

**AGENCY:** ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)  
**TITLE:** INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS: REDUCING PUBLIC EXPOSURE TO INDOOR POLLUTANTS  
**ACTION:** Request for Applications (RFA) – Questions and Answers  
**RFA NO:** EPA-OAR-IED-05-21

**CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE (CFDA) NO: 66.034**

**SUMMARY:** The following are the Agency's response to questions/comments regarding the solicitation.

**October 25, 2005**

**2:00-4:00pm**

**RFA Pre-Proposal Conference Call Summary**

Managed by: Victoria Drew and David Rowson

### **2:00-2:30pm Overview**

#### **Reminder:**

- Deadline as specified in Section 4 of the RFA, page 23 of the RFA Stage 2: Cover Letter, Concept Proposal and SF-424, 424A and 424B due no later than Monday, December 12, 2005, 4:00 pm EST. Proposals received after this deadline will not be considered.

#### *Administrative*

- EPA anticipates 20-25 cooperative agreements, estimated budget and project period for awards 3 years or 36 months from 10/01/05 to 09/30/09, total funds available per year \$3-4 million
- Type of projects applicable, demonstration, training, outreach and/or education cooperative agreements to reduce exposure to indoor air pollutants and yield measurable environmental outcomes
- Instructions for Cover Letter and Concept proposal begins on page 23, Stage 2
- Specific instructions for electronic filing on page 23, Stage 2 under "How to Submit your Stage 2 Package Electronically"
- EPA encourages applicants to use Express Mailing Service to submit their application, instructions on page 24, "Express Delivery Address"

#### *Program-Specific*

- Support demonstration, training, outreach projects/programs that support EPA's strategic objectives (increase action to reduce public health risks from indoor air pollutants) and yield environmental health outcomes. (RFA Reference: p.2)

- Priority Pollutants and Building Types (RFA Reference: p. 3-7)
- Encouraged to address at least one priority area. Where appropriate encouraged to address multiple priority areas.
- Health outcomes focused on achieving as program and through RFA. Agency’s focus through grant endeavors continues to pay more attention to bottom-line outcomes. Proposals need to describe how it will pay attention to bottom-line outcomes. (RFA Reference: p. 7).
- Examples of projects and programs would fund and linkage to environmental outcomes. (RFA Reference: p.11-19)
- Administrative process (RFA Reference: p. 20-29)
- Evaluation criteria will be used to evaluate proposals (RFA Reference: p. 30-32)

Question	Answer
1) Under eligibility criteria – Is a federal entity eligible to apply under this RFA?	1) No, the appropriate funding mechanism would be an interagency agreement. Federal entities are not eligible under this RFA.
2) Can an applicant have a coalition working on IAQ, where their organization would be the fiduciary agent and would sub-contract with coalition? On page 21, says that subgrants or subawards may be used to fund partnerships – is the current relationship appropriate?	2) Sub-grants or sub-awards may be used to fund partnerships with universities and non-profit organizations. Successful applicants cannot use sub-grants or sub-awards to avoid requirements in EPA grant regulations for competitive procurement by using these instruments to acquire commercial services or products to carry out its cooperative agreement. In the RFA under section “D. Can funding be used to acquire services or fund partnerships?” last sentence in paragraph two. “The nature of the transaction between the recipient and the sub-grantee must be consistent with the standards for distinguishing between vendor transactions and sub-recipient assistance under Sub-part B Section .210 of OMB Circular A-133, and the definitions of “sub-award” at 40 CFR 30.2(ff) or “sub-grant” at 40 CFR 31.3, as applicable. EPA will not be a party to these transactions.”
3) Under the funding award information, EPA provides the total amount and anticipated number of agreements that will be awarded. Is there a monetary range for the budgets of organizations that have had previous agreements? Is it acceptable to be in the previous range?	3) EPA has not predetermined what level of funding will be provided to each grantee. EPA has approximate total amount of funding and anticipated number of cooperative agreements to be awarded under this funding opportunity. The level of funding you should propose is outlined in Section V.A VI. of the evaluation

	criteria. The proposed budget should be appropriate to accomplish proposed goals and activities in the application leading to environmental outcomes.
4) Verify that “home” priority area includes multi-level housing and apartments.	4) Yes, these structures would be considered “homes”.
5) Are 501C (6) organizations eligible to apply?	5) 501(c)(6) trade associations are eligible as long as the organization is incorporated as a non profit under state law.
6) Can a non-profit subcontract to a for-profit consulting firm?	6) Yes, EPA grant recipients must conduct all procurements that are financed with EPA funding competitively to the maximum extent practicable (40 CFR 30.43) and all procurements must be supported by a cost or price analysis (40 CFR 30.45). The fact that your "subcontractor" is "in large portion involved" in the writing of your proposal does not change these requirements. Neither does identifying the subcontractor as a member of the investigative team or otherwise in your proposal. Unless you have selected your subcontractor competitively and conducted a cost or price analysis prior to the submission of the proposal, you run a risk of being out of compliance with the EPA grant regulations if you subcontract on a sole source basis to the firm who is helping you prepare your proposal if your proposal is selected by EPA.
7) I-BEAM – Are there EPA staff available to provide training or technical assistance?	7) This software is available online and it is designed in order for you to use it without needing a lot of detailed instruction.
8) Is there a limit on how much an applicant can pay consultants to assist with their proposed project?	8) Yes  The standard agency term and condition reads as follows:  <b>Payment to Consultants:</b> EPA participation in the salary rate (excluding overhead) paid to individual consultants retained by recipients or by a recipient's contractors or subcontractors shall be limited to the maximum daily rate for a Level IV of the Executive Schedule (formerly GS-18), to be adjusted annually.

	<p>This limit applies to consultation services of designated individuals with specialized skills who are paid at a daily or hourly rate. As of January 1, 2005, the limit is \$537.76 per day and \$67.22 per hour. This rate does not include transportation and subsistence costs for travel performed (the recipient will pay these in accordance with their normal travel reimbursement practices).</p> <p>Sub-agreements with firms for services which are awarded using the procurement requirements in 40 CFR 30 or 31, as applicable, are not affected by this limitation unless the terms of the contract provided the recipient with responsibility for the selection, direction, and control of the individuals who will be providing services under the contract at an hourly or daily rate of compensation. See 40 CFR 31.36(j) or 30.27(b)</p>
<p>9) If applicant is currently funded by HUD to do a rehabilitation project, can we propose incorporating/integrating Energy Star in rehabilitation home project? Can funding be used to purchase equipment to be installed in homes?</p>	<p>9) Yes, applicants can integrate Energy Star program into proposed projects.</p> <p>Yes, generally an applicant can purchase equipment, but they would need to be very specific about this as part of the proposal.</p>
<p>10) Would the earliest start date be 10/1/06?</p>	<p>10) Yes, as stated in the RFA under “II. AWARD INFORMATION” section “C. What is the budget and project period for award(s) resulting from this solicitation?” first sentence “The estimated budget and project period for awards resulting from this solicitation is 10/01/06 to 09/30/09.”</p>
<p>11) Do we have a concept proposal that is due before the entire proposal?</p>	<p>11) The concept proposal including a cover letter, SF-424, 424A and B, and concept proposal is due on December 12, as specified on page 23 of the RFA.</p> <p>If an applicant is selected for award recommendation, then a complete full application package and all required supporting documentation is due on February 27, 2006</p>
<p>12) What is allowed for indirect cost rates?</p>	<p>12) Each organization negotiates their individual indirect costs with the cognizant agency. The RFA doesn't specify a</p>

	maximum or minimum indirect cost rate requirement.
13) What is your intent in funding?	13) The first review of the proposals will be based on the quality of proposals as outlined on Page 30-32 of the RFA. Page 32, section "B. Other Factors – In addition to the evaluation of proposals against the ranking criteria described above in Section V.A., the following (listed below) may be considered by the Approving Official in making selection award decisions for all cooperative agreements."
14) Will you fund each of priority areas equally?	14) Projects will be funded based on the evaluation criteria outlined in section V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION of the RFA. Therefore, funds may not be distributed equally.
15) Overhead costs: Does the amount of money funded include overhead costs?	15) Yes. An applicant's entire budget should include overhead costs.
16) Sub contractors: If an applicant uses a subcontractor to assist with writing the proposal, how does the applicant meet limitations in terms of compensation?	16) It is the applicant's responsibility to cover subcontractor fees for developing the proposal. These limitations are outlined in 40 CFR Part 30 and apply after the award is made.
17) If an applicant has a subcontractor, who is in large portion involved in writing proposal, can they set the subcontractor up as part of investigative team rather than as a subcontractor?	17) It is unclear what you mean by "part of the investigative team". However, as noted in RFA, EPA grant recipients must conduct all procurements that are financed with EPA funding competitively to the maximum extent practicable (40 CFR 30.43) and all procurements must be supported by a cost or price analysis (40 CFR 30.45). The fact that your "subcontractor" is "in large portion involved" in the writing of your proposal does not change these requirements. Neither does identifying the subcontractor as a member of the investigative team or otherwise in your proposal. Unless you have selected your subcontractor competitively and conducted a cost or price analysis prior to the submission of the proposal, you run a risk of being out of compliance with the EPA grant regulations if you subcontract on a sole source basis to the firm who is helping you prepare your proposal if your proposal is selected by EPA.

<p>18) Is there a preference for submission (mail versus electronic)?</p>	<p>18) No, recognize there are special instructions for electronic submission as specified and format requirements. Section “IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION PROCESS” under “Stage 2: Cover Letter, Concept Proposal and SF-424, 424A and 424B Submission”, “How to Submit your Stage 2 Package Electronically” on page 23 of the solicitation.</p>
<p>19) Some of the most positive outcomes, in particular with respect to second hand smoke, have come from public policy approaches. The RFA does not seem to support this initiative.</p>	<p>19) Examples included in the RFA are examples to help provide some clarity about the linkage between activities conducted and outcomes that would be achieved. If an applicant wants to propose work aimed at policy change, then they would need to create a link to bottom-line health outcomes. There is a discussion under the Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) portion of RFA (page 4) that talks about how EPA is only focused around ETS and not other aspects of tobacco.</p>
<p>20) Page 11, paragraph at bottom of page/bolded language—pages are examples, is it true, except for bolded sections, that proposals must address at least one of the health outcomes identified.</p>	<p>20) Yes, activities need to be linked to these environmental health outcomes.</p>
<p>21) Looking at other factors/geographic balance among EPA regions—How does this balance work? What if a project includes work in multiple regions? Are you considering national approaches?</p>	<p>21) EPA is looking for projects that are replicable nationally or national in scope. We anticipate that some proposed projects may include demonstrations in communities. As stated under section “V. A. Evaluation Criteria, VI. 3. The proposed project demonstrates that activities are replicable and can yield large scale impacts” and under “B. Other Factors,” fourth bullet “balance of type of community targeted (e.g., rural, urban, low-income, disadvantaged impacted populations, etc.).</p>
<p>22 ) Please define sustainability. Is there a time period for how long should be able to sustain project?</p>	<p>22 ) Under the eligibility criteria on page 31 (and page 25, Section E), when EPA funding concludes, what is the likelihood that project can continue? There is no time period for how long the project should continue.</p>
<p>23) Are Charter schools eligible if they have 501 C(3) designation?</p>	<p>23) Yes</p>
<p>24) Is the building type a priority?</p>	<p>24) Yes, refer to I. Funding Opportunity</p>

	Description sections A. and B. of the RFA.
25) Will EPA correct IAQ problems in Schools? Does EPA want to demonstrate that repairs in schools and the use of effective good IAQ management plans lead to better IAQ?	25) Applicant should outline the methodology they will use in addressing IAQ in schools. EPA cautions about proposing programs or program implementation projects, EPA's authority extends to outreach, education, and demonstration projects only. EPA is not authorized to repair buildings. This is considered implementation. For example: EPA can demonstrate IAQ management plans in schools are effective, but cannot go into a broad number of schools and pay for mitigation.
26) Applicant is developing first LEED platinum building in country and would like to integrate <i>IAQ TFS</i> into this process. Is this appropriate?	26) EPA cannot comment on the appropriateness of a specific project or activity.
27) Does the RFA specifically prohibit funding of construction costs?	27) Typically construction costs would not be eligible for projects awarded pursuant to Clean Air Act Section 103.
28) Please clarify budget allocations for RFA funding.	28) \$3-4 million per year for total of 20-25 agreements.
29) Are projects of less than 36 months welcome?	29) Yes
30) In reference to Page 7, language dealing with bottom-line environmental outcomes: Environmental outcomes that result from projects may not be achieved until after the funding period concludes. Is this acceptable?	30) We anticipate that environmental outcomes described in RFA would largely be achievable during the project period. EPA anticipates some discussion of outcomes achievable during project period. Outcomes described will not take more than 3 years to achieve. There may be some outcomes that are achieved subsequent to the agreement. The applicant's proposal should address what outcomes are anticipated. Reference page 8 for more detailed discussion on this topic.
31) Can projects include research and education?	31) If the applicant needs to gather information or generate data to support or inform outreach conducting, this would be reasonable. Generation of data or other research isolated from outreach program would not be eligible.
32) We are interested in implementing <i>IAQ TFS</i> Kit, in a school district. This has been difficult to implement because the materials are not in Spanish and do not	32) If, the endpoint is to achieve environmental outcomes materials development would be eligible. Although, EPA encourages applicants not to create

address tropical environments – would projects that propose to develop a customized kit be eligible under this RFA?	new materials when they exist, but to use existing materials for outreach purposes.
33) Evaluations of reduced exposure to environmental allergens – are you considering things like pre and post tests and asthma diaries as evidence of reduction in exposure?	33) Yes, these would be two examples of appropriate ways to track the impact of work.
34) Would broad education campaigns (i.e., bus posters) be eligible?	34) EPA cannot comment on the appropriateness of a specific project or activity.
35) Can an applicant use funds to do environmental remediation (e.g., Integrated Pest Management) if coupled with education?	35) EPA cannot comment on the appropriateness of a specific project or activity.
36) Is there a maximum/minimum amount for indirect costs?	36) No there is no maximum or minimum indirect costs under this solicitation. Each organization negotiates their individual indirect cost rate with their cognizant agency.
37) With regards to addressing more than one environmental priority area. To what extent must they be separated to ensure that there isn't too much duplication within 12 page limit?	37) Describe in your proposal whatever fashion you intend to integrate activities proposed.
38) Page 7, demonstration – tailoring project from urban environment to rural – would this be eligible?	38) Yes
39) Demonstration project – <i>IAQ TFS</i> program – Have any systematic program evaluations been done for the <i>IAQ TFS</i> Program? How would this fit into RFA?	<p>39) Conducting an evaluation of the impact of <i>IAQ TFS</i> or any other assessment of some data or condition would be eligible as long as it integrated into a project aimed at increasing environmental outcomes. If the project stopped at a point of acquiring data, then under evaluation criteria, it would receive low scores in terms of achieving environmental outcomes. The aim of this RFA is to achieve positive environmental outcomes through outreach, education, and demonstration programs.</p> <p>NOTE: There have been evaluations done on the elements of <i>IAQ TFS</i> throughout the country.</p>
40) Please provide concrete examples of a demonstration project.	40) CAA 103(b)(3)states that demonstrations must involve new or experimental technologies, methods, or approaches, where the results of the project



	will be disseminated so that others can benefit from the knowledge gained in the demonstration project. A project that is accomplished through the performance of routine, traditional, or established practices, or a project that is simply intended to carry out a task rather than transfer information or advance the state of knowledge, however worthwhile the project might be, is not a demonstration."
41) This RFA does not identify bio-measure markers – Would this enhance a proposal?	41) It would be good in a proposal if you were able to provide this information, but is not required in terms of measuring outcomes.
42) Demonstration projects usually means new projects. If we have an existing project that we want to expand to new target group is this eligible?	42) Yes
43) Is an organization allowed to submit more than one proposal for two different projects?	43) Yes
44) Are projects that are local but can be replicated eligible to apply?	44) Projects that can be replicated are eligible (Reference Page 25 of RFA). It is important to discuss how projects can be replicated and yield large scale impacts.
45) Are new organizations (not 501C (3)) with fiscal agents eligible to apply?	45) If you propose with another 501C(3) or eligible organization as lead organization that would be acceptable. You will need to comply with rules outlined in 40 CFR Part 30. A 501C(3) or eligible organization would be the lead organization and the application would need to come from them. EPA recommends submitting separate question via email if you are proposing alternative relationship. Please refer to section "III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION, A. Eligible Entities" on page 21 of the solicitation.
46) Discuss year to year requirements to maintain cooperative agreement.	46) A funded partner is responsible for submitting budget refining year to year activities, quarterly reports outlining project activities that include how the grantee is achieving environmental outcomes, and financial data.
47) What plans does EPA have for similar or related RFAs in the IAQ area?	47) EPA doesn't have information on future RFAs at this time.
48) In three years do you anticipate continuation of this program?	48) Without obligation and subject to availability of funding, EPA expects this

	competitive program will continue in the future.
49) Page 8, activities that would be eligible under asthma – please elaborate on what activities are <b>not</b> eligible. Standards of care will include some type of medical management.	49) EPA’s mission and authorizing legislation gives authority for us to address environmental factors and not medical issues in isolation. Focus of funding should be aimed at addressing environmental factors.
50) Are smoking cessation programs eligible?	50) No
51) Project sustainability and replication – elaborate about how, for demonstration projects, you would address sustainability.	51) EPA does not want to go far beyond what is written in the criteria, with the way EPA would like to see how applicant will sustain successes beyond conclusion of EPA assistance agreement. It is the applicant’s responsibility to demonstrate sustainability beyond funding from EPA.
52) Are there formatting requirements for the proposal?	52) Applicants must substantially comply with requirements contained in IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION PROCESS, Stage 2.
53) Is the review of concept proposals done internally?	53) Yes
54) Do you encourage or discourage consortiums?	54) EPA does not encourage or discourage consortiums.
55) Can you choose either/or or both pollutants or building IAQ priority areas?	55) Yes
56) Do we need to link to long term health outcome?	56) Yes
57) On options for buildings, do child care centers fall into one of those categories?	57) Yes
58) Are there formatting requirements for the proposal?	58) No
59) Is it required to complete single point of contact?	59) The single point of contact review is not required for stage 2- Submission of the cover letter, concept proposal, SF-424, 424A and 424B. However, if the proposal is selected for award recommendation (invited to participate in Stage 5) single point of contact review will be required.
60) Are mobile source emissions, IAQ and other mobile source projects eligible?	60) Yes, however, projects must address indoor ambient air and air toxics and be linked to bottom line environmental health outcomes. Reference page 15 of RFA for examples.
61) Page 7: Demonstration projects must involve new/ experimental technology. Is	61) The term “technology” mostly represents engineering; EPA is referring to

EPA looking for an engineer to develop new technique?	education and outreach activities.
62) Will there be any proposals accepted for following years or on yearly basis?	62) Yes, EPA accepts unsolicited proposals for unique or innovative projects at any time. However, it is EPA's intention to award a majority of our funding resources under this solicitation.
63) Is there a place where previous award recipients are listed?	63) No, however, one may reference our Web site and click on "Partners" to see organizations EPA has worked with in the past on IAQ initiatives. <a href="http://www.epa.gov/iaq/">www.epa.gov/iaq/</a>
64) Why does the information on page 25, Section C cover only some of the issues in the environmental outcomes table section?	64) An applicant does not need to complete the environmental outcomes table. This represents the kind of information EPA would like to see in a proposal and demonstrates the way EPA links outputs to outcomes. The applicant needs to ensure that they describe activities, outputs and environmental outcomes aimed at achieving environmental results.
65) Will there be another competition after review the concept proposals?	65) EPA's intent is to select from concept proposals the final proposals for which we would award funding. There will not be another competition after we have completed review of concept proposals. Applicants need to include all information that they want evaluated in their concept proposal. The project proposal that we will be evaluating is limited to 12 pages, including detailed budget, plus two page cover letter. Any material covered beyond that will not be considered.
66) Do we need to submit a budget for all three years?	66) Applicants should submit a budget which includes all costs associated with the project proposed.
67) If a mitigation project is submitted in a proposal, would the costs of the mitigation project (1 or more in low income area) be included with grant money?	67) Yes, if done for purposes of demonstration then the costs may be included.
68) There are no innovative ways for mitigation of radon, how innovative can you be?	68) Innovation with regard to radon mitigation deals with outreach to increasing behavior change. We are open to a range of activities. In fact, EPA drafted the RFA to be particularly flexible to cover a range of activities EPA will fund but outcomes are not flexible.



**Questions and Answers obtained through IAQ.RFA Inbox**

<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>
1) Will this conference call be repeated?	1) This conference call will not be repeated. However, as mentioned in the RFA under IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION PROCESS, Stage 1: Pre-proposal Call, The questions and answers from this call will be posted on the OAR website: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/air/grants_funding.html">http://www.epa.gov/air/grants_funding.html</a> .
2) I am out of town starting next week for about 10 days. Is it too late to start the process when I get back?	2) Please refer to IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION PROCESS, Stage 2: Cover Letter, Concept Proposal and SF-424, 424A and 424B Submission. It states the following under this section. In addition to completing SF-424, 424A and 424B, applicants must complete a cover letter (maximum 2 pages) and concept proposal (maximum 12 pages, attached as a project narrative attachment form in Grants.gov) as described below. Only the concept proposal will be evaluated using the evaluation criteria set forth in Section V. of this RFA. This information must be received no later than Monday, December 12, 2005, 4:00 pm EST to Shelley Blake. Proposals received after this deadline will not be considered. The deadlines are also stated under the DATES section on page 1.
3) How do I know who and if we have an "Authorized Organization Representative (AOR)?"	3) An AOR submits a grant on behalf of a company, organization, institution, or government. AORs have the authority to sign grant applications and the required certifications and/or assurances that are necessary to fulfill the requirements of the application process.
4) Are local governments eligible to apply for project funding from the "Indoor Environments: Reducing Public Exposure to Indoor Pollutants" grant?	4) Yes.
5) How much are individual awards expected to range? Is there a maximum award amount?	5) EPA has not set a range for individual awards. Instead, EPA funding decisions will be made by applying the criteria in Section V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION.
6) I understand that a broad range of public/private nonprofit institutions are eligible to apply -- however, based on previous years, what types of organizations have received awards through this program?	6) EPA awards to the full range of eligible entities in past years.
7) Is this program the same as the closed RFA entitled "Indoor Air Quality: Communication,	7) Yes, This competition is the next follow-on to the closed RFA entitled "Indoor Air Quality:

Education, and Outreach Programs" from 2003 ( <a href="http://www.epa.gov/air/grants_funding.html#closed">http://www.epa.gov/air/grants_funding.html#closed</a> )? If so, is there a list of award recipients?	Communication, Education, and Outreach Programs" from 2003.
8) Can federal agencies qualify for grants?	8) No. The appropriate mechanism for supporting other federal government agencies/projects is through an interagency agreement.
9) What is your vision for delivery of training? What kinds of venues would be acceptable? What locations? What kind of schedule would be appropriate?	9) Please refer to the RFA sections I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION (ALL SECTIONS) and II. AWARD INFORMATION (ALL SECTIONS).
10) What kinds of community partners would you like to see involved?	10) Please refer to I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION (ALL SECTIONS).
11) Should the training materials be translated?	11) Please refer to I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION (ALL SECTIONS).
12) Are multiple submissions from one institution allowed?	12)Yes
13) Are multiple submissions from one organization allowed and if not is it acceptable to have a larger submission with multiple, but unrelated tasks or phases in it?	13) Multiple applications are acceptable from eligible organizations or one application with multiple priority areas from one organization is acceptable.
14) Are CVs of key personnel part of the 12 page limit or can they be attached?	14) Please refer to IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION PROCESS, Stage 2 Elements of the concept proposal.
15) Why is this called a "Concept Proposal" when it requires detailed descriptions, milestones, timelines and extensive budgeting?	15) EPA is using this term to differentiate initial information submitted (Stage 2) versus the full application kit required from those selected for award recommendation. (Stage 5).
16) Who determines if it is replicable?	16) An evaluation panel will be evaluating each proposal using the evaluation criteria stated in section.V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION. The criteria relating to replicability is in Sect IV. Project Sustainability and Replication #3.
17) Will first priority be given to large scale national programs?	17) Decisions will be made solely on the criteria in section V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION A and B.
18) My other question relates to funding of the grants. Ex. If we ask for 200,000 for a three year project, will we submit a three year budget that adds up to 200,000? Or will you continue certain projects for up to three years at 200,000 per year?	18) Please submit a budget commensurate with the activities in your project. Please refer to VI. Budget and Matching Funds: under the Evaluation Criteria Found in V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION. You may also want to refer to II. AWARD INFORMATION on page 20.
19) Will you be able to share with all potential applicants- who the other potential applicants are so that we can all talk to each other about forming collaborative projects?	19) We do not provide that information.
20) Where do I obtain this project narrative	20) This form can be obtained in grants. gov. The

<p>attachment form or is it just a description of what we would like to do?</p>	<p>project narrative attachment form is where you attach your concept proposal in grants.gov if you decide to electronically submit Stage 2. Here are the directions for submitting electronically found on p. 23 under IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION PROCESS, Stage 2.</p>
<p>21) Should “in-kind” staff time and goods/services be included in both the concept proposal (budget), SF 424. and SF 424-A?</p>	<p>Yes, in the concept proposal please include it as part G of the 12 pages. See Stage 2 under IV. Application and Submission Process:</p> <p>Please also include any “in-kind” staff time and goods/services on the SF 424 cover sheet under 15(b). Also include “in-kind on the SF 424-A under Section A-Budget Summary lines 1-4 under column (f) and under Section C-Nonfederal Resources, lines 8-11 under column b, c, or d where appropriate.</p>
<p>22) Are “Letters of Support” or References included in the 12 page limit for the concept proposal?</p>	<p>22) Letters of Support and or References are not required to be submitted with the concept proposal. If you want the letters and or references to be evaluated using the evaluation criteria, they will need to be included in the 12 pages of your concept proposal. Any materials provided beyond the 12 page limit will not be considered for evaluation.</p>
<p>24) Can I still apply if I did not attend the pre-proposal conference call?</p>	<p>24) Yes</p>
<p>25) Is the EPA grant limited to focus on a specific set of asthma triggers? Are chemical triggers within EPA’s scope of triggers?</p>	<p>25) RFA p. 3 &amp; 4 under I. A. Indoor Asthma Triggers:</p> <p>While the mechanisms that cause asthma are complex and prevalence rates vary among population groups, there is substantial evidence that indoor exposures to irritants such as <i>environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) and allergens from house dust mites, pests, molds, and animals play a significant role in triggering asthma episodes, and, in some instances (ETS and dust mites), are causally linked to the development of the disease. For the purpose of this RFA, all asthma irritants and environmental triggers are considered pollutants.</i></p>
<p>26) With regard to addressing multiple priority areas, we are interested in doing outreach and education for policymakers on possibly 4 areas over the 3 year period. I am wondering whether this will be encouraged or whether limiting the</p>	<p>26) Please refer to section I. Funding Opportunity Description B. Scope of Work p. 7-8. This section details what types of projects/proposals are acceptable. You may also want to review I. Funding Opportunity Description, C. EPA’s</p>

<p>focus of the proposal, perhaps to just two issues, would be a better approach for your needs. We would be looking at an average sized grant (around \$150,000 per year) that incorporates all 4 issues.</p>	<p>Strategic Plan and Anticipated Programmatic and Environmental Results as well as Section V. Application Review Information.</p>
<p>27) Do we need signature from an authorized representative for submission of stage 2?</p>	<p>27) On the SF 424, #18a is for the authorized representative's name. The authorized representative's signature goes in #18d.</p>
<p>Our school is building what is planned to be the first LEED platinum school in the country. As part of the project, we have decided to dedicate about 2,500 square feet on the first floor as a "sustainable design demonstration area" that we call the "Green Corridor". In this area we will demonstrate all of the techniques that contributed to our LEED Platinum status in an effort to educate students, professionals, community members about the benefits of high performance design. Since IAQ is a huge factor in high performance design, smart school construction, and the LEED issues it will be highly represented in our "Green Corridor". The following questions relate to this demonstration project:</p> <p>29) Can this grant pay for the design and subsequent hard development costs of the exhibits and kiosks that will be part of the exhibition?</p> <p>30) As we will be demonstrating innovative IAQ measures in the building, can the grant subsidize these construction costs (under floor air distribution, CO2 monitoring, humidity controls, Low VOC paints and furnishings, wheat board casework, etc.)?</p> <p>31) If we are adding special data/control points to monitor and study IAQ throughout the building so it can be presented in the demo area, can these building management additions be included in our grant?</p>	<p>29) It is difficult for EPA to comment on specific cost items. EPA will consider all costs that are deemed to be reasonable, allowable, and allocable.</p> <p>30) It is difficult for EPA to comment on specific cost items. EPA will consider all costs that are deemed to be reasonable, allowable, and allocable</p> <p>31) It is difficult for EPA to comment on specific cost items. EPA will consider all costs that are deemed to be reasonable, allowable, and allocable</p>



32) Is the indirect rate extra to the 3-4 million dollar budget that it is mentioned or should be part of that money?

32) No. indirect cost rate would be considered part of the 3-4 million dollar budget. Please refer to p. 20 of the RFA:

II. AWARD INFORMATION

A. What is the amount of funding available?

The **total** estimated funding for this competitive opportunity is approximately \$3-4 million.