13-csbg-12/index.html>

I would be most grateful if you could advise me on where I can find these forms to download.

Answer: The budget to be submitted is included as part of your Consolidated Funding Application. As you complete your application through this system, you will be directed to the budget forms that are required as part of this application.

Q7: I was researching some grant sources and saw the above-referenced opportunity. Is this likely to be released again in 2013 or 2014?

Answer: At this time, it is not uncertain whether or not this opportunity will be released again in 2013 or 2014.