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RALIANCE - NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

Frequently Asked Questions (Intent to Submit Form)

ELIGIBILITY:

1. *Who is eligible to apply?*

Eligible – 501(c)(3) organizations that have experience in addressing and/or preventing sexual violence and that are located in the United States or a U.S. Territory.

Ineligible –

1. For-profit entities
2. Individuals
3. Other types of IRS-designated non-profit organizations

2. *Can I be a part of an application (consultant or sub-contractor) if I am ineligible to apply?*

Yes. The eligibility criteria only apply to the lead applicant.

3. *What's the difference between a "lead applicant," and "fiscal sponsor?"*

The point is that Raliance needs to have one point of contact for the grant and that applicant needs to be a 501(c)(3) non-profit. If more than one entity wants to work together on a project, they would designate one to be the “lead agency” for contractual and financial purposes. They would then describe their various roles with the project using a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). If someone wants to apply for a grant, but is not eligible (such as an individual consultant) they could arrange to have a “fiscal sponsor,” that is an eligible 501(c)(3) non-profit that is willing to manage the contract and finances for the project. There is a form available for this purpose in the grant system.

4. *Can I apply for more than one grant?*

Yes, but you must submit a separate Intent to Submit Form (LOI) for each and each application must have a unique, descriptive project name.

5. *Can applicants from previous rounds apply for a second year and is your preference to fund new areas not served?*

Applicants who were previously funded can apply for a different project.

6. *Can you resubmit an application (perhaps reworked) that was previously submitted?*

Yes

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APPLYING:

7. *Do I need to purchase Foundant Technologies software to apply?*

No, Raliance has purchased the grant management system and it is free and accessible to anyone with Internet access.

8. *Is there another name for the Intent to Submit Form?*

Yes, when you log into our grant management software you will see the Intent to Submit Form referenced as LOI (Letter of Intent), but there is no actual letter involved.

9. *What is the deadline for submission of the Intent to Submit Form?*

Forms are due by 5 p.m. EST on July 20, 2017.

10. *If selected to submit a full proposal, what information is required?*

The following would be required for the full proposal in Phase 2:

- Project Narrative (approximately 10 pages in length) to include; abstract, introduction, capacity, project narrative, and project plan
- Budget Narrative (approximately 3 pages in length) to include info on; personnel, benefits, consultants (if applicable), operations, other (other line item not listed), indirect costs
- Brief Bios (approximately 1 page in length)
- Other documentation to upload such as 501(c)(3) status, MOUs, Indirect cost rate agreement (if applicable)
- Appendix (optional)(approximately 3 pages in length)

11. *What is the funding period for this grant cycle?*

April 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019.

12. *When will selected applicants be notified to submit a full proposal?*

By October 5, 2017.

13. *When will the notice of awards be announced?*

By February 22, 2018.

14. *What is a DUNS # and how do we obtain one?*

A D-U-N-S Number is a unique nine digit identification number assigned for each physical location of your business. It is used to establish a Dun & Bradstreet business credit file. Use the following link for additional information: <https://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>

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FUNDING:

15. *What is the maximum amount funded?*

Grants will be awarded in varying amounts based upon need, up to \$50,000.

16. *How many grants will be funded?*

Total funding available during this funding cycle is \$600,000, to fund up to 20 projects.

17. *About how many applications do you anticipate receiving?*

We will not know until the process closes on July 20th. In the Round 2 we received 298 submissions for Phase 1.

18. *Will there be an equal number of grants awarded in each of the three categories?*

Not necessarily. It will depend on the number of applications received, the reviewers' scores, and the relevance of the proposal to the funding priorities.

19. *Do we have a better chance of receiving support if our request is for a smaller amount?*

No – the amount of the request is not a factor that is considered by the reviewers. However, if there is a certain amount of money remaining and there are 1-2 smaller requests that were highly scored, they could rise to the top.

20. *If you are awarded for this round - will there be rounds of funding in the future?*

We are not planning on awarding continuation grants. We are looking for projects (or phases) that can be completed in one year and are looking to fund as many different projects as possible. We may occasionally fund a second phase or an evaluation or expansion of a previously funded project, but this will not be the norm.

21. *Can we apply for a grant that would fund a portion of a project (for example if \$50,000 would only be part of the overall project budget)?*

Yes – you would explain that in the proposal and would clearly outline the activities, deliverables, and costs that are relevant to this particular grant and briefly explain how it fits with the larger project.

SCOPE:

22. *Does this grant program include child sexual abuse?*

Yes. None of the categories are limited to any particular age group or any specific type of sexual violence.

23. *Are you only funding projects that are located in Washington, D.C.?*

No. Projects may be located anywhere in the United States or the U.S. Territories.

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24. *Do you have any particular priorities for this round?*

Yes, we are hoping to fund more sports-related prevention projects.

25. *Are you looking to serve new geographic areas that were not served in previous rounds of funding?*

Not necessarily, but in the case of a tie, that could become a factor.

CATEGORIES:

26. *Can I submit a proposal for an activity that is not specifically mentioned in the funding categories section of the guidelines?*

Yes, if you believe it addresses the spirit of the category. The descriptions are intended as examples only, not an exhaustive list.

27. *Can I check more than one category on the submission form?*

No. You must select one.

28. *Is Category 1 direct services only?*

No, it can also include advocacy for survivors or helping a system improve its response to survivors.

29. *What category would be the best fit for a campus-wide peer-to-peer student SV prevention training and messaging program?*

Category 3 because you are attempting to change social norms for prevention purposes.

30. *Would education program in schools be Category 1 or Category 3, if you were targeting students ?*

Likely it would be Category 1 if you are talking to students about safety and resources, etc. If you were working with teachers and administrators in order to change the culture of the entire school for prevention purposes, it would be Category 3.

31. *What category does reform of state crime laws (e.g. eliminating statute of limitations, eliminating force requirement) and addressing police and prosecution practices/ implementation issues (prosecuting alcohol/drug facilitated sexual assault) go?*

Category 1 because it is making things better for existing survivors (as opposed to altering a system to prevent future incidents).

32. *For example would an anti-violence media campaign for youth be a Category 1 or 3 proposal?*

Category 3 if the primary purpose is prevention.

33. *Does Category 1 only serve identified survivor groups? What if you wanted to work with a team or school site for prevention skill building and policy work? Would that be a Category 3?*

That does sound like a Category 3

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34. *Is it possible that we submit in Category 2, but, reviewers feel it's a better fit for Category 1 or Category 3?*

Reviewers and staff will not change the category that was selected by the applicant. If a reviewer does not think it is a good fit for the category, they may deduct points. If the applicant thinks it may be a “close call” they may want to briefly explain why they see this project fitting in the selected category.

- **Select Category 1** ~ Is it services for victims? Advocating for victims? Improving systems responses to victims? Working with family members of victims? Outreach to specific populations? Education or skills for potential victims?
- **Select Category 2** ~ Is it preventing first time or repeat perpetration? Research about perpetration? Sex offender treatment or management? Improving access to treatment for people who have sexually offended? Collaboration between victim advocates and sex offender management professionals? Community reintegration? Education or messaging about people who commit sex offenses?
- **Select Category 3** ~ Are you working with a system to change its environment, policies, or practices in order to prevent sexual violence? Are you working with a community or population to change their behaviors and norms to make sexual violence less likely? Are you working with bystanders? Are you working to change the social culture and norms of a group?

SELECTION:

35. *Will reviewers be looking for projects that involve collaborative partnerships?*

We do not require collaborations and that is not part of the score. We ask applicants to demonstrate that they have the necessary expertise and capacity to complete the project. If that does involve collaborations, we ask for the roles to be described in a brief MOU.

36. *Can I submit a Letter of Recommendation for a project?*

No, Letters of Recommendation are not required or accepted for this grant process. If you would like to take a role in the project, the applicant would be required to submit a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

37. *Would it be acceptable if our intention was to establish a social enterprise with this grant money in order to continue our intended work indefinitely?*

No, as this would not advance the goals of Raliance or fit within our categories.

REVIEWERS:

38. *How will the grants be reviewed?*

We have reviewers from around the nation who have expertise in each of the areas. A minimum of 3 readers, external to the partner agencies, review and score each application. The scores are then averaged.

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39. *Who are the reviewers?*

- The names of the reviewers will be kept confidential but there will be 3 to 5 readers per application, who have expertise in that category, and who are external to the sponsoring National Partners.
- Reviewers may submit a proposal in a different category, but may not review any proposals in a category for which they have submitted an application or for any project with which they are involved in any capacity. Reviewers will score proposals and provide brief comments.
- Final decisions for the applications selected for funding will rest with the Raliance Partner agencies.

40. *How will the first phase be scored?*

Reviewers will be asked to respond to the following ten questions for each Intent to Submit form:

- Does the organization seem to have relevant experience?
- Is the proposed project appropriate for the funding category selected?
- Is the description of the project clear?
- Is the project innovative or compelling?
- Can the project be replicated?
- Is the project addressing an underserved population?
- Does the project seem feasible for the one-year time frame?
- Does the project seem likely to contribute to the mission of Raliance to end sexual violence in one generation?
- Will the project advance outcomes specific to the selected category?
- Is this project one that you would want to have available in your community?

41. *Is it important to be explicit in the project description about why/how it would be replicable?*

Yes that would be helpful and would likely improve the score.

BUDGET:

42. *Can I hire new personnel for this project?*

No. Hiring for a new position with this grant is **not** allowable. Charging time for existing staff to this grant is allowable and contracting for services is also permissible.

43. *Can you expand existing staff hours?*

Yes

44. *Since we cannot hire, can we use the funds to pay volunteers for their time serve on the project?*

Yes, and you would clarify in the budget narrative that you are paying stipends to volunteers, the amount you are paying, and the tasks they will carry out.

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45. *Is there a maximum allowance for the indirect cost rate?*

The maximum indirect cost rate that you may charge is 10% unless you have a current federally approved indirect cost rate agreement. If selected for Phase 2 you will be required to submit your federally approved rate agreement with your application.

46. *Is there a cut-off for the indirect cost that will be allowed for University grant applicants?*

No, as long as you provide the federally approved indirect rate agreement. However, if there are more high-scoring proposals than funding available, this factor could come into play in making final decisions.

47. *Should the budget include any travel dollars for technical assistance/training?*

It can – that is an allowable expense.

48. *Can funding be used for publicity?*

Yes, if that is a task that is essential to the project's success and it is clearly explained in the proposal and the budget narrative.

CONTACTS:

48. *Who will manage the information and communication for The Raliance Grants?*

Deb Johnson, Grants Management Specialist, is the NSVRC staff person managing the Grant Program on behalf of Raliance. In addition, each funded proposal will also be assigned a programmatic liaison from the Raliance staff.

49. *Who are The National Partners?*

- The National Alliance to End Sexual Violence (NAESV)
Monika Johnson Hostler, President
 - PreventConnect/CALCASA
Sandra Henriquez, Executive Director
 - The National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC)
Karen Baker, Director
- Fiscal Sponsor – Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR)
Delilah Rumburg, CEO

For additional questions, please contact grants@nsvrc.org.

This document will continue to be updated until the process closes.