



U.S. ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
1201 New York Ave. NW – Suite 300
Washington, DC 20005

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Military Heroes Initiative

May 27, 2010

- 1. Can a for-profit organization apply?**
 - a. A for-profit organization can apply as a sub-recipient of funds in partnership with a non-profit organization or institution of higher education. The legal applicant on the proposal must be either the non-profit organization or institution of higher education.

- 2. Are organizations whose practices are not specific to the military still eligible to apply? For example, an organization that may have practices catered to individuals who are blind, but are not veterans?**
 - a. While this initiative will have larger applicability for people with disabilities, the specific research under this *Notice* has to fall within the scope of the military and address the needs of those involved in the military establishment. However, proposed activities do not have to be carried out exclusively within military organizations

- 3. What is the target population(s) you are looking for? Is it military personnel currently in hospitals or those recovering at home; military personnel in the U.S. or overseas; etc.?**
 - a. The primary target population is injured service personnel that are still on active duty, however, applicants will want to consider the bulk of research in areas that have extensive military voting.

- 4. Is the performance period strictly up to 24 months, or can it go beyond that?**
 - a. While the *Notice* requests a two-year research plan, applicants are not discouraged from including proposed strategies for up to a three-year period. The intent of the two-year research plan is to gather data and provide recommendations on the voting process and technology for injured military personnel so that solutions may be implemented in time for the 2012 elections, however, aspects of the research may need to take place after the 2012 elections. Applicants should not assume that additional funds, beyond the initial award of \$500,000 will be forthcoming.

- 5. Is the lead applicant solely responsible for meeting all three criteria listed under Section III. A. Eligible Applicants (page 7-8)?**
 - a. Applicants must meet all three criteria listed in Section III. A., however, the inclusion of these three components may be achieved through partnerships with other entities.

- 6. Will higher priority be given to those that meet all the selection criteria? Are some components weighed more than others?**
- a. We are not expecting to find one proposal that meets every criterion listed in the *Notice*. We will be looking to see which proposal will have the largest or most significant impact written in the parameters we've provided. Please read the selection criteria closely. You will see which components are important to us by how they are weighted.
- 7. Must the applicant include all the components listed in the Project Description, specifically, including section 508 compliance?**
- a. No, you do not need to include every single component. While we would like to see recommendations, plans and implementation assistance to bring UOCAVA voter assistance websites of FVAP, Uniformed Services and Department of State into compliance with Section 508, this is not a requirement. If it does not fit into your research agenda or you do not have the expertise in that area, then it does not have to be included.
- 8. How should partnered organizations show a split in activity and funds?**
- a. In your budget, you should include a separate line item for each organization's activity and budgeted amount. Describe in your budget narrative how each cost is broken down.
- 9. What is the indirect cost rate?**
- a. If you do not have a negotiated indirect cost rate with us, you do not need to charge anything to the indirect rate. Universities will have negotiated indirect cost rates with the federal government which. We will pay up to 5% of the total grant amount in indirect costs and the rest can go toward a matching contribution. Up to 5% of the indirect cost can be shared with any sub-recipients.
- 10. Should there be discussion on the privacy and security concerns of voting?**
- a. Yes, the issue of privacy, security and independence of voting should not be dismissed.
- 11. Are organizations participating in this grant proposal excluded from participating in any of the larger research grants coming up?**
- a. No, organizations that participate in this initiative are not excluded from participating in additional competitions if they are selected for this grant.
- 12. Will EAC provide help getting access to data?**
- a. EAC will work with the successful applicant, the Wounded Warrior Care and Transition Center and the Federal Voting Assistance Program to help secure access to the needed data on injured military personnel as well as assess the facilities to conduct the research.

13. Will organizations be able to sell any of the products that result from the proposed research for profit?

- a. In general, your organization may retain patent and data rights work produced with federal grant funds for future sale/profit after the period of the grant. However, the government will retain unlimited, royalty free rights to the work. The guidance in this area can be found in the FAR. Review [52.227-1 Authorization and Consent](#) for details. For-profit entities receiving federal grants funds must follow:

Cost-principles: 48 CFR 31

Administrative requirements: FAR

Audit Requirements: FAR

14. Will the EAC publish a bidders list so that potential partner organizations can contact prospective applicants about partnering on the development of an application?

- a. If you are an applicant interested in hearing from potential partners or would like to offer your expertise to potential applicants, please send us your name and contact information to Allison Hood at ahood@eac.gov. We will make this list available on our website at www.eac.gov.

15. Is there a recording of the technical assistance call you held on May 11th and May 19th?

- a. You can listen to the recordings at:

May 11th Call:

<https://eacevents.webex.com/eacevents/lsr.php?AT=pb&SP=EC&rID=2318157&rKey=0fc3e1435dace4d1>

May 19th Call:

<https://eacevents.webex.com/eacevents/lsr.php?AT=pb&SP=EC&rID=2366942&rKey=b5aa2d01b958908e>