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Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Investment Program RFA

OVERVIEW

The Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) has released a Request for Applications (RFA) for $50 million in funding for the Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Investment Program (NICIP). Under this program, non-profit human services organizations may be eligible for grants of between $50,000 and $1 million for capital projects.

The RFA is available on the Grants Gateway here. Questions should be sent by November 10th to NICIP@DASNY.org with the subject line "NICIP RFA." Answers will be posted to the DASNY website by December 2nd.

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants must be non-profit human services organizations that provide direct services and that currently receive State funding (through a contract, authorized payment, or payment rate). Applicants must have annual revenue of at least $100,000 as recorded on their most recent IRS Form 990.

Note that the RFA specifies certain excluded types of organizations which are deemed not to be human services organizations offering direct services, and therefore ineligible for NICIP grants, including the following:

- Colleges and universities;
- Article 28 hospitals and diagnostic and treatment centers (D&TCs);
- Organizations whose primary functions are: 1) fundraising, 2) lobbying or advocacy, or 3) volunteer recruitment and placement;
- Membership or umbrella organizations; or
- Organizations that are eligible to receive funding through the Delivery System Reform Incentive Program (DSRIP), the Health Care Efficiency and Affordability Law for New Yorkers (HEAL-NY), or the Capital Restructuring Financing Program (CRFP).

We expect that the State may offer additional clarity about these exclusions and eligibility in general when the Q&A document is released.

Eligible Projects

NICIP funds may be used for:

- Technology upgrades to improve electronic records, data analysis, or confidentiality;
- Renovations or expansions of space used for direct service provision;
- Energy efficiency improvements that result in overall cost and energy savings; and
- Accessibility renovations.

Projects on leased real property may be eligible as long as the organization's lease will last for at least seven years from the application date. However, the applicant must be the primary beneficiary of each project. If DASNY determines that any entity other than the applicant (such as the applicant's landlord) will benefit more than tangentially from the project, the application will not be accepted.

The following are some notable expenses that would <u>not</u> be eligible costs under NICIP:

- Lease payments;
- Leased equipment;
- Purchase of real property;
- Working capital, debt retirement, or loans; and
- Software and/or software licenses, unless as part of a new IT system with customized software, in which case software costs may be partly or fully eligible.

Funding Pools

NICIP funds will be divided into the following three pools:

- Physical construction and renovation projects: $30 million
- Technology projects: $10 million
- Base Pool, available for either of the above project types: $10 million

No more than 40 percent of any individual pool may be awarded to a single geographic region. These pools will be further subdivided by annual revenue, such that grants will be made to both small and large organizations. The total amount available in each sub-pool will be:

Funding Pool	Annual Revenue		
	< $2 million	< $5 million	> $5 million
Construction	$8 million	$10 million	$12 million
Technology	$2.5 million	$2.5 million	$5 million

The potential amount of funding available for each individual grant will be:

Funding Pool	Annual Revenue		
	< $2 million	< $5 million	> $5 million
Construction	$50,000 to $250,000	$100,000 to $500,000	$150,000 to $1 million
Technology	$50,000 to $100,000	$50,000 to $250,000	$100,000 to $1 million

Funding from the Base Pool is not subdivided by annual revenue, and individual grants will be subject to the same limits as above (depending on the type of project).

Application

Each applicant may submit only one application. An application may cover multiple purposes at a single site, or a single purpose across several site (but not multiple purposes at multiple sites). An interagency team will review applications on the following criteria:

- Demonstration of need (30 points);
- Project readiness (35 points); and
- Project impact (35 points).

Projects must score a minimum of 70 points out of 100 to be funded. Grants will be awarded by highest score, but DASNY may make awards to lower-scoring applicants from underrepresented geographic regions.

Application Timeline

Applications are due by December 23rd. No letter of intent is required and there will be no Bidders' Conference.