

## Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Investment Program RFA

### OVERVIEW

On August 5<sup>th</sup>, the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) released a Request for Applications (RFA), available [here](#), for \$100 million in funding through the Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Investment Program (NICIP). Under this program, nonprofit human services organizations may be eligible for grants of between \$50,000 and \$1 million for capital projects.

This RFA supersedes the previous NICIP RFA released in December 2015. No awards have been or will be made under the previous RFA, but up to \$50 million of funding through this RFA may be used to reimburse costs incurred during FY 2016. Since application requirements have changed under the new RFA, previous applicants should not resubmit their prior application without revisions.

Applications are due September 29<sup>th</sup>, and awards will be announced by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Questions about the RFA may be submitted via an online survey, available [here](#), through August 17<sup>th</sup>. DASNY will host a webinar about the NICIP RFA on September 1<sup>st</sup> at 1pm. Webinar registration is available [here](#).

### Eligible Applicants

Under this RFA, an applicant is defined by having a unique Employer Identification Number (EIN), Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN), or Statewide Financial System (SFS) Vendor Identification Number. Applicants must have their own registration and prequalification in the Grants Gateway.

Eligible applicants must be nonprofit 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. If a qualifying applicant does not file its own Form 990, it should complete a Statement of Revenue form (Appendix 4). Total revenue as reported on this form will be used to determine applicants' eligibility.

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;
- Elementary and secondary schools;
- Article 28 hospitals, nursing homes, and diagnostic and treatment centers (D&TCs);
- Organizations whose primary functions are 1) fundraising, 2) lobbying or advocacy, or 3) volunteer recruitment and placement;
- Any organizations that provide services to other organizations (such as membership/umbrella organizations) and that do not provide direct services to individuals or families;
- Municipal corporations; or
- Organizations that are leading a Performing Provider System (PPS) under the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) program.

Please note that this RFA does not continue the previous NICIP RFA's exclusion of entities that received funds through the Health Care Efficiency and Affordability Law for New Yorkers (HEAL-NY) or the Capital Restructuring Financing Program (CRFP).

## Eligible Projects

Applicants must choose to apply for either a construction or a technology project. Applications that request funding for both categories will be disqualified.

Eligible construction projects must involve a site where the organization provides direct services (i.e., individuals served come to the location on a regular basis). Construction funds may be used for:

- Renovations or expansions of space used for direct service provision;
- Energy efficiency improvements that result in overall cost and energy savings; or
- Accessibility renovations.

Technology funds may only be used for projects with a useful life of at least three years that will help develop all or part of an integrated information management system. This includes improvements to:

- Electronic records;
- Direct client services;
- Data analysis;
- Client security; or
- Data confidentiality.

Projects on leased real property may be eligible if the organization's lease will last for at least seven years from the application date, for construction projects, or three years from the application date, for technology projects. 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 be rejected.

The following are some notable expenses that would not be eligible costs:

- Personnel costs;
- Supplies and non-capital equipment;
- Utilities;
- Lease payments;
- General operating costs, including routine training and maintenance costs (even if related to IT);
- Purchase of real property;
- Working capital, debt retirement, or loans;
- Building or property maintenance or improvements, structural maintenance or improvements, or building systems maintenance or improvements in a publicly owned building;
- Furniture, unless as part of a larger renovation project;
- Telephones and telephone systems, unless the system is used for direct services (such as a suicide prevention hotline);
- Vehicles, unless used to provide direct services (such as a mobile clinic);
- Mobile phones;
- Tablets or other portable devices (unless part of a larger information management project);
- Cloud-based software;
- Recurring costs associated with the use and maintenance of purchased technology (such as internet or email services); 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: \$75 million
- Technology projects: \$15 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, so that grants will be made to both small and large organizations. The total number of grants awarded will depend on the number of applications received in each sub-pool. The total amount available in each sub-pool will be:

Funding Pool	Annual Revenue			
	< \$2 million	< \$5 million	< \$17.5 million	> \$17.5 million
Construction	\$14 million	\$17 million	\$21 million	\$23 million
Technology	\$3 million	\$3 million	\$4 million	\$5 million

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

Funding Pool	Annual Revenue			
	< \$2 million	< \$5 million	< \$17.5 million	> \$17.5 million
Construction	\$50,000 to \$250,000	\$100,000 to \$500,000	\$150,000 to \$1 million	\$150,000 to \$1 million
Technology	\$50,000 to \$100,000	\$50,000 to \$250,000	\$100,000 to \$1 million	\$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 for a NICIP grant. Each application must be for only one type of project (construction or technology). An application may cover multiple purposes at a single site, or a single purpose across several sites (but not multiple purposes at multiple sites).

An interagency team will review applications on the following criteria:

- Executive summary (4 points);
- Demonstration of need (36 points);
- Project description, including the Grants Gateway's Capital-Based Budget form (40 points); and
- Project impact (20 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 (above the minimum requirement) from underrepresented geographic regions.